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Youth, Old Age, Night, and Day: University Choir and Schola Cantorum

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

presents

Youth Old Age Night and Day

UNIVERSITY CHOIR
SCHOLA CANTORUM
Jeffrey Riehl, Conductor

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1997 8:00 PM
MODLIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
CAMP CONCERT HALL
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC
YOUTH . . .

Cantate Domino, KV 89a II
--Psalm 96:1

Sing to the Lord all the earth.

God Is Our Refuge, KV 20.
--Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Misericordias Domini, KV 222

The mercies of the Lord I shall praise for ever and ever.

Schola Cantorum

OLD AGE . . .

The Last Words of David
--II Samuel 23:3-4

He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God. And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain. Alleluia, Amen.

Dreama Lovitt, Piano

The Glory of the Father
--adapted from John 1:1-14

The word was made flesh and dwelt among us, We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth. In the beginning was the word. The word was with God. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. He came to his own, and his own received him not.

W. A. Mozart
1756-1791

Randall Thompson
1899-1984

Egil Hovland
b. 1924
Magnificat
--Luke 1:46-55

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he who is mighty has done great things for me; and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud, even the arrogant of heart. He has deposed the mighty from their seats, and exalted the humble. The hungry he has filled with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy. As it was spoken in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Laura Nazimek, Soprano
UNIVERSITY CHOIR

NIGHT . . .
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
--text by John Bowring

Benjamin Keller, Bass
Seth Brookman, Bass
Jennifer Magee, Oboe
Dreama Lovitt, Piano

UNIVERSITY CHOIR

Sicut cervus desiderat
--Psalm 42:1-3

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

My tears have been my food, day and night, While they say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

SCHOLA CANTORUM
DAY...

*Bon jour, mon coeur*
---text by Pierre de Ronsard

Good day my heart, good day my sweet life,
Good day my eye, good day my beloved friend.
Ah, good day my most beautiful one,
My darling, good day, my delights, my love.

Dirait-on
---text by Rainer Maria Rilke

Abandon surrounding abandon,
tenderness touching tenderness . . .
Your oneness endlessly
caresses itself, so they say;

Sing to the Lord
---text by Isaac Watts

Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love
---text anonymous, 1800

The Old Ship of Zion

Mary Richerson, Soprano
Anthony Aloise, Tenor

SCHOLA CANTORUM

Ride the Chariot

Courtney Smith, Soprano

UNIVERSITY CHOIR

Orlando di Lasso
1532-1595

Morten Lauridsen
b. 1943

Susan Pierce, Piano

arr. Alice Parker
b. 1925

Ned Rorem
b. 1923

arr. K. Lee Scott

arr. William Henry Smith
1897-1973
NOTES

Mozart’s precocity is legendary: keyboard minuets mastered at the age of four, clavier works written at the age of five, concerts at the Viennese court at the age of six, and the first symphony at the age of eight. His earliest surviving vocal piece is the curious English motet, *God Is Our Refuge*, written in July 1765 while the Mozarts were visiting in London. The work begins with a fugal exposition moving in the circle of fifths—the nine-year-old is not yet familiar with the tonal answer. But with a security that seems quite touching, he restores the tonal balance by a return to the home key with an answer placed on the raised fifth. This work is his only known setting of an English text.

Written when he was nineteen, *Misericordias Domini* demonstrates Mozart’s developing contrapuntal dexterity practiced during his studies with the great Italian teacher Padre Martini. Mozart deals with the pattern of responses in this offertory text by alternating eleven times between homophony (*Misericordias Domini*) and polyphony (*Cantabo in aeternum*). The young composer’s ability to avoid repetition and project the emotional content of the text make this work a masterpiece of counterpoint.

The life of Estonian-born composer Arvo Pärt has alternated between periods of withdrawal in the search for a style and periods of considerable creative output. Until the end of the 1960’s, he earned his living as a recording director at the Estonian Radio in Tallin where he also wrote more than fifty film scores. Following a silent period in the mid seventies, Pärt began a production of liturgical works that continues to this day.

