

Mar. 2007

York County Choral Society
26th Season

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2007 – FOUR O’CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

DAVID M. LOWRY, CONDUCTOR
JILLIAN FINNAMORE, SOPRANO
ERIC KENNEDY AND MAX SINGLETON, TREBLES

JANE HART BRENDLE AND TATIANA KARPOVA, VIOLIN
MARTHA GEISSLER, VIOLA; JOHN CLOER, VIOLONCELLO
JEFF FERDON, DOUBLE BASS; CHRISTINE VAN ARSDALE, HARP
HOLLIS ULAKY, OBOE; MICHAEL WILLIAMS, PERCUSSION
MICHAEL GRANT, ORGAN
SHIRLEY FISHBURNE, ORGAN
SUSAN READ, ORGAN

Chichester Psalms **Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)**
Eric Kennedy, Max Singleton, trebles
Michael Grant, organ

Rejoice in the Lamb **Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)**
Eric Kennedy, Max Singleton, trebles
Faye Daniel, alto
Ed West, tenor
Andy Castillo, baritone
Shirley Fishburne, organ

Exsultate, jubilate **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)**
Jillian Finnamore, soprano

Hierusalem **George Dyson (1883-1964)**
Jillian Finnamore, soprano
Susan Read, organ

Texts

Chichester Psalms

FIRST MOVEMENT: Ps. 108:2; Ps. 100

Wake up, my spirit; awake, lute and harp; I myself will waken the dawn.

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Know this: The LORD himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his Name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

SECOND MOVEMENT: Ps. 23; Ps. 2:1-4

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats? Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against his Anointed? "Let us break their yoke," they say; "let us cast off their bonds from us." He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the Lord has them in derision.

THIRD MOVEMENT: Ps. 131; Ps. 133:1

O LORD, I am not proud; I have no haughty looks. I do not occupy myself with great matters, or with things that are too hard for me. But I still my soul and make it quiet, like a child upon its mother's breast; my soul is quieted within me. O Israel, wait upon the LORD, from this time forth for evermore.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when brethren live together in unity!

Rejoice in the Lamb (Jubilate Agno)

Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues; Give the glory to the Lord, and the Lamb. Nations, and languages, and every Creature in which is the breath of Life. Let man and beast appear before him, and magnify his name together.

Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter, bind a leopard to the altar and consecrate his spear to the Lord. Let Ishmail dedicate a tyger, and give praise for the liberty in which the Lord has let him at large.

Let Balaam appear with an ass, and bless the Lord his people, and his creatures for a reward eternal. Let Daniel come forth with a lion, and praise God with all his might through faith in Christ Jesus. Let Ithamar minister with a chamois, and bless the name of Him That cloatheth the naked. Let Jakim with the satyr bless God in the dance. Dance, dance, dance.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah for the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, And from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

For I will consider my cat, Jeoffrey. For he is the servant of the living God. Duly and daily serving Him. For at the first glance Of the glory of God in the East He worships in his way. For this is done by wreathing his body

Seven times round with elegant quickness. For he knows that God is his saviour. For God has bless'd him In the variety of his movements. For there is nothing sweeter Than his peace when at rest. For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty, from whom I take occasion to bless Almighty God.

For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour. For- this is a true case- Cat takes female mouse- male mouse will not depart, but stands threat'ning and daring....If you let her go, I will engage you, as prodigious a creature as you are. For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour. For the Mouse is of an hospitable disposition.

For the flowers are great blessings. For the flowers are great blessings. For the flowers have their angels, Even the words of God's creation. For the flower glorifies God And the root parries the adversary. For there is a language of flowers. For the flowers are peculiarly The poetry of Christ.

For I am under the same accusation with my Savior, For they said, He is besides himself. For the officers of the peace are at variance with me, and the watchman smites me with his staff. For silly fellow, silly fellow is against me, And belongeth neither to me nor to my family. For I am in twelve HARSHIPS, but he that was born of a virgin shall deliver me out of all,

For H is a spirit, and therefore he is God. For K is king, and therefore he is God. For L is love, and therefore he is God. For M is musick, and therefore he is God.

For the instruments are by their rhimes, For the shawm rhimes are lawn fawn and the like. For the shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like. For the harp rhimes are sing ring and the like. For the harp rhimes are ring string and the like. For the cymbal rhimes are bell well and the like. For the cymbal rhimes are toll soul and the like. For the flute rhimes are tooth youth and the like. For the flute rhimes are suit mute and the like. For the bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like. For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place and the like. For the clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like. For the trumpet rhimes are sound bound soar more and the like. For the TRUMPET of God is a blessed intelligence and so are all the instruments in HEAVEN. For GOD the Father Almighty plays upon the HARP of stupendous magnitude and melody. For at that time malignity ceases and the devils themselves are at peace. For this time is perceptible to man by a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah for the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, And from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Exsultate, jubilate

Aria

Rejoice, resound with joy, o you blessed souls, rejoice, resound with joy, singing sweet songs. In response to your singing let the heavens sing forth with me.

