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1 March, 2014



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Please consider supporting The Cantata Singers. As an IRS registered 501(c)(3) charity, all contributions to the Cantata Singers are tax deductible as allowable by law. Payment may be made to The Cantata Singers and mailed to PO Box 952, Elmira, NY, 14902. All individual donors are recognized with a listing in all concert programs.

If your business would like to consider sponsoring a part of the Cantata Singers 2013 - 2014 season or if your business would be interested in underwriting one of our performances, we would love to talk to you. The Cantata Singers perform free of charge as a public service to our communities and are always seeking business partners in this endeavor.

To find out more please contact us by email at cantatasingers@gmail.com



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Thanks to the efforts of the Cantata Singers 50th Anniversary Committee, we have published a history of the organization since the first concert in the spring of 1964.

The booklet includes pictures and history from past seasons, information about previous directors and where they are now along with follow up stories about winners of our long running Young Performers Competition.

You can get your copy by phone or email using the "contact us" information on our website.

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50th Anniversary Message from the President

To All of the Supporters and Friends of The Cantata Singers:

Welcome to the 2013 – 2014 season of The Cantata Singers, our 50th Anniversary! It is my privilege to write this message as the group has reached this important milestone. The Cantata Singers is dedicated to providing high quality, free performances of great music for the entertainment of our audiences, and I look forward to another enjoyable season of great choral music!

Since you are reading this welcome letter in the program I also want to thank you for being with us today. I hope you enjoy the performance today as much as I enjoy performing in them. I was surprised recently by the realization that I am in my 10th season as a member of The Cantata Singers. The years of performing in this group have been an important part of my life, a continuous source of joy, pride, and meaning that is due, in large part, to the audiences that I have had the pleasure to be with creating great music. Again, thank you.

There is a great deal that our audience members can do to support the group. You have already made the most important contribution by being part of this performance. We also ask our audiences to help spread the word to others in the community as we seek new audience members and funding to keep The Cantata Singers going. Please go to our website at www.cantatasingers.com for more information about the group, send an email to cantatsingers@ymail.com to get on our mailing list, and make sure to "like" us on Facebook.

So sit back, relax, and enjoy the performance and thank you for being a part of this little piece of musical history.

Sincerely, Bill Brodginiski, President, The Cantata Singers



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Today's Program

Creation's Alleluia · · · John Rutter (1945-)

Gerald Wolfe - organ

The Singers (1983) · · · · Warren Benson (1924-2005)

Gift to the Cantata Singers from the composer

A Score of Praises (1984) · · · Warren Benson

1) Alleluia, 2) Sing Hosana & 3) Gloria & Amen

Commissioned by the Cantata Singers in celebration of 20 years

Gerald Wolfe - organ

Set Me As a Seal (from *a new Creation*) · · René Clausen (1953-)

Suite No. 3 for Cello · · · Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)

1) Allegro Deciso, 2) Andante & 5) Allegro Giocoso

David Fenwick - cello (2014 YPC winner)

Ave verum corpus (K 618) · · · W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Gerald Wolfe - organ

all former Cantata Singers in the audience are invited to join us on stage

- Intermission -

Song of Joy (1994) · · · · w wickham (1956-)

*Chorale from the 30th anniversary commission **Soli Deo Gloria***

Hosanna (from *Words from Paradise*) · · Dan Forrest (1978-)

The Cherubic Hymn · · Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

(from *Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom*)

White Horses · · · · Gwyneth Walker (1947-)

Each Song is a Journey · · · w wickham

text by Martha Horton and ARTiculation

Commissioned by the Cantata Singers in celebration of 50 years

In memory of long-time Cantata Singer & friend Lou Sand

Gerald Wolfe - organ

Tom Killian - marimba

The Cantata Singers offer special thanks to the staff and people of North Presbyterian Church for hosting this concert and reception.

This concert is made possible, in part, with funds from The New York State Council on the Arts' Decentralization Program, administered locally by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes, The Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Southern Finger Lakes and The Allstate Hands in the Community Foundation courtesy of Nagle Financial Services.

Program Notes

Exactly how long is 50 years? I suppose, to a great extent, it depends on how or why that time is being measured. Compared to geologic time those five decades would be only a tiny fraction of the blink of an eye. In terms of the lifespan of just about any legislation in today's congress half a century seems like forever! In real, more measurable choral terms, that 50 year time frame results in a staggering collection of choral music. An effort was begun just a few years ago to catalogue all the works in our library. With a few more piles yet to get through we are at 320 titles. Through all those pieces this organization has traveled through time and many times around the world in music! The fun truly began when considering what, from that vast library, to program for this anniversary concert.

