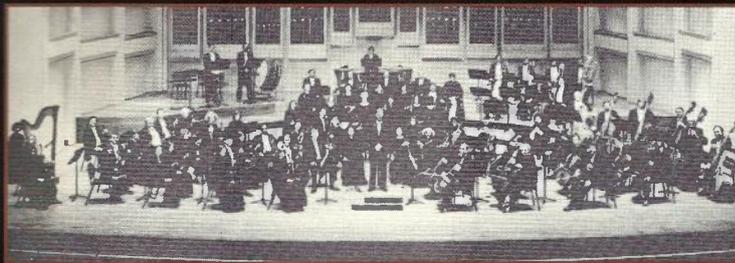


★ SPEND A CLASSIC EVENING ★



1995 - 1996

FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION & WINTHROP UNIVERSITY

CONCERT SERIES

PROGRAM

Charlotte Symphony Orchestra

PETER MCCOPPIN, MUSIC DIRECTOR
JANNA HYMES-BIANCHI, ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR

York County Choral Society

DAVID LOWRY, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER
SHIRLEY FISHBURNE, CO-FOUNDER SUSAN READ, ACCOMPANIST

Friday, November 17, 1995 - 8 p.m. James F. Byrnes Auditorium Winthrop University

Janna Hymes-Bianchi, conductor
David Lowry, guest conductor and organist
Shirley Fishburne, organist
Miriam Kilbourne, soprano
Anna Perry Gosnell, alto
Scott Rogers, tenor
Lendon Todd Munday, baritone

BRAHMS

Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80

MOZART

Vesperæ Solemnes de Confessore, K. 339

Dixit Dominus - Psalm 110
Confitebor tibi - Psalm 111
Beatus vir - Psalm 112
Laudate, pueri - Psalm 113
Laudate Dominum - Psalm 117
The Song of Mary - Magnificat - Luke 1:46-55

—Intermission—

SAINT-SAENS

Symphony No. 3 in C minor, "The Organ"

I. Adagio—Allegro moderato—Poco adagio
II. Allegro moderato—Presto—Allegro moderato—
Maestoso—Allegro

Photographic and recording equipment may not be used during this performance.

JOHANNES BRAHMS

Born in Hamburg, 7 May 1833

Died in Vienna, 3 April 1897

Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80

Composed in 1880 and first performed in Breslau, 4 January 1881

Scored for piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, contra bassoon, 4 horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, timpani, percussion, strings. Duration: 10 minutes.

Brahms, the redoubtable giant of the last half of the nineteenth century and the unyielding foe of Romantic excess, takes leave of some of his senses in this work. It was written for the occasion of his receipt of the degree Doctor of Philosophy, *honoris causa*, from the University of Breslau. Yet within it are four student songs of varying reputation, one of which was banned from student use most of the century. If this is irreverence, so be it, but one must note that Brahms, as displayed in this and many other works, cares deeply for folksong and treats such melodies with great artistic excellence.

Opening with original material, one is struck with the "Brahms sound" of the orchestra. The darker, warmer sounds from the mid-ranges of the instruments coupled with his inimitable subtle harmonic idioms identifies the music as Brahms immediately. Brahms was never a university man himself, but he remembered happy days visiting Joachim at Göttingen. Congenial company and good beer had brought forth students singing their songs. Four of these are used in the overture.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Born in Salzburg, 27 January 1756

Died in Vienna, 5 December 1791

Vesperæ solemnes de confessore, K. 339

Composed and first performed in Salzburg in 1780

Scored for violin I, violin II, violoncello, double bass, bassoon, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, timpani, organ, SATB solos, SATB chorus. Duration: 25 minutes.

In 1780 Mozart was 24 and working for the archbishop in Salzburg where several pieces of church music were composed for the limited resources of the small city. Tonight's work is one of those. *Vespers* is an evening service of psalmody, scripture readings and prayer (an "office," not a mass). While it is principally an office for monks, it often was an attractive public service.

In offices, psalms are the "hymns." In the special requirements for a saint's day, Psalms 110, 111, 112, 113 and 117 were appointed. The New Testament psalm of Mary (*Magnificat*), found in Luke's gospel, is sung at vespers every day throughout the year.

Psalms typically praise the many ways God deals with daily social ills. They very often mention evil doers, liars, governmental corruption, misuse of wealth [some things never change] and models for clean living and clean thinking. For Mozart, such language provides a plethora of musical possibilities, all within classic restraint and with historic precedent for "text painting." The result is some of Mozart's finest writing for the church.

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS

Born in Paris, 9 October 1835

Died in Algiers, 16 December 1921

Symphony No. 3 in C minor, Op. 78"The Organ Symphony" Dedication: *To the memory of Franz Liszt*

Composed in 1886; first performed 19 May 1886 in London

Scored for piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, English horn, 2 bassoons, contra bassoon, 4 horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, timpani, percussion, four-hand piano, organ, strings. Duration: 37 minutes.