Recitative

The friendly day shines forth, both clouds and storms have fled now; for the righteous there has arisen an unexpected calm. Dark night reigned everywhere [before]; arise, happy at last, you who feared till now, and joyful for this lucky dawn give garlands and lilies with full right hand.

Aria

You, o crown of virgins, grant us peace, console our feelings, from which our hearts sigh.

Aria

Alleluia.

Hierusalem
F.B.P, sixteenth century manuscript

Jerusalem, my happy home,
when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

O happy harbor of the saints!
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found,
no grief, no care, no toil.

Thy walls are made of precious stones,
thy bulwarks diamonds square;
thy gates are of right orient pearl;
exceeding rich and rare;

thy houses are of ivory,
thy windows crystal clear;
thy tiles are made of beaten gold--
O God that I were there!

Thy vineyards and thy orchards are
most beautiful and fair,
full furnished with trees and fruits,
most wonderful and rare.

Thy gardens and thy gallant walks
continually are green:
there grow such sweet and pleasant flowers
as nowhere else are seen.

Quite through the streets with silver sound
the flood of life doth flow,
upon whose banks on every side
the wood of life doth grow.

There trees for evermore bear fruit,
and evermore do spring;
there evermore the angels be,
and evermore do sing.

Jerusalem, my happy home,
when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

Thy saints are crowned with glory great;
They see God face to face;
They triumph still, they still rejoice:
Most happy is their case.

There David stands with harp in hand
as master of the choir:
ten thousand times that man were blessed
that might this music hear.

Our Lady sings Magnificat
with tune surpassing sweet,
and all the virgins bear their part,
sitting at her feet.

Te Deum doth Saint Ambrose sing,
Saint Austin doth the like;
Old Simeon and Zachary
Have not their songs to seek.

There Magdalen hath left her moan,
and cheerfully doth sing
with blessed saints, whose harmony
in every street doth ring.

Jerusalem, my happy home,
God grant that I may share
Thy holy light, thy tuneful song,
Thy bliss beyond compare.

MEMBERS OF THE CHORUS

Ann Adams*, Norm Ballmer, Patsy Black*, Bradley Brown*, Linda Caines, Sara Castillo, Andy Castillo*, Bill Castillo, Carol Cherin, Ann Cody, Katherine Collier, Page Connelly, Martha Cowan, Dave Cowan, Jeff Culp, Faye Daniel*, Michael Davis, Craig Estep*, Mike Faris, Chip Grant, David Harrell, Jane Hudson, Terry Hudson, Priscilla Jennings, Pat Johnson*, Susan Kelly, Jennifer Landsly, Dan Lawson, Nine Lynch, Anne McCulloch, John McCulloch, Allean McGowan, Miriam Mick*, Tim Moe*, Mary Moss, Irene Pointon* Bettye Rawls, Greg Reynold*s, Larry Richards, Gayle Sawyer, George Sawyer, Linda Shealy, Dana Smith, Frances Stein, Linda Sutton, Jean Thompson, Susan Vogel, Steve Vogel, Jane Walkup, Al Ward, Jim Welch, Ed West* Carrot Williams, Wendy Wingard-Gay*,

*Chamber Group in *Hierusalem*

PATRON SUBSCRIBERS 2006-2007

YCCS Club

David & Martha Cowan

Sustaining Member

Michael & Frances Davis
Toby & Martha Haynsworth
Jim & Sheree Welsh

Sponsoring Member

Lil Adickes
Dorothy H. Amick
Susan M. Collins
Michael W. Davis, DMD, P.A.
Ray & Emma Doughty
Pat & Mickey Johnson
Mary Hardin
Wayne and Nina Lynch
Joe and Marilyn Mitchell
Curtis and Bettye Rawls,
In Memory of Michael Kelly and Martha Hoskins
Rock Hill Music Club
Susan & David Van Zile
Steve & Susan Vogel
Mr. and Mrs. David White

Associate Member

Ann & Jacob Adams
Doris Browder Blough
Paul Broome
Katherine Collier
In Loving Memory of Tom Collier
Page & Carolyn Connelly
Gloria & Marshall Doswell
Shirley & Coty Fishburne
Linda & Hiram Hutchison

Mildred D. Lane
Jurgen & Carmen Meyer-Cuno
Robert & Mary Moss
John & Ann McCulloch
Marcus & Shasta Parker
Doug & Irene Pointon
Betty Salmond
Guy & Linda Shealy
Margaret A. Tice
Two's Company Needle Point
Earl & Elizabeth Wilcox

Patron Member

Wilford & Doris Bienz
Patsy Black
Bill & Sara Castillo
Carol Courtman Cherin
Ann Cody
Jeff & Jane Culp
Martie H. Curran
Al & Faye Daniel
Louisa Dills
Philip & Susan Emanuel
William & Priscilla Jennings
Ann W. Gill
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Guza
Clarence & Lynn Hornsby
Louise C. Lesslie
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Read
Larry & Evelyn Richards
Gerry & Barbara Schapiro
Angeline Sturgis
Marie & Brook Todd
Jim & Judy Udick
Ed & Tamara West

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE YCCS

On behalf of the Board of Directors and singers of the York County Choral Society, I want to welcome you to the Spring Concert of our 26th season!

