

Inspire musicians to gladden the hearts of

Light From The West

people by filling the air with God's gift

American Insights

of music and reminding them of the divine

of the Church

Musician who created all beauty. Amen

Tradition

York County Choral Society

with music of Benjamin Britten

David Lowry, *Conductor* • Shirley Fishburne, *Organ*



Sunday, March 26, 2000 • 4:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church • Main and Saluda Streets, Rock Hill, SC

Saturday, March 25, 2000 • 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church • Cheraw, SC

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

**Lendon Todd Munday
April 5, 1961 - March 20, 2000**

When the York County Choral Society presented its very first concert in the winter of 1981, Handel's *Messiah* parts II and III, the baritone soloist was Winthrop undergraduate Todd Munday, his first experience singing with an orchestra, and in particular achieving a fine performance of "The trumpet shall sound." In addition to his recitals at Winthrop, he served as choral scholar at the Church of Our Saviour and in recent years as section leader at Christ Episcopal Church and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, on stage with Newberry Opera, and numerous appearances in the Carolinas.

He has appeared throughout the USA and Europe, and was scheduled to be in Greece this summer under the direction of Sherrill Milnes.

Todd appeared many times with the YCCS, as has his wife, soprano Danielle Goldin-Munday. In each instance, the chorus and our audiences have been thrilled by their commitment to great music, their superb talents and their warm personalities.

Our hearts go out to Danielle and her family, Todd's relatives in Iredell County NC, but also to our many colleagues and friends in opera and choral circles who have been fortunate to count Todd among those who are friends.

We dedicate this concert to his memory.



Betty Salmond, President
Pat Johnson, President-Elect
Priscilla Jennings, Secretary
Janice Westerman, Treasurer
Board Members: Bill Blough,
Page Connelly, Faye Daniel,
Toby Haynsworth, Beth Joyce,
Susan Kelly, Timothy Moe,
and Ember Wells

To Our Audience:

On behalf of the York County Choral Society Board and Singers, I welcome each of you to our 1999-2000 concert season. We hope our 19th season will bring you much pleasure.

We open our season with a repeat of *King David* by Arthur Honegger. This work has become known world-wide as one of the most arresting and musically rewarding 20th century oratorios.

In the spring, we will perform *Rejoice in the Lamb* by Benjamin Britten, and shorter works by American composers Conte, Davison, Lauridson, Rorem, Sowerby, Staheli, and others.

In July of 2000, some 35 members of the chorus will tour England, singing music of American composers. There will be opportunities for you to hear the tour choir before we leave. Watch for those announcements at a later date.

We want to say thank you to all our supporters, without whom we would not exist: our audience, our patrons, our advertisers, the Combined Arts Fund, Oakland Baptist Church, Susan Read, our accompanist, and our director and co-founder, David Lowry.

Thank you again for coming. We hope our music will provide you with a rich and rewarding experience.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Salmond".

Betty Salmond

YORK COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY

David Lowry, Conductor

Susan Read, Accompanist

with

Shirley Fishburne, Organist

Saturday, March 25, 2000 - 7:30 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Cheraw

Sunday, March 26, 2000 - 4:00 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill

Rejoice in the Lamb

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

Chorus

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 Ishmael 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 clotheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the Satyr bless God in the dance.

Let David bless with the Bear - the beginning of victory to the Lord - to the Lord the perfections of excellence - Hallelujah from 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.

Treble Solo - Mary Fishburne

For I will consider my Cat Jeoffry.

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 blessed 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.

Alto Solo - Faye Daniel

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 will 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.

Tenor Solo - Brad Brown

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 flowers are peculiarly the poetry of Christ.

Chorus

For I am under the same accusation with my Saviour—

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.

Recitative (Bass Solo) and Chorus - Allen Clayton

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 the rhimes.

For the Shawm rhimes are lawn fawn moon boon and the like.
For the harp rhimes are sing ring string and the like.
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well toll soul and the like.
For the flute rhimes are tooth youth suit mute and the like.
For the Bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like.
For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place beat heat 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 from 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.

