SEATTLE CHAMBER SINGERS

PRESENT

George Frederick Handel

Messiah

Baroque-sized
Chorus and Orchestra

conducted by
George Shangrow

Meany Theatre
December 19, 1978

This special performance of MESSIAH is being recorded for broadcast Christmas Eve at 10 pm on KCTS - TV and KUOW - Radio as a holiday gift to the community from The Seattle Times,

CHAMBER SINGER PERFORMERS

Sopranos

Polly Detels
Ann Duncan
Shirley Kraft
Carol Leenstra
Betty McWilliams
Janice Oldenburg
Marilee Plaks
Susanna Walsh
Nancy Williamson

Altos

Jane Anne Borns
Kathy Elkins
Sara Hedgpeth
Petra Illig
Katie Jezerinac
Jan Kinney
Judy Rosenfeld
Nancy Shasteen
Kay Shirey
Kay Verelius-Moore
Janet Vinikow

Tenors

David Baylor Gregg Neilson Rick Russell Jerry Sams Charles Scurlock Steve Stevens David Van Zandt Rasses

Loren Foss Brian Higham Joe Hill Robert Kapp Peter Kechley Dominick Minotti Cy Ulberg Dennis Van Zandt

SOLOISTS:

Soprano

Marianne Weltmann

Alto

Margaret Russell

Tenors

Jerry Sams Steve Stevens Bass

Peter Kechley

COMING EVENTS

Brahms, Poulenc Motets Seattle Concert Theatre January 19, 8 pm

Mozart Mass in C University Unitarian Church February 23, 8 pm

Tickets for all these performances are available at the Bon Marche, the Hub ticket office and surburban outlets.



ORCHESTRA:

Violin I

Tom Dziekonski, Concertmaster Peggy Bardarson Ann Oberle Eileen Lusk

Viola

Janet Lynch, Principal Robert Shangrow Beatrice Dolf

Bass

Michael Hovnanian Carl Merner

Bassoon

Gary Claunch

Timpani

Paul Hansen

Violin II

Sandra Schwarz, Principal Bob Crisfulli Avron Maletsky Rita McClarty

Cello

Phyllis Allport, solo cello Virginia Luke

Oboe

Peter Velikonja Jeanette Houle

Trumpet

Richard Fowler Rob Fletcher

Harpsichord

Robert Kechley

The Seattle Chamber Singers is a non-profit tax-exempt corporation in and for the State of Washington. For the continuance of excellence in musical programming the SCS is in need of additional funding. No arts organization can exist solely on box office revenues if the organization wishes to present professional performances of exceptional quality. We ask your help in the continuation of fine chamber ensemble performances in the Greater Seattle area. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:

Seattle Chamber Singers, 1201 185th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington 98008

PART ONE

SINFONIA

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

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 wildnerness: -Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

ARIA (Tenor)

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

CHORUS

And the glory of the Lord shall be reveal'd, and all flesh shall see it together; for the Mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

RECITATIVE (Bass)

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

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, ev'n the messenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in; Behold, But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth?

For He is like a refiner's fire.

CHORUS

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

RECITATIVE (Alto)

Behold! A Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name EMMANUEL, "God with us".

ARIA (Alto) 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.

Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

RECITATIVE (Bass)

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.

ARIA (Bass)

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.

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, Prince of Peace.

PASTORAL SYMPHONY

RECITATIVE (Soprano)

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

And lo! the Angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around about them, and they were sore afraid.

RECITATIVE (Soprano)

And the Angel of the Lord 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.

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

CHORUS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill towards men.

ARIA (Soprano)

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 heathen.

RECITATIVE (Alto)

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.

ARIA (Alto and Soprano)

He shall feed His flock like shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Come unto Him, all ye that labor, come unto Him all ye 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.

CHORUS

His yoke is easy and His burthen is light.

INTERMISSION

PART TWO

CHORUS

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

ARIA (Alto)

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

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

CHORUS

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

CHORUS

And with His stripes we are healed.

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.

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

All they that see Him, laugh Him to scorn; they shoot out their lips and shake their heads, saying:

CHORUS

He trusted in God that He would deliver Him; let Him deliver Him if He delight in Him.

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness. He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man, neither found He any to comfort Him.

ARIA (Tenor)

Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken.

ARIA (Tenor)

But Thou didst not leave His soul in Hell nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

CHORUS

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in

Who is this King of Glory?

The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in.

Who is this King of Glory?

The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

Unto which of the angels said He at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee?

CHORUS

Let all the angels of God worship Him.

ARIA (Bass)

Thou art gone up on high, Thou hast led captivity captive and received gifts for men, yea even for Thy enemies, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

CHORUS

The Lord gave the word; Great was the company of the preachers.

ARIA (Soprano)

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

CHORUS

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

ARIA (Bass)

Why do the nations so furiously rage together, and why do the people imagine a vain take counsel together against the Lord, and against His Annointed.

CHORUS

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

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

He that dwelleth in Heaven shall laugh them to scorn, the Lord shall have them in derision.

ARIA (Tenor)

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

CHORUS

Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

INTERMISSION

PART THREE

ARIA (Soprano)

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

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

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,

RECITATIVE (Bass)

Behold! I tell you a mystery: we shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

ARIA (Bass)

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be rais'd incorruptible, and we shall be chang'd. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

RECITATIVE (Alto)

They shall be brought to pass the saying that is written - Death is swallow'd up in Vectory. Victory.

DUET (Alto and Tenor)

O death, O death! where is thy sting? O grave! where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

CHORUS

But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

ARIA (Soprano)

If God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth, who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.

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.

CHORUS

Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

CHORUS

Amen.



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