Upcoming DaCapo Performances

Daybreak

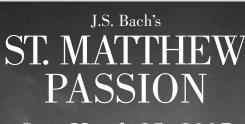
~ sounds of a new day

Saturday May 5, 2007

including music with a distinctly Latin American flavour

Tickets on sale at tonight's concert!

"Bach's masterpiece lay neglected until 1829; since then it has been regularly performed before Easter and is considered one of the most sublime works in music"



Sun. March 25, 2007 at 3 P.M. St. George's Church 99 Woolwich Street, Guelph Tickets: \$45



Sung in German

Suzie LeBlanc, soprano Sheila Dietrich, soprano Daniel Cabena, countertenor Nat Watson, baritone Lawrence Wiliford, Evangelist Colin Ainsworth, tenor arias The Elora Festival Singers The Festival Orchestra Noel Edison, conductor



THE ELORA FESTIVAL AND SINGERS 519-846-0331 1-888-747-7550 www.elorafestival.com

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Midnight DARKNESS AND WONDER

March 3rd, 2007 8:00 pm

by Carmen Cordelia (w

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, Kitchener

Program

Exaudi ~ Jocelyn Morlock Simon Fryer, cello

Stabat Mater ~ Arvo Pärt

Stephanie Kramer, soprano Jennifer Enns Modolo, mezzo-soprano Brandon Leis, tenor Jerzy Kaplanek, violin Christine Vlajk, viola Simon Fryer, cello

intermission

Mid-Winter Songs: Lament for Pasiphaë ~ Morten Lauridsen Catherine Robertson, piano

Calme des nuits ~ Camille Saint-Saëns

Mid-Winter Songs: Like Snow ~ Morten Lauridsen

Snow Forms ~ R Murray Schafer

Mid-Winter Songs: She Tells Her Love ~ Morten Lauridsen

Good Night, Beloved ~ Vera Kistler Jerzy Kaplanek, violin

Mid-Winter Songs: Mid-Winter Waking ~ Morten Lauridsen

Die Nacht ~ Franz Schubert

Mid-Winter Songs: Intercession in Late October ~ Morten Lauridsen

please join us for an informal reception following the concert

The appearance of members of the Penderecki Quartet at tonight's performance was generously sponsored by the Wallenstein Feed Charitable Foundation.

Donors

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DaCapo thanks all of our donors, including those individuals who wished to remain anonymous.

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Catherine Robertson, pianist

Catherine Robertson studied piano at Queen's University in Kingston, graduating with highest honours (1982). In 1987 she completed a Licentiate at the Royal Academy of Music (LRAM), London, England, studying with Kendall Taylor C.B.E. Catherine attained her Masters of Music Degree in piano performance and literature from the University of Western Ontario.

Catherine has been a medalist and award winner in numerous international competitions. She has given recitals in the United Kingdom, the U.S.A. and in Canada, most recently presenting works by Debussy and Ravel at the Elora Festival. Ms. Robertson is active as a coach, chamber musician and accompanist. She also maintains a busy schedule adjudicating at music festivals across the country. Catherine teaches piano and keyboard literature at Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, and appears on the new CD of chamber music by Leonard Enns, *Hammer & Wind*.

λ cknowledgements

DaCapo logo, poster, and program design ~ Heather Lee DaCapo web site design ~ Heather Lee and Cory III Choir Manager ~ Sara Martin

Board of Directors: Marlin Nagtegaal, chair Terry English Tim Hedrick Carol McFadden Stefanie Unger

DaCapo thanks the following sponsors:

- Wallenstein Feed Charitable Foundation ~ for sponsoring the appearance of members of the Penderecki Quartet at tonight's performance
- Conrad Grebel University College ~ for providing the space for DaCapo's weekly rehearsals
- PeaceWorks Consulting ~ for hosting our Web site
- Rob Flatt ~ for our choir photo

Notes and texts:

(All notes written by L. Enns)

The music on tonight's concert explores various midnights: the dark midnight of each day, the wintry midnight of the year, the anguished midnight of the soul. It is with this last midnight that we begin.

Few texts capture the agony of the midnight of the soul as well as Psalm 102. It is from this text, which has received numerous settings by composers over the past centuries, that Jocelyn Morlock chooses only the first lines for her powerful *Exaudi*. After an extended and passionate petition, the music proceeds finally to a breathtaking setting of "In Paradisum," the benediction from the Latin Requiem.

Exaudi ~ Jocelyn Morlock (b. 1969, Manitoba)

Exaudi was commissioned by Vancouver's wonderful Musica Intima vocal ensemble, and premiered in 2004 with cellist Steven Isserlis; the commission was funded by the Canada Council for the Arts.

