

1988-89 Nov 1989



York County Choral Society
David Lowry Conductor
Ninth Season

Nov. 12, 1989



To Our Audiences:

As I write this a few weeks before our Fall concert, it has been only four weeks since many of us felt the wrath of Hugo and subsequently did without some of life's conveniences for a while. Even more recently the earthquake that hit northern California has caused similar hardship there. I feel that we survivors of such situations should pause and reflect on our good fortunes, such as the great music available to us, and express our thanks to our Creator for such relatively permanent blessings. After all, most of the music we in YCCS perform was written without electric power, telephones, or even television! We work hard at our rehearsals, we enjoy performing these great choral works, and our sincere hope is that each of our performances will be for you a spiritually rewarding and an artistically enriching experience. After all, each one is a "genuine original," never to be duplicated.

I want to stress that we are a community organization and we always welcome new members, both singers and orchestra players. In particular, we would very much appreciate more participation by citizens from all the communities of the greater York County area. Hence if you are interested in joining us, or you know of someone else who may have such an interest, we hope that you will contact an officer of YCCS. (All our names are listed elsewhere in this program.)

We are exceedingly thankful for all the financial and moral support provided us by this community. In particular, we again appreciate a "Small Grant" from the Rock Hill Arts Council, funded by the South Carolina Arts Commission. Our steadfast support always comes from our patrons, and this year for the first time, corporate benefactors and sustainers. For the second year, our program advertisers have shown their support for the fine arts. It is my sincere hope that each of you will show your appreciation to all of these, our special supporters, in as many ways as possible.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for your support and for your having joined us to share this artistic experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Gamble".

Bob Gamble, President

Box 4202 CRS Rock Hill, S.C. 29731

YORK COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY
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JONATHAN NOEL, Accompanist

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1988-1989 is the NINTH SEASON of the York County Choral Society. The purpose of the society is the preparation and performance of choral masterworks with appropriate accompaniment, offering the ever-growing populace of northern South Carolina and the Charlotte metropolitan area an outlet for artistic creativity and adding to the greater community a wealth of excellence through and for its people.

The November concert in York is funded in part by a small grant made through the Rock Hill Arts Council (of which the YCCS is an affiliate), from the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

DAVID LOWRY has been a leading musical force in the Carolinas since his initial appointment to Winthrop in 1965. He has become an international leader in professional music organizations, and is active as a performer, conductor, consultant and clinician in the fields of choral and orchestral music, organ and church music, and in liturgy. He is currently the Parish Musician of the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, Rock Hill, the conductor of the Rock Hill Chamber Orchestra and a professor of music at Winthrop College.

SHIRLEY FISHBURNE holds a bachelor and master degrees in organ performance from Winthrop College, and the degree Doctor of Music Education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She is a lecturer in the Department of Music and the Academy of Music at Winthrop College and serves the board of the Fine Arts Association. She is on leave as accompanist of the society during the 1989-90 season.



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THE REPERTORY OF THE YCCS

1982

Handel MESSIAH, Parts II and III

1982-1983

Brahms A GERMAN REQUIEM

Schubert MASS IN G MAJOR

1983-1984

Poulenc GLORIA*

Haydn THE CREATION

1984-1985

Handel MESSIAH, Part I

Bach CANTATA 80;

MAGNIFICAT; CANTATA 29

Albright A SONG TO DAVID

1985-1986

Mozart REQUIEM

Britten REJOICE IN THE LAMB

Faure' REQUIEM

1986-1987

Britten A CEREMONY OF CAROLS +

Brahms LIEBESLIEDER WALTZER +

Schubert MASS IN G MAJOR

Mozart VESPERAE SOLENNES

DE CONFESSORE

1987-1988

Mozart MISSA BREVIS IN D MAJOR*

Handel MESSIAH, Part I

Mendelssohn ELIJAH

1988-89

Durufle' REQUIEM

Durufle' and Stravinsky MOTETS

Honegger KING DAVID

1989-90 THE NINTH SEASON

Handel MESSIAH

The McCelvey Center, York, SC

Sunday, November 12, 1989

TO MUSIC

Music of Handel (Coronation Anthems), Stanford,

Britten (Hymn to St. Cecilia), Schubert,

Brahms (Liebeslieder Waltzer), Spirituals (Robert Shaw)

and Vaughan Williams (Loch Lomond)

Oakland Baptist Church

Rock Hill, S. C.

