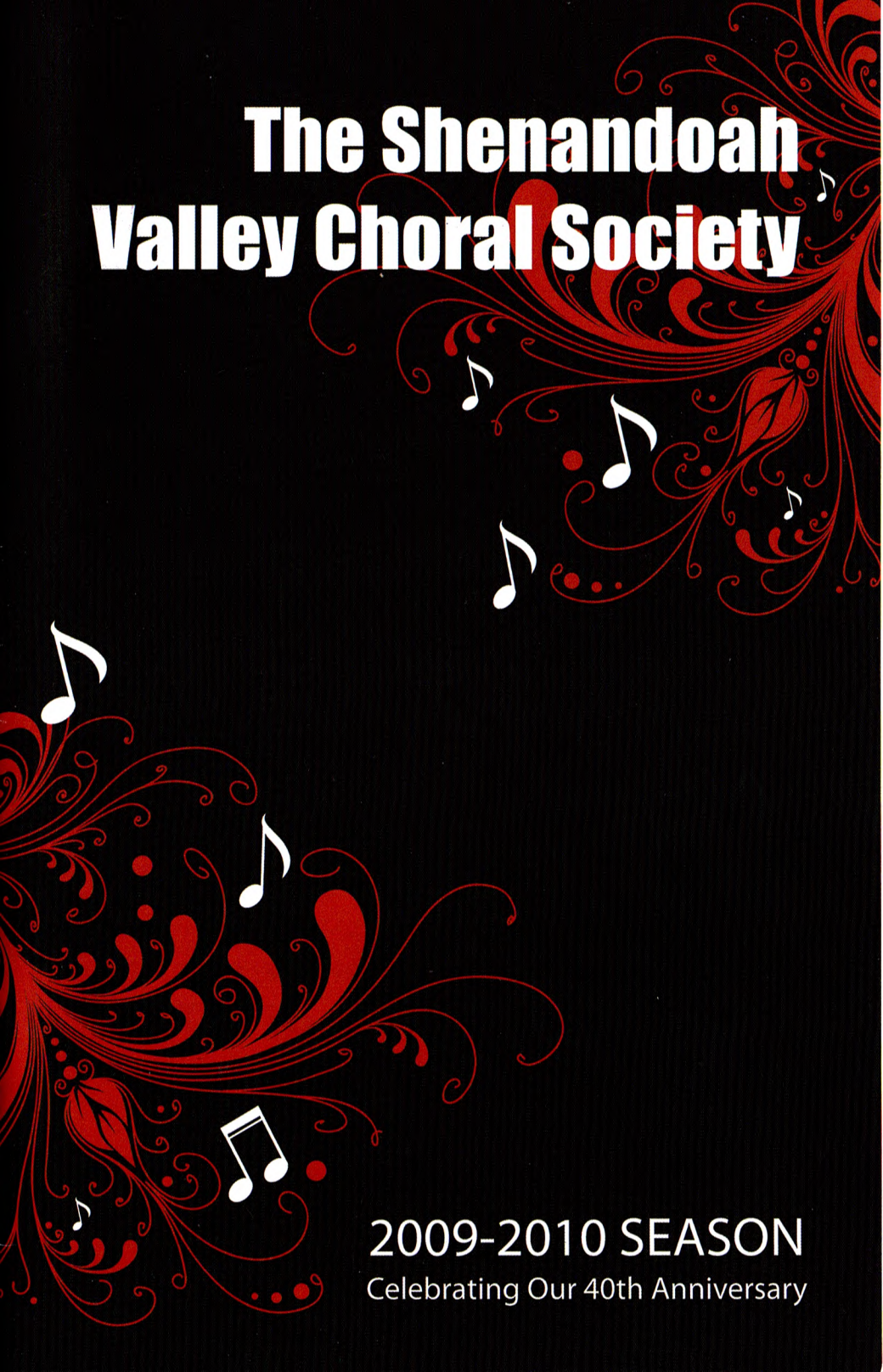


The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society

The background is black and features intricate, swirling red and white decorative flourishes. These flourishes resemble stylized musical notes and floral patterns, with some notes appearing to float or trail off. The overall aesthetic is elegant and artistic, fitting for a choral society's anniversary.

2009-2010 SEASON

Celebrating Our 40th Anniversary

Program Notes

Magnificat

The Magnificat, or Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 1:46-55) is a poetic outpouring of praise, joy and trust in God. Ascribed by Luke to the Virgin Mary on learning that she was to give birth to Christ, this canticle has always been one of the most familiar and well-loved scriptural texts.