Arvo Pärt’s Orthodox religiosity gives rise to a humbleness in his artistic aims; he attempts to fathom what is secret and unknowable, aware that this will be revealed to him in untranslatable musical forms, if at all. His sacred music is uncluttered, built with the most basic musical tool: the triad. His *Magnificat* is a curious union of historical master-craftsmanship and modern gesture. It is music that could have been written several hundred years ago and yet could only be composed today. It is music that is both timely and timeless. The *stylus mixtus* of Arvo Pärt’s music speaks directly to the struggle between immediacy and eternity that rages within each of us.

American Alan Hovhaness attained a considerable reputation in the 1950’s as he traveled widely and began incorporating international tendencies in his music. *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* is built with simple musical procedures like canon, stretto, and tone clusters, and has a decidedly Eastern flavor created by its modal properties—E Aeolian—and scoring.

While the works of Palestrina and di Lasso show certain technical similarities, they differ greatly in overall expressive effect. Palestrina’s works are elegant, controlled, and superbly crafted, displaying perfect equilibrium in every phase of composition. They possess a gentility and restraint akin to the dance style of Fred Astaire.

If Palestrina is Astaire, then di Lasso is Gene Kelly: strong, athletic, and compact with a great variety of style. *Bon jour, mon coeur* is a fine example of di Lasso’s facility with rhetorical organization and affective power.

USC faculty member Morten Lauridsen was particularly captivated by the French poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke, and found in the poems on roses an inspiring lyricism and elegance. *Dirait-on*, the last work in Lauridsen’s set *Les Chansons des Roses*, is written as a folksong that weaves together melodic material heard only as fragments in the preceding pieces of the group. The cycle was written for Choral Cross-Ties, a Portland-based professional chamber choir.

The theme for this concert is borrowed from a poem by Walt Whitman: *Youth, Day, Old Age, and Night*.

*Youth, large, lusty, loving youth full of grace, force, fascination,*

*Do you know that Old Age may come after you with equal grace, force, fascination?*

*Day full-blown and splendid day of immense sun, action, ambition, laughter,*

*The Night follows close with millions of suns, and sleep and restoring darkness.*

The first section features works from Mozart’s youth which, while neither large nor lusty, are most certainly imbued with force and fascination. In the second group, the *Magnificat* text recalls God’s promise to Abraham that Sarah, old in age, will bear a child. In the third section, the tract *Sicut cervus*—sung during the night at Easter vigil—calls the listener to seek the pure waters which restore the heart. Finally, we encounter texts of action, ambition, and splendor. (JSR)
THE UNIVERSITY CHOIR
Jeffrey Riehl, Conductor
Dreama Lovitt, Accompanist

SOPRANO
Joanna Brown       Plano, TX
Kathryn Caputo      Wayne, PA
Amy DeLuca         Berwyn, PA
Ashley Diefendorf    Laurel Hollow, NY
Jodie Eicher       Downingtown, PA
Norah-Anne Ellis     Barrington, RI
Amanda Errickson    Robbinsville, NJ
Gretchen Foust      Sugar Grove, PA
Haidee Henderson    Ellicott City, MD
Amanda Herold       Ellicott City, MD
Amanda Howland      Ellicott City, MD
Jacquelyn Humenik   Ellicott City, MD
Janelle Kringel     Ellicott City, MD
Christine Lewandowski
Dreama Lovitt
Jennifer Magee
Michelle Marinelli
Lauren McGovern
Laura Nazimek
Princy Quadros
Jennifer Reidy
Jennifer Rutkoski
Catherine Scott
Lisa Senatore
Kristen Shelton
Courtney Smith
Kathleen Smith
Natasha Smith
Erin Stults
Gina Todaro
Andrea Tomforde
Rachel Young

ALTO
Mark Graves       Princeton Junction, NJ
Marcella Bertin  Hauppauge, NY
Danielle Clement       East Northport, NY
Laura Cummins     Nashville, TN
Lisa Greenbaum

TENOR
William Appel   Richmond, VA
Richard Crouch  Virginia Beach, VA
Michael Culp    Ayer, MA
David Eades     Hurt, VA
Jonathan Kipp   Jackson, MS
Kai Kuramoto    Champaign, IL
Sean Linfors    Charlotte, NC
Jeffrey Roudabush
Daniel Stackhouse