Sunday, April 29, 1990

* With the Charlotte Symphony

Leo Driehuys, Conductor

+ Guest Conductor, Ann Jones

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Sunday, November 12, 1989
The McCelvey Center, York, S. C.
YORK COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY
with
Members of the Charlotte Symphony

DAVID LOWRY, CONDUCTOR
SUSAN TORELLO, SOPRANO
ANNA GOSNELL, MEZZO-SOPRANO
RICHARD COOK, TENOR
TODD MUNDAY, BARITONE

MESSIAH
GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

Part I

No.1 Symphony (Overture)

No.2 Accompanied Recitative

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplish'd that her iniquity is pardon'd.

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 XL v.v.1-3)

No.3 Air

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

(Isaiah XL v.4)

No.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 XL v.5)

No.5 Accompanied Recitative

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of Hosts: Yet once, a little while, and I will shake the heav'ns and the earth, the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come.

(Haggai II v.v.6-7)

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple: ev'n the messenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in, behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

(Malachi III v.1)

No.6 Air

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 III v.2)

No.7 Chorus

And he shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

(Malachi III v.3)

No.8 Recitative

Behold! A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son;

(Isaiah VII v.14)

and shall call his name Emmanuel, God with us.

(Matthew I v.23)

No.9 Air and Chorus

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain, O thou that tellest 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!

(Isaiah XL v.9)

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

(Isaiah LX v.1)

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, good tidings to Jerusalem, arise, say unto the cities of Judah: Behold your God, behold the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

(Isaiah XL v.9 and LX v.1)

No.10 Accompanied Recitative

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 LX v.v.2.3)

No.11 Air

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 IX v.21)

No.12 Chorus

For unto us a child is born, unto us 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 IX v.6)

No.13 Pifa (Pastoral Symphony)

No.14 Recitative (a)

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

(Luke II v.8)

Accompanied Recitative (b)

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 II v.9)

No.15 Recitative

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 II v.v.10-11)

No.16 Accompanied Recitative

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heav'nly host praising God, and saying:

(Luke II v.13)

No.17 Chorus

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men!

(Luke II v.14)

No.18 Air

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 heaven.

(Zechariah IX v.v.9-10)

No.19 Recitative

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 XXXV v.v.5-6)

No.20 Air

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 XL v.11)

Come unto Him all ye that labour, 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 XI v.v.28-29)

No.21 Chorus

His yoke is easy, His burden is light.

(Matthew XI v.30)

INTERMISSION - 20 minutes**Part II****No.22 Chorus**

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.

(John I v.29)

No.23 Air

He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

(Isaiah LIII v.3)

He gave His back to the smiters, and His cheeks to them that plucked off the hair. He hid not His face from shame and spitting.

(Isaiah L v.6)

No.24 Chorus

Surely, he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

(Isaiah LIII v.v.4-5)

No.25 Chorus

And with His stripes we are healed.

(Isaiah LIII v.5)

No.26 Chorus

All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned ev'ry one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

(Isaiah LIII v.6)

(Nos. 27-37 omitted)

No.38 Air

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

(Romans X v.16)

No.39 Air

Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.

(Romans X v.18)

No.40 Air

Why do the nations so furiously rage together, why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His anointed.

(Psalm II v.1-2)

No.41 Chorus

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

(Psalm II v.3)

No.42 Recitative

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn: the Lord shall have them in derision.

(Psalm II v.4)

No.43 Air

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

(Psalm II v.9)

No.44 Chorus

Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth, Hallelujah!

(Revelation XIX v.6)

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever.

(Revelation XI v.15)

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

(Revelation XIX v.16)

Part III**No.45 Air**

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth, and tho' worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

(Job XIX v.v.25-26)

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

(I Corinthians XV v.20)

No.46 Chorus

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

(I Corinthians XV v.v.21-22)

No.47 Accompanied Recitative

Behold, I tell you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be chang'd, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

(I Corinthians XV v.v.51-52)

No.48 Air

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be chang'd.