Last Summer the Choral Society concluded a very busy and exciting Silver Anniversary concert season with the distinct and memorable honor of being the choir in residence at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. for four services, July 13 -16. We began this Second Quarter Century of music just a month later as we started preparing for a November concert in Rock Hill that featured over a dozen works and a variety of musical styles; we repeated that program in February in Dillon at the invitation of Dillon County Theatre.

As the Choral Society continues to fulfill its mission of performing choral masterworks with appropriate accompaniment for the York County area, we want to thank those who make these programs possible. First Presbyterian Church has provided concert space many times in addition to today's venue. Our generous Patrons and our talented accompanists are deeply appreciated. Then there are those so essential for our day-to-day activities: David Lowry, co-founder; Susan Read, rehearsal accompanist and vocal coach; the Arts Council; and Oakland Baptist Church, providing concert venue and weekly rehearsal space for 26 years.

We are glad to have you with us today, and we will do our best to make your concert enjoyable and memorable.

Michael Davis
President

NOTES ON THIS PROGRAM

Today's treble soloists come from Charlotte's **Choir School at St. Peter's**, which can trace its history back more than a century to the first Boys Choir at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, established in 1894. From that beginning, with a nucleus of four choristers, the choir program today numbers more than 90 children between the ages of 6 and 18 in five choirs. Ben Outen, Organist and Choirmaster at St. Peter's reestablished the boy choir tradition in 1993. Using organizational elements of both the 1930's choir and of today's local civic choirs, the current choir blends the ancient, proven boy choir tradition of teaching music through classical, sacred worship forms with performance of additional styles of music, such as folk and popular songs. In 1998, the Girls Choir was reestablished and in 2003 The MasterSingers at St. Peter's, a mixed voice teen choir began. Each group meets weekly for superior music education and performance opportunities. The choirs are open by audition to all musically talented children in the area regardless of race, religion or economic status and the non-profit organization is funded through individual and corporate donations. The choirs perform two major concerts each year and the older choirs tour for a week each summer. For more information, visit the choir website at www.TheChoirSchool.org and plan to attend our spring concert on Friday or Saturday, May 11 or 12 at St. Peter's in Charlotte.

As fame goes, for 15 minutes or many years, we've all enjoyed the Three Tenors on television, and we've had South Carolina's Three Baritones appear in Rock Hill. Today we have our own beloved **Three Organists!** Michael Grant is the Assistant Organist-Choirmaster of Christ Church Episcopal, Charlotte, and was YCCS's organist for the 2003 Tour in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Shirley Fishburne is the Co-founder of YCCS who often supplies accompaniments, including the 2000 UK Tour to Wales and England. Susan Read is the YCCS Accompanist and Vocal Coach, and organist of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Guest soprano **Jillian Finnamore** was born in Papua New Guinea and raised in French West Africa. In 2003, Jillian graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in vocal performance, studying with Laury Christie. While there, she performed several roles with orchestra, including *Dido and Aeneas*, *Suor Angelica*, and *The Consul*.

Jillian is equally comfortable on the concert stage and has done extensive oratorio work. She has been soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, and Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, among others. As a young dramatic coloratura, Ms. Finnamore has worked closely with stage directors Richard Crittenden and the late Talmage Fauntleroy. In 2004, she created the principal role of Tourist A in the world premiere of the opera *Lost in Translation*, by Bruce Trinkley and Jason Charnesky.

During the winter and spring of 2006, Jillian worked with Opera Bel Cantanti. Last week, she appeared with the Center Stage Opera Company in Pennsylvania in the title role of *Luica di Lammermoor*. This is Jillian's second appearance with the YCCS.

A title such as *A Search for Heaven* might well be given to this concert. Bernstein's choice of texts from the Book of Psalms cites the reasons for bliss, although interrupted by "uproar." Britten's choice of Christopher Smart's *Jubilate Agno* text (which, by the way, is an extremely long poem) finds joy in nearly everything on earth. Mozart's text finds joy in adoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. All these bring us to F.B.P.'s mystical text about what Heaven, synonymous with the New Jerusalem, would be like. From ancient times, dreaming of a restored Jerusalem has been the object of many a poet and theologian. It was, after all, the site of the Temple. Almost every Biblical prediction of peace indicates that calamity will occur first, rearranging the contour and the venues of Jerusalem. For those writing in our Biblical heritage, Jerusalem was the center of the universe. Thy joys when shall I see?

George Dyson's musical setting of selected stanzas from a longer collection by this unknown poet, was composed in 1956 for St. Michael's Church in the City of London.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Rinehart and Associates
Oakland Baptist Church
Martha Geissler
First Presbyterian Church
The Rev'd and Mrs. Michael Rouse

The York County Choral Society is partially funded by the Arts Council of Rock Hill and York County United Arts Fund, which receive funding from the S. C. Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation of S. C. and the Rock Hill Tourism Commission.