Magnificat is to be interpreted as a personal expression of joy and thanksgiving and, symbolically, as the thanksgiving prayer and praise of all Israel for the Incarnation's fulfillment of God's promise of redemption. Mary, the Virgin Mother, is also "the highest and most perfect personification of Israel, the virgin daughter Sion" who rejoices at the inestimable favor bestowed on her (and Israel's) lowly estate. She sings praises to God her Savior (verse 46-50), recalls the mercies shown to Israel (verses 51-53), and sings of the Incarnation's fulfillment of God's ancient promise to Abraham (verses 54-55).

Rutter follows the compositional tradition of adding to the liturgical text with the inclusion of the old English poem 'Of a Rose' and the prayer 'Sancta Maria'. To this song of rejoicing sung by Mary during the Visitation to her cousin, Elizabeth, the Roman liturgy appends the traditional doxology, 'Glory be to the Father'.

The composition of the Magnificat by Rutter took place in early 1990. The premier took place on 26 May, 1990, in Carnegie Hall, New York, under the direction of the composer.

Messiah

Messiah is without doubt the best known and most often performed of George Frederic Handel's numerous compositions. It has become a Christmas tradition in many countries, but in Handel's day it was usually sung during the Lenten season. Composed in 1741 in only 24 days, the work was originally performed by a choir of just 20 men and boys, with an orchestra of 30 to 35 players. The text was selected by Charles Jennens from the King James Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. The work aroused controversy at first because some thought it irreverent to sing religious text in the concert hall. King George II, however, was so impressed at the London premiere that he stood up during the "Hallelujah Chorus." The rest of the audience was obliged to stand in deference to the king, thus originating the custom that is still followed to this day.

As many times as Messiah is performed, Handel's music retains its strengths: a keen sensitivity to the text, an affinity for the natural gifts

of each voice, and a satisfying balance among solo, choral and orchestral sections. The expressive beauty of the music, however, is not the only reason for Messiah's enduring popularity. Like all great art, the work can be appreciated on many levels. Taken literally, it is a dramatic and touching portrayal of the life of Christ. We feel the thrill of suspense as if we did not know the outcome until the end of the story. In a larger sense, it is a journey of the soul, from joyous awakening through anguished suffering to ultimate victory. Only by enduring pain and rejection can we fully experience the glory of redemption. It is this universality that makes performers and listeners of all faiths respond time and again to the message of Messiah.

Tonight the SVCS shares Part I, the Christmas portion of Messiah, along with the "Hallelujah" chorus, as a tribute to the choral work that has been most performed in our 40 years of sharing great choral music with our audiences. We hope you enjoy it once again!

Orchestra

Violin I

Joan Griffing, Concert Master
Maria Lorcas
Anthony Van Pelt
Bebhinn Egger

Viola

Paul McEnderfer, Principal
Sharon Miller
Katie Overfield-Zook

Doublebass

Matthew Carson

Clarinet

David Snivley

Bassoon

Susan Barber

Trumpet

Jim Kluesner
Paul Giess

Percussion

Marlon Foster
Andrew Richardson

Violin II

Kari Carpenter, Principal
Rebecca Hunter
Kaye Crowther
Jesse Trainum

Violoncello

Carl Donakowski, principal
Lisa Wright

Oboe

Kelsey Holland
Michele Kirkdorffer

Flute

Andrea Nolley

Horn

Candace Kluesner

Harpischord

Amy Robertson

Harp

Jessica Frost-Ballas

Organ

John Barr

Program

Magnificat!

Magnificat anima mea
Magnificat anima mea Dominum:
et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.
Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae:
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

*My soul doth magnify the Lord;
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour,
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden:
for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.*

Of A Rose, a lovely Rose

Of a Rose, a lovely Rose,
Of a Rose is all my song.

Hearken to me, both old and young,
How this Rose began to spring;
A fairer rose to mine liking
In all this world ne know I none.

Five branches of that rose there been,
The which be both fair and sheen;
The rose is called Mary, heaven's queen.
Out of her bosom a blossom sprang.

The first branch was of great honour:
That blest Marie should bear the flow'r;
There came an angel from heaven's tower
To break the devil's bond.

The second branch was great of might,
That sprang upon Christmas night;
The star shone over Bethlem bright,
That man should see it both day and night.