(Nos.49-52 omitted)

No.53 Chorus

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and pow'r be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and Unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

(Revelation V v.v.9 and 12-13)

Amen

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

George Friderick Handel (the way he himself chose to spell his naturalized British name, having been baptized Georg Friedrich Händel in Halle) is in actuality an Italian composer who happened to be born in Germany and worked most of his life in England. It was his studies and his composition in Italy at ages 21-24 that imbued him with an unmistakable Italian style, especially with opera, and the style with which he became so famous in London, where Italian opera was greatly in vogue.

But things in vogue often wane, and by 1739, he wisely turned to the oratorio which confirmed his popularity with British audiences. After **Saul, Israel in Egypt, Ode for St. Cecilia's Day**, and **L'Allegro**, he accepted an invitation from the viceroy of Ireland to produce an oratorio on a libretto compiled from the Bible by Charles Jennens, a work called **Messiah**. Writing in an incredibly short time (Saturday, 22 August to Saturday, 12 September 1741), the first performance took place in Dublin on Tuesday, 13 April 1742. Succeeding performances in various places in England resulted in a number of alterations in the assignment of solo voices or choruses. Hence, we have several "versions" by the composer, giving today's audiences the fun of hearing many different ways of performance.

What is as much fun to think about is that **Messiah** is not a story about Jesus. It is a concept of the Messiah drawn chiefly from Old Testament prophecies (except for the obvious quote from Luke in Part I) and New Testament epistles. This evening's cuts in parts II and III are arranged so as not to impede the flow of groups of texts.

SOLOISTS

SUSAN TORELLA

Soprano Susan Torella, originally from Miami, Florida, has been singing professionally in the Washington, D.C. area and in the Carolinas. Currently soloist at First Christian Church in Winston-Salem and a graduate student in the opera program at the North Carolina School of the Arts, she continues to expand her singing career in musical theatre, concert work and opera. Among her operatic roles are Susanna in **Le Nozze di Figaro**, Olympia in **Les Contes d'Hoffmann** and Adele in **Die Fledermaus**. She is presently a student of Fredrick Moses. This is Ms. Torella's first appearance with the YCCS.

ANNA GOSNELL

Mezzo-soprano Anna Perry Gosnell is a graduate of Winthrop College and makes her first appearance with the YCCS in this concert. A native of Augusta, Georgia, she has appeared in featured roles at the Brevard Music Center and with the Charlottetown Players. Later this season Ms. Gosnell will appear as mezzo-soprano soloist in Mozart's **Requiem** with the Charlotte Oratorio Society. Her vocal studies have been with Jerry Helton and Fran Shafter.

RICHARD COOK

A native North Carolinian, tenor Richard Cook graduated with a B.A. degree from Pfeiffer College. His studies have taken him as far away as Sienna, Italy, working with the renowned Franco Farrara, and now with the North Carolina School of the Arts graduate opera program with Fredrick Moses. He has appeared as soloist across the United States and Europe with the Pfeiffer College Chorus as well as a number of oratorio and opera roles in the Carolinas. Also a conductor, his credits include appearances with the Winston-Salem Symphony as well as being the founder/director of the Festival Chorus of Rural Hall, N.C. This is Mr. Cook's first appearance with the YCCS.

TODD MUNDAY

Lendon Todd Munday, baritone, returns to the YCCS to repeat his role in **Messiah** from our initial concert in 1982. Since that time, when he was a student at Winthrop College, he appeared twice more with the YCCS in Brahms' **A German Requiem** and Duruflé's **Requiem**. His career also has led him to the People's Republic of China with the Western Opera Theatre, and tours across the United States with the Merola Opera Program of the San Francisco Opera. Closer to his native Statesville, N.C. home, he has been soloist at the Brevard Music Center and last season with the Charlotte Oratorio Society in Orff's **Carmina Burana**.