Exaudi orationem meam; ad te omnis caro veniet.

In Paradisum deducant te Angeli; in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem. Hear my prayer, for unto you all flesh shall come.

May angels lead you into Paradise, At your coming may martyrs receive you, and may they lead you into the Holy City, Jerusalem.

May the chorus of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, who once was a pauper, may you have eternal rest.

Stabat Mater ~ Arvo Pärt (b. 1935, Estonia)

As with Psalm 102, (*Exaudi orationem meam*) the 13th century Stabat Mater hymn has been set to music by numerous composers, yet no setting distills the text to its essence as does tonight's. Pärt divides the 20 verses of the text symmetrically into 4+6+6+4, marking the three separations with more active music from the strings. In each case, the more active string textures prepare us for the coming texts: first for the reflective questions beginning at verse five: who would not share this sorrow?; then in the sharp, stigmata-like rhythmic figures that anticipate the reference to the literal, physical wounds of Christ in verse eleven; and finally, in the fire-like instrumental music preparing us for the inflamed, burning passion of the believer, referred to in the final four verses.

Always, Pärt manages to combine technical control with expressive intent so seamlessly that it is not possible to separate the two. The inclusion of an opening *Amen* creates a perfectly balanced textual structure, anticipating the concluding *Amen*; but, this addition also becomes a sublime point of descent to the grief of Mary. In a much-quoted passage, Robert Shaw, the great American choral conductor, commented: *you pray for the day when your intellect and your instinct can coexist so that the brain need not calcify the heart nor the heart o'er flood and drown all reason*. Here, and repeatedly in his other compositions, Pärt achieves this balance, creating music which takes us beyond both heart and reason.

Amen

- Stabat mater dolorosa juxta crucem lacrymosa, dum pendebat filius,
- 2. Cujus animam gementem, constristatam et dolentem pertransivit gladius.
- 3. O quam tristis et afflicta fuit illa benedicta mater unigeniti!
- 4. Quae maerebat et dolebat, et tremebat dum videbat nati poenas inclyti.

At the Cross her station keeping stood the mournful Mother, weeping, close to Jesus at the last.

Through her soul, of joy bereaved, bowed with anguish, deeply grieved, now at length the sword hath passed.

Oh, that blessed one, grief-laden, blessed Mother, blessed Maiden, Mother of the all-holy One.

O that silent, ceaseless mourning, oh those dim eyes, never turning from that wondrous, suffering Son guest soloist with the K-W Philharmonic Choir.

In addition to her solo career, Stephanie is also a member of TACTUS Vocal Ensemble, an eight-voice a cappella group specializing in music of the Renaissance and early Baroque. She is the voice instructor at Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo. She is featured on the new CD of chamber music by Leonard Enns, *Hammer & Wind*.

Jennifer Enns Modolo, mezzo-soprano

Mezzo-soprano Jennifer Enns Modolo is a graduate of the vocal performance program at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo. She has performed as a featured soloist with such groups as the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, the Toronto Classical Singers, the Elora Festival Singers, the Grand Philharmonic Choir, and the Menno Singers. She has appeared as a guest soloist with the Grand River Baroque Festival, and is a regular performer with the early music ensemble Greensleaves. She recently made her European debut in Spain and southern France with the Consort Caritatis and Catalan Festival Orchestra. She also made her debut in England in August 2005 at the Snape Proms as part of the Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme.

Jennifer's opera highlights include the title role in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*, Juno in Eccles' *The Judgement of Paris* and Florence Pike in Britten's *Albert Herring*. Her discography includes the role of Eustazio in Handel's *Rinaldo*, recorded on the NAXOS label under the baton of Kevin Mallon. Jennifer is also a laureate with Les Jeunes Ambassadeurs Lyriques.

Brandon Leis, tenor

Tenor Brandon Leis just recently completed a year of the Opera Diploma program at Wilfrid Laurier University, where he holds an Honours BMus in Vocal Performance and a minor in Philosophy. Brandon has most recently been a featured soloist with the International Symphony Orchestra (*Messiah, Mozart Requiem*), the Canadian Chamber Ensemble, Scaramella, *Echoes of Grace Finale, Voice in the Wilderness*, and has played numerous operatic roles with the WLU opera program including the title role in last year's performance of Britten's, Albert Herring. In February, Brandon created the role of Allan Fielding in the world premiere of Glenn James' opera, *To Daniel*.