The third branch did spring and spread;
Three kinges then the branch gan led
Unto Our Lady in her child-bed;
Into Bethlem that branch sprang right.

The fourth branch it sprang to hell,
The devil's power for to fell:
That no soul therein should dwell,
The branch so blessed fully sprang.

John Rutter
b. 1945

The fifth branch it was so sweet,
It sprang to heav'n, both crop and root,
Therein to dwell and be our *bote:
So blessedly it sprang.

Pray we to her with great honour,
She that bare the blessed flow'r,
To be our help and our succour,
And shield us from the fiendes bond.

** bote=salvation
(15th century English)*

Quia fecit mihi magna

Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: et sanctum nomen eius.

*For he who is mighty has done great things to me;
And holy is his name.*

Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Et misericordia

Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.

*And his mercy is on them who fear him
From generation to generation.*

Fecit potentiam

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo: dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.
Deposuit potentes de sede, et exaltavit humiles.

*He has shown strength with his arm;
He has scattered the proud and the arrogant of heart.
He has deposed the mighty from their seats,
And exalted the humble.*

Esurientes

Esurientes implevit bonis: et divites dimisit inanes.
Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiae suae.
Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in saecula.

*The hungry he has filled with good things
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy.
As it was spoken to our fathers, to Abraham and his seed for ever.*

Gloria Patri

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Sancta Maria, succurre miseris,
iuva pusillanimes, refove flebiles:
ora pro populo, interveni pro clero,
intercede pro devoto femineo sexu.
sentiant omnes tuum iuvamen,
quicumque tuum sanctum implorant auxilium. Alleluia.

*Holy Mary, be thou a help to the helpless,
strength to the fearful, comfort to the sorrowful,
pray for the people, plead for the clergy,
intercede for all thy servants. Mother of all women.
May all experience your help and protection,
all those who keep your holy commemoration. Alleluia.*

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
for generations and generations. Amen.*

Intermission

Messiah [Part One]

George F. Handel
1685 - 1759

Sinfonia (Orchestra)

Arioso (Tenor)

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her,
that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned:
for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.
The voice of Him that crieth in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *(Isaiah 40:1-3)*

Air (Tenor)

Every valley shall be exalted,
and every mountain and hill
shall be made low;
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain. *(Isaiah 40:4)*

Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. *(Isaiah 40:5)*

Recitative (Bass)

For thus saith the Lord of Hosts;
Yet once, it is a little while and I will shake the heavens,
and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;
And I will shake all nations,
and the desire of all nations shall come:
and I will fill this house with glory,
saith the Lord of Hosts. *(Haggai 2:6,7; Malachi 3:1)*

Air (Bass)

But who may abide the day of His coming?
and who shall stand when He appeareth?
for He is like a refiner's fire. *(Malachi 3:2)*

Chorus

And He shall purify the sons of Levi,
that they may offer unto the Lord
an offering in righteousness. *(Malachi 3:3)*

Recitative (Mezzo)

Behold, a virgin shall conceive,
and bear a son, and shall call his son Emmanuel,
God with us. *(Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)*

Air (Mezzo) and Chorus

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion,
get thee up into the high mountain;
O thou that bringest good tidings to Jerusalem,
lift up thy voice with strength;

lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah,
Behold your God!
Arise, shine; for thy light is come,
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. *(Isaiah 40:9; 60:1)*

Arioso (Bass)

For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and gross darkness the people,
but the Lord shall arise upon thee,
and His glory shall be seen upon thee,
And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,
and kings to the brightness of thy rising. *(Isaiah 9:2,3)*

Air (Bass)

The people that walked in darkness,
have seen a great light,
and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,
upon them hath the light shined. *(Isaiah 9:2)*

Chorus

For unto us a child is born,
a son is given,
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counsellor,
The mighty God, the everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace. *(Isaiah 9:6)*

Pifa "Pastoral Symphony" (Orchestra)

Recitative (Soprano)

There were shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night. *(Luke 2:8)*

Recitative (Soprano)

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them,
and they were sore afraid. *(Luke 2:9)*

Recitative (Soprano)

And the angel said unto them,
Fear not: for, behold,

I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord. *(Luke 2:10,11)*

Arioso (Soprano)

And suddenly there was with the angel
a multitude of the heav'nly host
praising God, and saying, *(Luke 2:13)*

Chorus

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace on earth,
good will toward men. *(Luke 2:14)*

Air (Soprano)

Rejoice greatly,
O daughter of Zion,
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem:
Behold, thy King cometh unto thee,
He is the righteous Saviour,
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen. *(Zechariah 9:9,10)*

Recitative (Mezzo)

Then shall the eyes of the blind be open'd,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,
and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. *(Isaiah 35:5,6)*

Air (Mezzo and Soprano)

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd:
and He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
and carry them in His bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young, *(Isaiah 40:11)*

Come unto Him, that are heavy laden,
and He will give you rest.
Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him;
for He is meek and lowly of heart:
and ye shall find rest, unto your souls. *(Matthew 11:28,29)*

Chorus

His yoke is easy,
His burthen is light.