From *Jubilate Agno* by
Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

+ + +

Light from the West - American insights of the church tradition

Surge illuminare

**Ned Rorem
(b. 1923)**

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land;
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise,
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will be always open;
by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord,
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land,
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation,
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day;
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light
and your God will be your glory.

The Third Song of Isaiah

Phos hilaron

**Gary Davison
(b. 1961)**

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Greek lamplighting hymn

Organ - Partita on *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

James Woodman
(b. 1957)

O magnum mysterium

Morten Lauridson
(b. 1943)

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament, that animals might see the birth of the Lord as he lay in the manger. O, Blessed Virgin, who was worthy of bearing our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia.

Motet for Christmas

Ave Maria

David Conte
(b. 1955)

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and in the hour of our death. Amen

Traditional prayer of personal devotion

Serenity

Charles Ives
(1874-1954)

O, Sabbath rest of Galilee!
O, calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love.

Drop thy still dews of quietness
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.

From *The Brewing of Soma*,
John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Organ - "The Peace may be exchanged," from *Rubrics*

Dan Locklair
(b. 1949)

How can I keep from singing?

setting by Ronald Staheli

My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing;
it sounds an echo in my soul:
How can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble sick with fear
and fear their death-knells ringing,
When friends rejoice both far and near,
How can I keep from singing?
In prison cell or dungeon vile
our thoughts to them are winging,
when friends by shame are undefiled,
How can I keep from singing?

What if my joys and comforts die,
I know Truth is living
What tho' the darkness 'round me close,
How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin,
I see the blue above it.
And day by day this pathway smooths,
since first I learned to love it.
The peace from love makes fresh my heart,
a song of hope is springing.
All things are mine since Truth I've found:
How can I keep from singing?

Text and Tune by
Robert Lowry (1826-1899)

Miriam Mick, soprano

Now there lightens upon us

Leo Sowerby
(1895-1968)

Now there lightens upon us a holy daybreak, Alleluia.
Come, come, all good people, and praise the Lord with gladness.
For the star which we have looked for shines
forth a sign to all men. Alleluia.

George Craig Stewart

YCCS SINGING MEMBERS

SOPRANO - Glenna Boaman, Robyn Brown, Sara Castillo, Martha Cowan, Jane Culp, Linda Hutchison, Pat Johnson, Beth Joyce, Liz Lumadue, Aileen McGowan, Miriam Mick, Virginia Moe, Mary Lynn Norton, Bettye Rawls, Dale Smarr, Linda Sutton, Jan Westerman, Wendy Wingard-Gay

ALTO - Ann Adams, Ann Cody, Faye Daniel, Louisa Dills, Veta Evans, Beth Johns, Susan Kelly, Nina Lynch, Anne McCulloch, Charlene Rodriguez, Betty Salmond, Linda Shealy, Olivia Shepherd,

TENOR - Bill Blough, Brad Brown, Gordon Brookfield, Sharon Collins, Jeff Culp, Billy Fallaw, Chip Grant, Evelyn Harper, Priscilla Jennings, Dan Lawson, John McCulloch

BASS - Andy Castillo, Bill Castillo, Allen Clayton, Page Connelly, Dave Cowan, Joe Faris, Harry Holder, Tim Moe, Larry Nipe, Larry Richards

PATRONS

Patron

Bill and Sara Castillo
Bob & Ann Cody
Page & Carolyn Connelly
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Dills
Peyton & Jean Drake
Karen and J. T. Ellenberger
Veta Evans
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Hartley
Margaret M. Hausman
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Holder
Linda & Hiram Hutchison
Elizabeth Schrader Johns
Beth & Wayne Joyce
Louise C. Lesslie
Kenneth & Lannie Love
Liz Lumadue
Wayne & Nina Lynch
Grace B. Matthews
Dorothy J. McElveen
Debbie Mollycheck
Chalmers & Libby Neely
Mary Lynn & Greg Norton
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Read
Angeline F. Sturgis
Dorothy J. Tait