Upcoming engagements include soloist with Redeemer College and members of Tafelmusik, soloist for *Into Paradise* (a concert on environmental themes in April) with Willem Moolenbeek and Boyd McDonald, and featured guest soloist with the Menno Singers in May. Brandon is currently the Director of Music at Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, and he teaches voice privately at Eastwood Collegiate Institute, and at his residence (where he and his wife are curators of), the Brubacher House Museum, in Waterloo.

Christine Vlajk, violist

Christine Vlajk has held the positions of violist of the Penderecki String Quartet and Artist-in-Residence in viola and chamber music at Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, since 1997. She has performed on major concert stages around the world – New York's Weill Concert Hall at Carnegie Hall, 92nd Street Y and Kennedy Center, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw to name a few. As a member of the Penderecki String Quartet and the Montclaire Quartet Ms. Vlajk has recorded for the Koch, Leonarda, Eclectra, Marquis Classics and EMI labels.

Originally from Denver, Colorado, Ms. Vlajk holds degrees in Viola Performance and Music Education from the University of Colorado (Boulder) and a Masters degree in Viola Performance from the University of Wisconsin (Milwaukee). In addition to her major performance engagements, she has a special interest in the education of young children.

Simon Fryer, cellist

Cellist Simon Fryer is the newest member of the Penderecki String Quartet. Besides his position as Artist-in-Residence at Wilfrid Laurier University Simon holds teaching positions on the faculties of the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music and at the University of Toronto. Prior to joining the PSQ he spent several seasons as a member of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He is continuously active as a chamber musician, and has been known to instigate multicello events with presentations such as *CelloDrama* and *CelloDrama II*: events involving music for one to twelve cellos and even a few car horns!

Simon studied in England at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London and in Canada at the Banff Centre. He has appeared as soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player in more than thirty countries on six continents and performs on an instrument completed in 1998 by Masa Inokuchi. His most recent CD, *Azulao*, a CBC recording of music for voice and cello ensemble with soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian, won the Juno Award for best Classical Vocal Album.

Stephanie Kramer, soprano

Soprano Stephanie Kramer is a seasoned singer who has enjoyed an active solo career based primarily in Southern Ontario. She has been a guest performer with such local choirs as Menno Singers, Renaissance Singers, Guelph Chamber Choir, DaCapo Chamber Choir as well as several appearances with the Mennonite Mass Choir. She has also appeared with the K-W Symphony and the Kitchener Waterloo Chamber Orchestra. For the past 20 years, Stephanie has been a frequently featured soloist with the Elora Singers, and has appeared in concert in Toronto, most notably with Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir. She has performed in New York City with Robert Shaw, and has toured Germany and Austria as a

- 5. Quis est homo, qui non fleret, Christi matrem si videret in tanto supplicio?
- 6. Quis non posset contristari, piam matrem contemplari dolentem cum filio?
- 7. Pro peccatis suae gentis vidit Jesum in tormentis, et flagellis subditum,
- Vidit suum dulcem natum, moriendo desolatum, Dum emisit spiritum.
- 9. Eja mater, fons amoris, me sentire vim doloris fac, ut tecum lugeam.
- Fac, ut ardeat cor meum In amando Christum deum, Ut sibi complaceam.
- Sancta mater, istud agas, crucifixi fige plagas cordi meo valide
- Tui nati vulnerati, tam dignati pro me pati, poenas mecum divide.
- 13. Fac me tecum pie flere, crucifixo condolere, donec ego vixero.
- Juxta Crucem tecum stare, et me tibi sociare in planctu desidero.
- Virgo virginum praeclara, mihi jam non sis amara, fac me tecum plangere.

Who on Christ's dear Mother gazing, in her trouble so amazing, born of woman, would not weep?

Who on Christ's dear Mother thinking, such a cup of sorrow drinking, would not share her sorrow deep?

For His people's sins, in anguish, there she saw the Victim languish, bleed in torments, bleed and die.

Saw the Lord's Anointed taken; saw her Child in death forsaken, heard His last expiring cry

In the Passion of my Maker be my sinful soul partaker, may I bear with her my part.

Of His Passion bear the token, in a spirit bowed and broken bear His death within my heart.

~.~

Thou, who on the Cross art bearing all the pains I would be sharing glows my heart with love for Thee.

By Thy glorious Death and Passion, saving me in wondrous fashion, saviour, turn my heart to Thee.

At Thy feet in adoration, wrapt in earnest contemplation see, beneath Thy Cross I lie

There, where all our sins Thou bearest in compassion fullest, rarest, hanging on the bitter Tree

Thou who art for ever blessed, Thou who art by all confessed, now I lift my soul to Thee.

