

Nov. 11, 2007



Music For Chorus, Brass and Timpani

Daniel Pinkham - Christmas Cantata

John Rutter - Winchester Te Deum and Gloria

York County Choral Society



Greetings from the President of the YCCS

For over 26 years, the York County Choral Society has been providing an opportunity for citizens of York County and the surrounding area to participate in the performance and enjoyment of the highest quality of Choral Music.

The YCCS was founded in 1982 by David Lowry and Shirley Fishburne. Thanks to their vision and continued personal leadership and sacrifices, the group has performed over 40 major choral works. The YCCS has performed at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival and overseas in Wales, Scotland, Ireland and England. Last year the YCCS was honored to be chosen as the Choir in Residence at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

Just to give you an idea how important your support is through ticket purchases and patron contributions: it takes an average annual operational budget of over \$38,000 to mount a season of two concerts. We have plans in the works for an even larger-scale production- the Verdi Requiem. In order to provide music of this scale, we thank you for providing us support as both Patrons and as ticket purchasers

Thank you for helping us continue to grow and carry on with the business and art of singing. We will do our best to make your concert enjoyable and memorable.

Sincerely,

Jane Judson

Jane Judson, President
York County Choral Society

P.O. Box 4202, Rock Hill, SC 29732
www.yorkcountychoralsociety.org

York County Choral Society

27th Season – 2007-2008

Sunday, November 11, 2007 – 4:00 p.m.

Oakland Baptist Church, Rock Hill

DAVID LOWRY, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

SUSAN READ, ACCOMPANIST AND VOCAL COACH

Mark Dulin, Don Tison, Lyle Steelman, Richard Harris, Trumpets

Rachel Halle, Horn

Thomas Burge, Chris Nigrelli, John Driver, Trombones

Sarita Maxwell, Tuba

Jason Jones, Timpani

Michael Williams, Percussion

Susan Read, Organ

Gloria

Christmas Cantata

Daniel Pinkham

Maestoso Quem vidistis, pastores

Adagio O magnum mysterium

Allegro Gloria in excelsis Deo

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

Winchester Te Deum

John Rutter

Ríu, Ríu, Chíu

Spanish, arr. by Noah Greenberg

Andy Castillo, baritone

I Wonder As I Wander

Rutter

Chalica Pack and Carol Cherin, sopranos

Gloria

Rutter

Allegro vivace Gloria in excelsis Deo

Andante Domine Deus

Vivace e ritmico Quoniam tu solus sanctus

Gayle Sawyer, Dana Smith, sopranos

Irene Pointon, alto



This performance is funded in part by a grant from the Arts Council of York County United Arts Fund.

TRANSLATIONS OF LATIN AND SPANISH TEXTS

Christmas Cantata

- I What have you seen, shepherds? Tell us!
 We have seen the newborn Child, and Choirs of Angels.
 Alleluia.
- II O great mystery and admirable sacrament:
 The animals were the first to see the Lord lying at the manger,
 Blessed Virgin whose womb carried our Lord Jesus Christ.
- III Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth!
 Enter into his presence with jubilations.
 Know that the Lord alone is God;
 He has made us, and not we ourselves.

Ríu, ríu, chíu

River, roaring river, guard our homes in safety.
God has kept the black wolf from our Lamb, our Lady.

Raging mad to bite her, there the wolf did steal,
But our God Almighty defended her with zeal.
Pure He wished to keep her, so she could never sin;
That first sin of man never touched this virgin sainted.

He who's now begotten is our mighty Monarch,
Christ our Holy Father in human flesh embodied.
He has brought atonement by being born so humble;
Though He is immortal, as mortal was created.

He has come to offer Life to dead and dying,
He comes to atone for the fall of all mankind.
Light of hope, far shining, is He, this baby boy,
Lamb of God, our joy, just as good Saint John related.

We have now the very One we've always prayed for.
Let's all go as neighbors and presents we will bear.
Let's no longer tarry our love and faith to give,
Since He came to live here among us as our Savior.

English text by Hubert Creekmore

TRANSLATIONS OF LATIN AND SPANISH TEXTS

Gloria in excelsis Deo

- I Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,
we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.
- II O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
- III For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



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NOTES ABOUT THE COMPOSERS

DANIEL PINKHAM (1923-2006) spent most of his life in Massachusetts and studied composition with such great musicians as Paul Hindemith, Walter Piston, Arthur Honegger, Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber, and the great Parisian teacher Nadia Boulanger. He studied harpsichord with Polish legend Wanda Landowska, and organ in the US with E. Power Biggs. He held the post of organist at King's Chapel, Boston, for 42 years, retiring in 2000.

The Pinkham family name raises the curiosity of many, and yes, he indeed was the great-grandson of Lydia Pinkham, the lady who was responsible for the very famous "medicinal compound" for women, about which there are some famous lyrics, mostly deserving the rating of PG or lower!