BASS
Matthew Avitable  West Islip, NY
Seth Brookman    Yardley, PA
Benjamin Brown    Cockeysville, MD
Brian Chin       Calhoun, LA
Mark Graves      Grenada, VA
Garrett Griffin  South Burlington, VT
Benjamin Keller  Murfreesboro, TN
Timothy Riley    Camillus, NY
Christopher Wright

Jill Jackson
Jennifer Koach
Sarah Latshaw
Dana Loy
Allison Marsh
Melissa McMurray
Tracey Mueller
Rebecca Musser
Kate Norris
Susan Pierce
Kianna Price
Jennifer Roberts
Emily Sproul
Barbara Summers
Sarah Trimble
Jackie Weichert
Azur Wilson
Elizabeth Wurster
Heather Yoxall

Warren, PA
Shaker Heights, OH
Lebanon, PA
Richmond, VA
Hanover, PA
Durham, NC
East Setauket, NY
Mount Joy, PA
Roanoke, VA
York, PA
Roanoke, VA
Chicago, IL
Staunton, VA
Wilmington, DE
Hampton, VA
Ambler, PA
Parkdale, OR
Salisbury, NC
Las Vegas, NV
UNIVERSITY CHOIR OFFICERS
Benjamin Keller  
President  
David Eades  
Vice President/Treasurer  
Jodie Eicher  
Secretary  
Lisa Greenbaum  
Robes

SCHOLA CANTORUM  
Jeffrey Riehl, Conductor  
Susan Pierce, Accompanist

SOPRANO  
Tanya Burnell  
Mansfield, OH  
Bristol, CT
Sarah Graham  
Westerville, OH  
Canton, MA
Kelley Kazor  
Richmond, VA
Blake Rainie
Mary Richerson

ALTO  
Andrea Johnson  
Webster, NY  
Roanoke, VA
Kate Norris  
Carlisle, PA
Caitlin Thompson  
Carlisle, PA
Elizabeth Thompson

TENOR  
Anthony Aloise  
Greensburg, PA  
Skaneateles, NY
Jeffrey Caldwell  
Worthington, OH  
Virginia Beach, VA
Brock Warren Gustafson
Vincent R. Olivieri, Jr.

BASS  
Devin Evert  
McLean, VA  
Woodstock, CT
Kyle Kahuda  
Knoxville, TN
Hall T. McGee, IV  
West Hartford, CT
Matthew Worth

INSTRUMENTALISTS

VIOLIN  
Jane Hoffman  
Wilmington, DE  
Seoul, Korea
Chung-In Park

CELLO  
James Tripp  
Lakeland, FL

PIANO  
Dreama Lovitt  
Pilot VA  
York, PA
Susan Pierce

TRANSLATIONS  
Dr. Strother Sharp  
Barbara and Erica Muhl  
Ron Jeffers © 1988 by earthsongs
Jeffrey Riehl

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James Wilson, Shanghai Quartet Member
Upcoming Events

Free admission unless otherwise indicated.

Circa 1914: The Gothic Architecture of Ralph Adams Cram
through January 31, 1998
Marsh Art Gallery

American architect and educator, Ralph Adams Cram, passionately promoted the Gothic style throughout the United States. His 1911 master plan for the University of Richmond is a major focus of the exhibit.

Robert Motherwell on Paper: Gesture, Variation, and Continuity
through December 13, 1997
Marsh Art Gallery

The Abstract Expressionist artist Robert Motherwell was best known as a painter, but he also created a remarkable body of works on paper. The drawings, prints, and collages in this exhibition show a more intimate side of his visual sensibility, and reveal the very personal “handwriting” of the artist.

Ondekoza Demon Drummers
Tuesday, November 25, 1997, 8pm
Jepson Theater

Over the past twenty-four years, Ondekoza has offered thrilling performances of traditional Japanese festival drum routines and folk music. This concert is presented to celebrate the establishment of the Asia concentration within UR’s International Studies major.

A UR Faculty Schubertiade
Monday, December 1, 1997, 8pm
Perkinson Recital Hall

Voice faculty members Jennifer Cable, Suzanne Stevens, Jeffrey Riehl, and James Smith will be joined by pianist Charles Staples and the Shanghai Quartet in an evening of music by Franz Schubert.

Student Theater Production #2
December 4, 5, and 6, 1997, 8pm
Cousins Studio Theater

An evening of student-produced theater sponsored by the University Players.