T. Mark & Fran Verdery
Janice Westerman
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Williams

Associate

Ann & Jacob Adams
Dr. Martha Bishop
Doris & Bill Blough
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Carlisle
Al & Faye Daniel
Ian & Nancy Davidson
Doug & Wendy Gay
Dennis & Lynne Gettelfinger
Mickey & Pat Johnson
Mildred & Grady Lane
Dr. Mary Jean Ligon
Mindy & Steve McCrae
Lucy L. McDow
Joe & Eva Mills
Jean K. Plowden
Gerry & Barbara Schapiro
Karen Talewsky
Margaret Ann Tice

Sponsoring

D. H. Amick
'Becca & Harry Dalton
Ray & Emma Doughty
Joe & Lena Hopkins
Marilyn & Joe Mitchell
Jake & Jane Modla
Jane Moore
Elizabeth H. Rader
Curtis and Bettye Rawls
Betty Clay Rothrock
Betty H. Salmond
Linda & Guy Shealy

Sustaining

F.I. & Delores Brownley
Martha & Dave Cowan
Martha & Toby Haynsworth
William & Priscilla Jennings
David A. White

YCCS Club

Wiley and Nola Blanton

Founders' Club

Bank of America

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Oakland Baptist Church
The Church of Our Saviour
First Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill
First Presbyterian Church, Cheraw

Graphic design for posters and programs by Andy Westbrook

This performance is funded in part by a grant from the Rock Hill Arts Council United Arts Fund.

GRAPHICS

The cover and publicity posters for this concert, imaginatively designed by Andy Westbrook, play on the theme of music with sacred texts by American composers, and the performance of music by one of our finest 20th-century British composers, Benjamin Britten. In the background of the cover, one can see a text taken from a collect for St. Cecilia's Day, November 22, the birth date of Benjamin Britten in 1913. It provides a special prayer for the activities of the YCCS this summer.

BRITTEN AND SMART

Benjamin Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb* comes from an impressive influence by a clergyman, The Rev'd Walter Hussey. Hussey was vicar of St Matthews Church, Northampton during WWII. It is a church where today one can find handsome displays of fine art and a fine concert series, much of it commissioned by or brought to the church by Fr. Hussey. A long list of distinguished British musicians have been organists there. Hussey commissioned Britten for this work. Later, Hussey was Dean at Chichester Cathedral where he commissioned Bernstein to write the *Chichester Psalms*. He also commissioned remarkable and important works of art from painters, textile artists, sculptors and writers.

Christopher Smart (1722-1771), the poet of *Rejoice in the Lamb*, actually wrote this poem in an asylum. After his release he wrote a huge poem *A Song to David*, 88 stanzas long. (The YCCS performed William Albright's setting of that poem in 1985.) Smart, whether ill or not, was a poet who was not of his own day. By 20th-century standards he might well be considered "eccentric" rather than mad. The concept of *Rejoice in the Lamb* is very child-like and naive, but the language is intensely knowledgeable. The idea that all that is in this world is in the likeness of God is not unique to Smart, but his views that rhymes, alphabets, musical instruments, pets, etc, all are vital parts of God's creation provide great interest. It is clear that Britten found the allusions pleasurable and tempting from the composer's viewpoint. It only goes to underscore those wonderful words which appear twice in the work: "Hallelujah from 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."

AMERICAN MUSIC

It was the Rev'd Charlie Foss, rector of Our Saviour, Rock Hill, that quite easily came up with "Light from the West - American insights of the church tradition" when discussing the idea of the YCCS going to England with all American music. There was a certain poetic reaction to those words that spoke to me clearly. As much as we love music of British composers, I believe we have no apology to make for the work of many very serious composers in America.

The other, perhaps more mystical reason, is that somehow I gravitated to works related to the subject of light, or which have the symbol of light associated. Perhaps there was a little voice whispering in the background, I don't know, but here we are. Light and American composers.