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CHORUS PERSONNEL

Soprano: Lil Adickes, Lucinda Barker, Faye Boyd, Catherine Buddin, Beth Burrell, Sara Castillo, Martha Cowan, Deena Faris, Kathy Herlong, Linda Hutchison, Beth Joyce, Lisa Kelley, Miriam Kilbourne, Allean McGowan, Ruby McKee, Mary Martin, Ann Moody, Gale Moore, Bettye Rawls, Dorothy Schultz, Cynthia Stallings, Adelaide Williams, Helen Williams, Pat Wilson.

Alto: Ann Adams, Tammy Armstrong, Debbie Bagwell, Peggy Bridgers, Ann Cody, Faye Daniel, Frances Ellison, Leigh Heiting, Shirley Highfill, Genevieve Long, Susan Kelly, Betty Salmond, Barbara Sargent, Virginia Scruggs, Linda Shealy, Becky Staton, Margaret Ann Tice, Ann Turner.

Tenor: John Arant, Bill Blough, Jeff Culp, Craig Faris, Mike Faris, Chris Fischesser, Bob Gamble, Chip Grant, Evelyn Harper, Priscilla Jennings, John McCulloch, Bill Sturgis, Ellen Wisner.

Bass: Jake Adams, Gerald Allen, Page Connelly, Peter Drake, Joe Faris, Jasper Hall, Jr., Carlton Heustess, Rock McGee, David Lee, Frank Strait, Ed Stultz.

ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

Violin: Martha Geissler, Sarah Briggs, Susie Peek, Emily Chatham, Jane Snyder, Susan Blomberg, Evelyn Blalock

Viola: Patrick Brannen, Ellen Ferdon

Violoncello: Janis Nilsen, Charles Wiens

Double Bass: Jeff Ferdon

Oboe: Jennifer Sperry, Terry Maskin

Bassoon: Lori Tiberio

Trumpet: Karl Sievers, Karen Griffin

Timpani: Andrew Hayler

Harpichord: Jonathan Noel, David Lowry

MUSICAL QUIZ

How many can you answer before the lights go down?

Why?

1. Why did Handel leave his native Germany?
2. Why are spirituals so named?

When?

3. When is the calendar date for the commemoration of St. Cecilia?
4. When did the YCCS last sing MESSIAH?

Who?

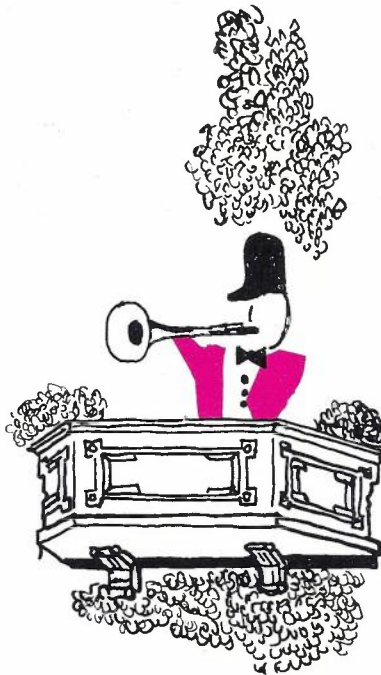
5. Who was the King for whom Handel's Coronation Anthems were written?
6. Who conducted the YCCS in its only complete performance of Brahms's Liebeslieder Waltzer?

Where?

7. Where is Loch Lomond?
8. Where is Handel buried, and what is wrong with his memorial there?

What?

9. What portions of MESSIAH are from the New Testament?
10. What do Stanford, Vaughan Williams, Auden, Britten and Handel have in common?
11. What do you get if you answer all these quiz questions?



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ANSWERS: 1. He was employed by his old boss the Elector of Hanover, who had become King George I of England. 2. They are in a folk tradition reflecting spiritual needs and values. 3. November 22. 4. November 22. 5. King George II. 6. Ann Jones in the autumn of 1986. 7. Scotland. 8. In Westminster Abbey's south transept floor; the memorial sculpture, high above the grave, has the first phrase of "I know my Redeemer liveth" on it with "Messiah" misspelled. 9. In Part I, three; in Part II, five; all of Part III. All else is from the Old Testament prophetic books. 10. They were all British subjects, Handel by naturalization. 11. We didn't say they had to be correct, and anyway, LEE FAST always gives you V.I.P., personalized, professional service in your search for a new home.