(Matthew 11:30)

Chorus

Hallelujah,
for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth,
The kingdom of this world
is become the kingdom of our Lord
and of His Christ:
and He shall reign forever and ever,

KING OF KINGS
AND LORD OF LORDS,
and He shall reign forever and ever
Hallelujah!

(Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16)

Thank you for attending our concert!



The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society

presents

MOZART FEST

Te Deum & Requiem

Friday, April 16, 2010

Bridgewater Church
of the Brethren
Bridgewater, Virginia



Shenandoah Valley Choral Society

SOPRANO

Julia Alleman
Dorothy Anderson
Julia Baldini
Elyse Barrett
Doris K. Boyer
Ashton Brower
Jane Burkholder
Miriam Clark
Suzanne Cockley
Paula Cude
Linda Dove
Lisa Dunlap
Karen Early-Williams
Judy Hamilton
Ann Healy
Pam Hill
Beverly Hinkle
Dolores H. Hoak
Abigail Hostetter
Pat Hughes
Betsy Hulvey
Ina Kea
Maria Clymer Kurtz
Betty Leidal
Sara Meinhofer
Jeanette S. Moore
Leona Myers
Betty Myers
Deborah O'Neil
Edie Pritt
Maria Prytula
June Rickel
Barbara J. Riddleberger
Jean Rissler
Sallie Rohrer
Mary Ellen Rublee
Jessica Shaver
Dorothy Shenk
Olga Slasheva
Joan B. Smith
Jeanne Tysinger
Anne Wright
Yelena Yavny

ALTO

Nanne Barnes
Becky Brenneman
Rachel Clemmer
Sally Jane Conner

Patricia Costie
Doreen DeVore
Ann D. Farrell
Dorcas Good
Mary Green
Zanette Hahn
Nancy Hanna
Wendy Pierce Haines
Betty Hoskins
Yvonne Jones
Carol LaSpina
Joyce Leake
Sally Lembach
Carolyn Lewis
Lois M. Martin
Nancy Martz
Debbie McGuire
Fern Miller
Ashley R. Moore
Catherine R. Mumaw
Anya Pekun
Martiese Poskitt
Mary Jo Pribble
Deborah Proctor
Sharon Rohrer
Elaine H. Schaefer
Colleen Sevilla
Audrey Shenk
Linda Shifflett
Jan Showalter
Virginia Spicher
Rhonda Steele
Jo Artz Umberger
Cara Zimmerman Walton
Dorothy Jean Weaver
Selma Whitaker
Brenda Wilkinson
Kay Woolf
Margaret Wurst
Julianne Zerkel

TENOR

Dick Boyer
Linda Bradley
Jonathan Clark
Wesley Dunlap
Travis Earley
Chris Flaig
Jonathan Greer
Samuel Heatwole
John Held

Ray E. Horst
Robert F. Jochen
John Kauffman
Jay B. Landis
Ronald Matthews
Ryan Nolley
Ann C. Ridder
Sam Showalter
Welby C. Showalter
Jeffrey A. Smith

BASS

Neel B. Ackerman
Chris Bates
Bryant Beckler
Ilya Bondaruk
David Cockley
Tom DeVore
Chase Dunlap
Thomas G. Farrar
Richard Forbes
Ervie Glick
Tim Goryuk
Isaac Hoak
James G. Kiser
Eugene Lantz
Knut Leidal
Russ Lembach
Dwayne Martin
Dwight E. Miller
Sam Miller
Jonathan Miller
Clarence M. Moyers
Danny O'Neil
Forrest Parmer
Michael Parmer
Artem Pekun
Steve Proctor
Bill Reed
David Reser
Francis P. Smith
Stephen Stutzman
Paul Swarr
Roger Thomas
David A. Van Pelt
William H. Voige
Jim Wampler
Richard S. Wilson
Richard Wurst
Richard L. Yoder
Jotham Yoder