So while our selections of western 'church music' hardly is comprehensive, and certainly not of the current popular entertainment type of ("lite") music sung in some religious circles, it is a reflection of what some serious composers have been doing to provide fine words with musical vehicles. We sing these American pieces, plus more, with pride of place and gratitude for our mother country's heritage.

David Lowry

THE WALES AND ENGLAND TOUR

Please join us in three free events where more of our American musical offerings will be presented before leaving for Wales and England on July 20.

- Choral Evensong: May 21, 5:00 pm, The Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, Rock Hill
- Concert (free): July 9, 5:00 pm, Purity Presbyterian Church, Chester
- Open Rehearsal: July 13, 8:00 pm, Oakland Baptist Church, Rock Hill

YCCS on Tour

The YCCS is going on a tour in Wales and England for July 20-30, 2000. This tour comes at the beginning of the society's 20th anniversary season. Thirty-two singing members have made financial commitments to go.

The tour has shaped up very well. Many of the singers have never been to the United Kingdom, so a judicious amount of tourist time must be given in addition to singing. The tour begins with a residency for Saturday and Sunday July 22-23 in St. David's Cathedral, Pembrokeshire, Wales. The chorus will be the guest cathedral choir for two evensongs and the Sunday morning mass. St. David's is located as far west as one can go in south Wales and is the site of some of the oldest indications of Christianity in the United Kingdom. The medieval cathedral is one of England's most hauntingly idyllic.

A day off on Monday takes the tour across mid-Wales to the Wye river and across to Gloucestershire, where an evening in a thirteenth-century pub will provide a game of skittles along with an amazing array of food. Tuesday will be a leisurely day in Tewksbury and Gloucester, ending up with singing a full evening concert in St. Mary's Church, Prestbury, near Cheltenham. This parish church, portions of which were begun in the 12th century, with most of what is seen today being 15th century, is a thriving parish with a regular concert series, a filled church on Sundays, and an active community involvement.

Wednesday, a day off, is a journey to York (how could the York County Choral Society *not* visit Yorkshire?) with a stop at Chatsworth House, superb stately home in Derbyshire owned by the Duke of Devonshire. Tea, anyone?

Thursday will be an excursion a little north to Durham Cathedral, unquestionably the rival to St. David's as one of England's most hauntingly gorgeous cathedrals. The YCCS will sing a mid-day concert in the cathedral, then back to York for a ghost tour.

Friday's journey to London will include a stop at stately Lincoln Cathedral to sing a mid-day concert. Residents of Rock Hill who heard the performance by Jesus College Choir of Cambridge at the Church of Our Saviour two years ago will remember Julian Thomas, the young conductor. Julian is now sub-organist of Lincoln and graciously saw to the arrangements for the YCCS visit. Arrival in London Friday evening, in time for a show or a leisurely dinner is followed by a full day of "doing" London. An early coach ride to Gatwick on Sunday gets most people back home the same day.

The chorus will take all American music on the tour. It is difficult to imagine a nicer way to celebrate twenty years of success. We look forward to next season's "platinum" anniversary celebrations.

The singing members of the YCCS have committed themselves to approximately \$2,000 each for this tour. We would appreciate helpful suggestions on ways to subsidize portions of the tour, simply to help reduce the costs per person. Individual and corporate sponsorship is being sought. Please speak to President Betty Salmond or another officer if you have suggestions to make.