Some historians regard Saint-Saëns as a conservative who disliked modern ideas and who composed music with more cosmetic value than spiritual substance. Stravinsky recalled Saint-Saëns as "a sharp little man" who was singularly unimpressed with Stravinsky's premier of *The Rite of Spring*. Yet Saint-Saëns is the man who was the forward-looking mentor of young composer Gabriel Fauré and an ardent admirer of Liszt and Berlioz.

Symphony No. 3 was a commission from the Royal Philharmonic Society in London. He included the organ in the orchestration no doubt because of the presence of an 1858 Gray & Davison organ in Saint James' Hall, Piccadilly, where Saint-Saëns had played in 1880. When Saint-Saëns arrived in May of 1886 to conduct the third symphony, he must surely have been surprised to find the organ had been replaced in 1882 with an instrument of inferior resources! Saint James' Hall was razed in 1905 and replaced with the Piccadilly Hotel.

Subsequent performances in France and eventually throughout the Western world often afforded the work a more substantial instrument for the soft colors of the adagio and the *fortissimo* of the last section.

Notes by David M. Lowry

Psalm Texts in
Mozart's *Vesperae Solemnes de Confessore, K. 339*

I. Dixit Dominus Psalm 110

- 1 The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, *
until I make your enemies your footstool."
 - 2 The LORD will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, *
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you."
 - 3 Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; *
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,
like dew from the womb of the morning."
 - 4 The LORD has sworn and he will not recant: *
"You are a priest for ever after the order
of Melchizedek."
 - 5 The Lord who is at your right hand
will smite kings in the day of his wrath; *
he will rule over the nations.
 - 6 He will heap high the corpses; *
he will smash heads over the wide earth.
 - 7 He will drink from the brook beside the road; *
therefore he will lift high his head.
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

II. Psalm 111 Confitebor tibi

- 1 I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 Great are the deeds of the LORD! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people; *
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding; *
his praise endures for ever.

Glory to the Father...

III. Psalm 112 Beatus vir

- 1 Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

- 6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever; *
they will hold up their head with honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; *
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.

Glory to the Father...

IV. Psalm 113 Laudate, pueri

- 1 Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.
- 2 Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.
- 4 The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?
- 6 He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.
- 7 He sets them with the princes, * with the princes of his people.
- 8 He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

Glory to the Father...

V. Psalm 117 Laudate Dominum

- 1 Praise the LORD, all you nations; *
laud him, all you peoples.
- 2 For his loving-kindness toward us is great, *
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.

Glory to the Father...

VI. Luke 1:46-55

The Song of Mary - Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father...

About tonight's soloists in Mozart's *Vespers*
Each of the soloists have a special history with the YCCS.

Miriam Kilbourne, Soprano

Miriam Kilbourne was the soloist in the *Vespers* when the YCCS performed the work as part of the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in 1987. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Birmingham Southern College. Ms. Kilbourne is Spiritual Care Coordinator with York County Hospice, sings in the YCCS Chamber Choir, and appears occasionally as soloist in area churches and civic activities. She is married to folk singer and humorist Ed Kilbourne and is the mother of two daughters, Jenny and Amanda.

Anna Perry Gosnell, Mezzo-soprano

Anna Perry Gosnell has been a frequent soloist with the YCCS. As an undergraduate voice major, she was a violinist in the Rock Hill Chamber Orchestra at Winthrop University which accompanied the YCCS occasionally. Ms. Gosnell has sung frequently as a member of the Charlotte Oratorio Singers. With former Charlotte conductors Leo Driehuys and Mary Nell Saunders, and with Peter McCoppin, she has appeared with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and the Oratorio Singers in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, *Christmas Oratorio*, Copland's *In the Beginning*, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and Mozart's *Requiem*.

Scott Rogers, Tenor

Scott Rogers was an undergraduate at the University of Georgia and earned the degree Master of Music in Performance at Winthrop University. In Spoleto, Italy, he appeared in Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*, Gluck's *Orfeo ed Eurydice*, and Joplin's *Treemonisha*. He has sung in several YCCS productions, including Mozart's *Grand Mass in C minor* in Rock Hill and Raleigh, Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's *Requiem* and Christmas at McCelvey. Mr. Rogers, his wife Lynn and daughter Zoe live in Winston-Salem where he is a computer analyst with USAir.

Lendon Todd Munday, Baritone

Lendon Todd Munday first appeared with the YCCS in its first year in Handel's *Messiah* and in Brahms' *A German Requiem*. Since then, Mr. Munday has sung *Requiems* by Duruflé and Fauré, and Vaughan Williams' *Dona nobis pacem* with the YCCS. His operatic career has included appearances in San Francisco, Boston, and extensive tour in Europe as Figaro in Rossini's *Barber of Seville* and Schunnard in Puccini's *La Bohème*. Mr. Munday's wife, soprano Danielle Goldin, will be appearing with the YCCS on March 15, 1996 in Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*.