Pinkham's composition list is prodigious. I had the privilege to play the 1963 premiere in New York City of his Organ Concertante Number 3 for organ, celesta and percussion, in the chapel of the Interchurch Center. Dan directed us in a rehearsal, sitting quietly in a chair, being extraordinarily kind in how to keep us together.

This 1957 cantata was originally called *Sinfonia Sacre*, indicating a broader scope. He was 34, teaching at Harvard, and just about to take the job at King's Chapel. The work utilizes Latin texts. The first movement asks "What have you seen, shepherds? Tell us!" The second is an adoration of Mary "Blessed Virgin, whose flesh has merited bearing the Lord Christ." The last movement, one that has become famous around the world, utilizes the popular text from the Great Doxology, "Glory to God in the highest."

ELIZABETH POSTON (1905-1987) was an English composer, writer and pianist. She was noted for her interest in folksong, influenced greatly by Ralph Vaughan Williams. She lived for 73 years in Rooks Nest House, the subject of Forster's novel *Howards End*. And it was for the 1992 film based on that novel (for which Emma Thompson won an Oscar) that Poston composed the music score. One Joshua Smith of New Hampshire included the text of "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree" in his 1784 collection of hymns and spiritual songs. The poet is unknown. A biblical reference with the metaphor "apple tree" is found in Song of Solomon 2:3 "As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among young men."

NOTES ABOUT THE COMPOSERS

NOAH GREENBERG (1919-1966) was a remarkably energetic self-taught musician who eventually gathered together a group of musicians interested in exploring “early music,” a not-too-common interest in the late 1940s-early 50s. The group became known as the New York Pro Musica and established themselves with the remarkably fine production of *The Play of Daniel at the Cloisters*. Among the many bits of scholarship and collections of early music that Greenberg researched are some early Spanish carols, of which *Ríu, ríu, chíu* is one.

JOHN RUTTER (b. 1945) is a popular English composer, most of his output being for the church choral repertory. His ability to write well for voices is always evident. He has also been a fine scholar. He engaged in significant research on Fauré’s *Requiem* resulting in a fine edition that YCCS has used for its performances. The carol setting, *I Wonder as I Wander*, is a rather sophisticated choral work reflecting the discovery of the text and tune by John Jacob Niles in the mountains of Western North Carolina. Rutter’s setting, however, is not in a folk idiom. *Winchester Te Deum* was composed last year for the installation of the new Dean of Winchester Cathedral. *Gloria* was composed in 1974 for a chorus in Omaha, Nebraska, and has enjoyed great popularity.

~David Lowry

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Jane Walkup			
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REPERTORY OF THE YCCS 1982-2007

Major works include

Albright *A Song to David*; Bach *Magnificat, Cantatas 29, 80, 147 Missa h-moll, St. John Passion*; Bernstein *Chichester Psalms*; Brahms *A German Requiem; Liebeslieder Waltzer*; Britten *Hymn to Saint Cecilia, St. Nicolas; Te Deum in E; A Ceremony of Carols*; Duruflé *Requiem*; Dyson *Hierusalem Elgar Great is the Lord*; Fauré *Requiem*; Handel *Messiah; Coronation Anthems; Foundling Hospital Anthem*; Higginson **Requiem*; Honegger *King David*; Haydn *The Creation; Mass in Time of War*; Mendelssohn *Elijah*; Mozart *Requiem; Grand Mass in C minor Missa Brevis in D major Solemn Vespers*; Orff *Carmina Burana*; Poulenc *Gloria*; Rutter *Gloria*; Schubert *Mass in G major*; Thompson, Bruce **Four Persian Poetic Fragments*; Thompson, Randall *A Testament of Freedom, The Peaceable Kingdom*; Vaughan Williams *Dona nobis pacem; Five Mystical Songs*; Viera **Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross; Ubi caritas*; Vivaldi *Gloria; Magnificat*; Wiley **Columbus: Dream to Reality*

Shorter works by

Biebl, Britten, Byrd, Conte, Davison, Duruflé, Foster, Gawthrop, Hailstork, C. Hogan, M. Hogan, Howells, Hutto, Ives, Kern, Lauridson, Leighton, Lowry, Mozart, Mulholland, Near, Neswick, Parry, Pärt, Phillips, Poulenc, Powell, Rorem, Rutter, Shaw/Parker, Sowerby, Staheli, Stravinsky, Tavener, Vaughan Williams, Victoria, Webster, Wesley

*USA premieres



NEXT CONCERT – SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008
4:00 pm – Byrnes Auditorium, Winthrop University
with
The Winthrop Chorale, Katherine Kinsey, director
and
The York County Choral Society, David Lowry, director
Members of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra
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York County Choral Society

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