The obvious choice would be those that were written specifically for the Cantata Singers. The first, *A Score of Praises* was commissioned for the 20th anniversary in 1984 from then director Bill Payne's former teacher and good friend Warren Benson. Benson was teaching composition at the Eastman School of Music at the time and was on the cutting edge of rhythmic invention and minimalism. The resulting interplay of melodies and the dance of interesting and offset rhythms pile on to create a very unique soundscape. Listen carefully and about 9 minutes into the work you will hear a glorious musical tribute to long-time Eastman School director Howard Hanson. *The Singers*, written in more traditional choral style, was not a part of the commission but was given to the group at the same time. *Soli Deo Gloria*, a work of several movements with small orchestra that I was thrilled to write, was commissioned to celebrate another anniversary. We include the opening chorale, *Song of Joy*, that begins the much longer work that, in May of 1994, capped a very busy 30th anniversary season.

Today's program also includes music by four living composers who are widely regarded as masters of the choral writing craft. John Rutter is perhaps the most widely recognized name in choral music from the 20th century. His huge output is wildly popular among choirs, choral directors and audiences. His *Creation's Alleluia* seems the perfect way to open this celebratory performance. The composer most likely to take Rutter's place in the 21st century is Chemung County native Dan Forrest. Dan has a huge catalogue of work that is superbly written for choir and is rapidly gaining on Rutter in terms of popularity. Dan also enjoys the distinction of having taken first prize over John Rutter in a composition contest in 2004! *Hosanna*, an innovative "stomp and holler" work, is a great deal of fun to sing. René Clausen, current conductor of the Concordia Choir in Minnesota, truly understands the choral voice and is equally highly regarded as a choral composer. *Set Me as a Seal* is one of the finest examples of contemporary choral writing. Gwyneth Walker's music is also well known and loved. Along with her "riser cred" as a choral composer her work was chosen for this program to represent the Festival of Women in the Arts that we sponsored for several recent years. With delightful text by poet e. e. cummings, her *White Horses* is a favorite of today's Cantata Singers.

It is both a deep honor and great pleasure to have been commissioned once again by the group for this 50th anniversary concert. The text by long time singer Martha Horton and her Women's-Festival-inspired-group ARTiculation was truly a delight to set to music. *Each Song is a Journey* is just that, a musical journey that allowed for wide ranging styles of writing that both sum up the first 50 years of the group's history and, perhaps, offer a glance forward to the future.

All of the music we offer today is truly special to us for the beauty contained and the joy that comes from exploring the music, the richest language we know. The very deepest pleasure comes in sharing that same music with you, hoping that you will be as deeply touched by the music as we are! Thank you for being with us to share this celebration of the journey of 50 years of music making. We hope you'll be with us for many of the next 50 as well. Each song truly is a journey! Soli Deo Gloria! - - - w wickham

Special Commission Dedication In Memory of Lou Sand

Lou Sand, a long time singer and supporter of the Cantata Singers, was also a friend to everyone she ever met. For Lou life was truly a journey to be savored and enjoyed and her time with the singers was a big part of that journey. Therefore, it is with honor and great pleasure that the Cantata Singers, along with Lou's family and friends, dedicate *Each Song is a Journey* to her memory.
Sing on, Lou!

The Lou Sand Memorial was made possible by a generous matching gift from the family of Lou Sand.

Additional support was provided by
Loueda & Brian Bleiler, Tony & Pat Ciccariello, Patrick & Robin Fitzgerald, Gene Heber, Dorothy Hoos, Martha Horton, Tony & Jean Papandrea, Lee Kiesling, Merrill & Lydia Lynn, James & Virginia Shippy, Cynthia Terry, David & Pat Hauser

Cantata SINGERS *50th Anniversary*

Our deepest and most heartfelt thanks to all who are making our 50th anniversary celebration season so very special.

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Dorothy Hoos, Martha Horton, Cora Range, Judy Sheasley

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The Cantata Singers have sponsored the **Young Performers Competition** annually since 2001 to provide young musicians the opportunity to further develop and showcase their musical talents. Over those 14 years we have awarded 20 cash prizes and enjoyed the same number of fine performances. Information about the 2015 contest can be found on the internet at www.cantatasingers.com.

The 2014 winner, **David Fenwick** has played cello since age 4. He is currently a sophomore double majoring in cello performance and composition at Ithaca College where he studies with Elizabeth Simkin and Dana Wilson. He is currently a member of the Ithaca College Symphony Orchestra and Ithaca College Choir. He has also played with the Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra, as well as a student string quartet at Ithaca College and Cornell Chamber Orchestra. David has attended Wintergreen Summer Music Academy as both a cellist and a composer, Interlochen Summer Arts Academy Orchestral Program, Apple Hill Chamber Music Camp, Boston Conservatory Summer Composition Program and several years at Point CounterPoint Chamber Music Camp. David has written music for cello and piano, solo clarinet, voice and piano, trio of flute, violin and cello, quartet of flute, bass clarinet, violin, and cello, string quartet, woodwind quintet, pierrot ensemble (flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, violin and cello), and string sextet.

Texts & Translations

Creations Alleluia

Text B. Notker (840-912) tr. J.M. Neale

The strain upraise of joy and praise,
Alleluia.

To the glory of their King shall the
ransomed people sing, Alleluia.

And the choirs that dwell on high
shall re-echo through the sky, Alleluia.