Repertory of the YCCS

1981-1999

Major Works

Albright, <i>A Song to David</i>	Haydn, <i>The Creation</i>
Bach, <i>Magnificat</i> ; <i>Cantatas 29, 80, 147</i> ; <i>Missa in B minor</i>	Honegger, <i>King David</i>
Bernstein, <i>Chichester Psalms</i>	Mendelssohn, <i>Elijah</i>
Brahms, <i>A German Requiem</i> ; <i>Liebeslieder Waltzer</i>	Mozart, <i>Requiem</i> ; <i>Solemn Vespers</i> ; <i>Grand Mass in C minor</i> ; <i>Missa Brevis in D major</i> ;
Britten, <i>Hymn to St. Cecilia</i> ; <i>St. Nicolas</i> ; <i>Te Deum in E</i> ; <i>A Ceremony of Carols</i>	Parry, <i>Hear my words</i>
Durufié, <i>Requiem</i>	Poulenc, <i>Gloria</i>
Elgar, <i>Great is the Lord</i>	Schubert, <i>Mass in G major</i>
Fauré, <i>Requiem</i>	Thompson, <i>A Testament of Freedom</i> ; <i>The Peaceable Kingdom</i>
Handel, <i>Messiah</i> ; <i>Coronation Anthems</i> ; <i>Foundling Hospital Anthem</i>	Vaughan Williams, <i>Dona nobis pacem</i> ; <i>Five Mystical Songs</i>
	Vivaldi, <i>Gloria</i> ; <i>Magnificat</i>
	Wiley, <i>Columbus: Dream to Reality</i>

Shorter Works By

Biebl, Britten, Byrd, Davison, Dawson, Durufié, Franck, Gibbons, Hailstork, Harrison, Howells, Hutto, Lowry, Mozart, Pärt, Rutter, Shaw/Parker, Staheli, Stravinsky, Tavener, Vaughan Williams, Victoria, Wesley, and others.

David M. Lowry, D.M.A.

Parish Musician, The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Columbia

Professor of Music, Emeritus
Winthrop University, Rock Hill

Music Director
York County Choral Society

Organist Conductor Consultant Workshop Leader Trumpet and Organ Duo with
Michael Miller of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra 803-787-2741

The Miller-Lowry Duo
now on Compact Disc on the
ProOrgano Label CD 7026

Michael Miller, Trumpet and
David Lowry, Organ

BREAKING GROUND

Music by German, Bach, Purcell, Powell,
Eben, Conte, Puccini, Nicholson, Tomasi

Recorded on the Casavant Organ in
First Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC

Available from the artists
Soon on the shelves of classical recording
stores in America and Great Britain

Also www.Zarex.com Musical Quiz

Musical Quiz

AMERICAN MUSIC

WHO?

1. Who is the "birthday boy" of 2000 being celebrated in concert halls and classical radio stations across the nation?

2. Who told Charles Ives (more than 100 years ago) to "stretch his ears" when listening to music?

WHAT?

3. What musical medium is Ned Rorem especially well known for?

4. What site in England was a commission given to Leonard Bernstein for a significant work which YCCS performed three seasons back?

WHEN?

5. When did Gary Davison's *How shall I sing that majesty* receive its first performance?

6. When did Scott Simon of NPR Weekend Edition interview Morton Lauridson?

WHERE?

7. Where did Dan Locklair grow up and where did he go to undergraduate college?

8. Where can you hear David Conte's *Soliloquy*?

WHY?

9. Why was Chip Grant seen singing in his car while driving down Ebenezer Road?

10. Why does so much of Sowerby's work contain harmonies that are "close" and chromatic?

Answers
1. Aaron Copland, the "dean" of 20th C. American composers. 2. His father. 3. The art song. 4. Chichester Cathedral, for the Chichester Psalms. 5. 1997, in Southwark Cathedral, London, with David Lowry conducting (available on YCCS's recording "Spiritual Pairs"). 6. Christmas Day, 1999. 7. Chantilly; Mars Hill College. 8. On the Miller-Lowry Duo recording Breaking Ground. 9. He was singing along with a rehearsal tape for this concert to save time to provide you with the finest real estate deal in town. 10. Sowerby was a Chicagoan and his style reflects Chicago jazz harmonies from the 1920/30s.



VERNON O. GRANT
(CHIP)

Allen Tate Company

1602 EBENEZER ROAD
ROCK HILL, SC 29732
<http://allen-tate.com>



OFFICE (803) 324-1185
FAX (803) 324-5332
HOME (803) 325-1964



York County Choral Society