The planets glitt'ring on their heav'nly
way

the shining constellations join and say
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ye clouds that onward sweep, ye
winds on pinions light, ye thunders,
echoing loud and deep, ye lightnings
wildly bright,

in sweet consent unite your Alleluia.

Ye floods and ocean billows, ye
storms and winter snow, ye days of
cloudless beauty, hoar frost and
summer glow,

ye groves that wave in spring, and
glorious forests, sing Alleluia.

First let the birds that sail on lofty
wing exalt their great Creator's praise,
and sing Alleluia!

Then let the beasts of earth, with

varying strain, join in creation's hymn,
and cry again

Alleluia, alleluia!

Here let the mountains thunder forth
there let the valleys sing in gentler chorus
Alleluia.

Thou jubilant abyss of ocean, cry
Alleluia!

Ye tracts of earth and continents, reply
Alleluia!

To God, who all creation made
our grateful hymn of praise be duly paid.

This is the sound the Lord of all
things loves.

This is the song that Christ Himself
approves.

We therefore sing with heart and voice

With all creation joining to rejoice

With men and angels be outpoured

One endless Alleluia to the Lord.

The Singers

Text H.W. Longfellow (1807-1882)

God sent His singers

upon the earth,

with songs of sadness

and of mirth.

That they might touch

the hearts of men

and bring them back
to Heaven again.

A Score of Praises

Text by W. Benson

- 1) Alleluia, let us sing a new song
Sing Hosanna, raise your voices
- 2) Laud, O for a thousand tongues to
sing, Laud, Laudate
- 3) Glorify, Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Amen.

Set Me As a Seal

Text from Song of Solomon (8:6)

Set me as a seal upon your heart
as a seal upon your arm
for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love
neither can the floods drown it.

Ave verum corpus

*text traditional (attributed to Pope
Innocent VI (12??-1362)*

Ave verum corpus,
Hail, true Body,

natum de Maria Virgine
Born of the Virgin Mary,
vere passum, immolatum
who having truly suffered, was
in cruce pro homine
sacrificed on the cross for mankind
cujus latus perforatum
whose pierced side flowed
unda fluxit et sanguine
with water and blood,
esto nobis praegustatum
May it be for us a fortaste of
in mortis examine.
heaven after death.

Song of Joy

Text adapted from Isaiah 55:12

For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace
The mountains and the hills shall
break forth into song! Soli Deo Gloria!

The Cherubic Hymn

Text by John Chrysostom (347-407)

Izhe heruvimi, tayno obrazuyushche,
Let us who mystically represent the
Cherubim

i zhivotvoriashchey Troytse
And who sing the thrice-holy hymn
trisviatuyu pesn pripevayushche,
to the life-creating Trinity
fsiakoye nine zhiteyskoye otlozhim
popecheniye,
Now lay aside all cares of this life
yako da Tsaria fseh podimem,
That we may receive the King of all,
angelskimi nevidimo dorinosima
chinmi.

*Who comes invisibly up-borne by the
angelic Host*

Alliluya, alliluya, alliluya.
Alleluia

White Horses

*adapted by the composer from e.e.
cummings (1894-1962)*

After all white horses are in bed,
will you walking beside me, my very lady
Touch lightly my eyes
and send life out of me
and the night absolutely into me.

Each Song is a Journey

*Text Martha Horton (1934-) and
ARTiculation*

Each song is a journey, a road to
explore:
some voices leading, others receding,
wandering...
turning from stately to playful
to tender and yearning,
winding a melody,
finding a theme.

Then, a surprise
like a bend in the road
or a hill to climb.
Voices rise to meet
a new tempo, new key,
basses swelling, tenors climbing,
sopranos soaring...then falling,
altos calling them back
to the way,
together agreeing
on chords to conclude.
Each song is a journey,
a story told new,
alive and changing
each time we sing.



The Cantata Singers wish to thank George Howell, and Howell, Liberatore and Associates for their significant roll in producing our 50th Anniversary historical booklet in addition to many years of major support of The Cantata Singers. Without the generous support from Mr. Howell and the contribution of time and

talent from Howell, Liberatore and Associates the recent history of both The Cantata Singers and the greater community would be much more austere.

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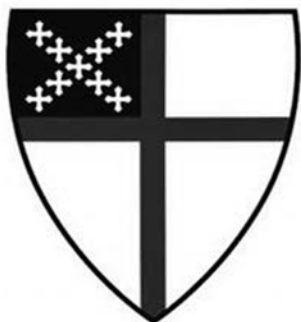
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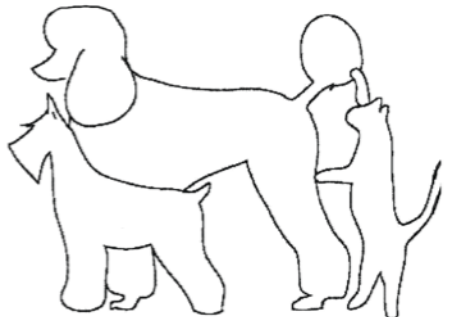
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