- Fac ut portem Christi mortem, passionis fac consortem, et plagas recolere.
- 17. Fac me plagis vulnerari cruce fac inebriari et cruore Filii.
- Inflammatus et accensus per te, virgo, sim defensus in die judicii.
- 19. Fac me cruce custodiri, morte Christi prae muniri, confoveri gratia!
- 20. Quando corpus morietur, fac, ut animae donetur paradisi gloria. Amen

Make me of Thy death the bearer, in Thy Passion be a sharer, taking to myself Thy pain.

Let me with Thy stripes be stricken! Let Thy Cross with hope me quicken, that I thus Thy love may gain.

All my heart, inflamed and burning, Saviour, now to Thee is turning; shield me in the Judgement day.

By Thy Cross may I be guarded, meritless – yet be rewarded through Thy grace, O living Way

While my body here is lying let my soul be swiftly flying to Thy glorious Paradise. Amen

Mid-Winter Songs ~ Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943, Washington State) Poems by Robert Graves (1895-1985)

The *Mid-Winter Songs* on poems by Robert Graves were commissioned by the University of Southern California to celebrate its Centennial in 1980. People familiar with Lauridsen's lush choral sonorities and his near-mystic compositions may find this cycle from a quarter century ago fresh and surprising in the context of his current works. Lauridsen's approach here, in this relatively early work, is near Benjamin Brittenish, and altogether captivating in its "reading" of these marvelous texts by Robert Graves. Between the Lauridsen songs, we present compositions serving as musical commentary on them.

I. Lament for Pasiphaë ~ Lauridsen

Dying sun, shine warm a little longer! My eye, dazzled with tears, shall dazzle yours, Conjuring you to shine and not to move. You, sun, and I all afternoon have laboured Beneath a dewless and oppressive cloud – A fleece now gilded with our common grief That this must be a night without a moon. Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!

Leonard Enns, Artistic Director

Conductor and composer Leonard Enns is Professor of Music in the Music Department (Conrad Grebel University College) at the University of Waterloo, and is the founding director of the DaCapo Chamber Choir. He holds graduate degrees from Northwestern University, Chicago, and undergraduate degrees from Wilfrid Laurier University and Canadian Mennonite University.

An associate composer of the Canadian Music Centre, Enns has nearly a hundred acknowledged works to date, many of them multi-movement extended works, ranging from works for solo piano to full choral/orchestral forces. Premieres of new compositions this current year include *Three for Two* for saxophone and piano (October 2006, Willem Moolenbeek and Sandra Mogensen), and his *Cello Sonata No. 1* (February 2007, Ben Bolt Martin). On March 16 the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir performs his motet *God was a child curled up*, previously recorded by the Elora Festival Singers and the DaCapo Chamber Choir on the CD *NorthWord* (available at tonight's concert). Two of tonight's guests, Stephanie Kramer and Catherine Robertson, are featured on a new CD of Enns' chamber music, *Hammer and Wind*, (also available tonight).

This past November 19 Enns was guest conductor of the Elora Festival Singers in a concert of Canadian music, and on April 9 he will conduct the honours choirs at the Waterloo Regional High School Choral Festival at the Centre in the Square.

Jerzy Kaplanek, violinist

Violinist Jerzy Kaplanek has been a member of the Penderecki String Quartet since 1987. With the quartet, and also as a soloist and chamber musician, he performs throughout Europe, Asia, and North and South America. His discography includes a dozen CD's with the Penderecki Quartet, and Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* with the Blue Rider Ensemble. He is frequently heard on CBC Radio and in the fall of 1997 was featured soloist at a concert held in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, as a tribute to Karol Szymanowski.

Jerzy Kaplanek was born in Poland in 1965, where he pursued his musical training up to a Masters Degree from the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music. In 1987, Mr. Kaplanek left Poland to continue his music education in the United States. He is presently an associate professor at Wilfrid Laurier, where he teaches violin and chamber music. He plays a copy of the "Kreisler", Joseph Guarnerius del Gesù 1733, made by Luiz B. Bellini (New York 1997).

The Artists

DaCapo Chamber Choir

The DaCapo Chamber Choir was founded in 1998 and is dedicated to exploring unaccompanied music, primarily of the 20th Century and later. Our performance season consists of three annual concerts in Kitchener-Waterloo: once in the fall around Remembrance Day, a mid-winter, and a spring concert. In addition, the choir performs on an ad hoc basis at other events.

Last season, DaCapo received a number of public acknowledgements for their work:

- honoured as semi-finalist in the national CBC Radio Choral Competition
- awarded an Ontario Arts Council music grant to commission and perform a new work by composer Timothy Corlis entitled *Notes toward a poem that can never be written* with text by Margaret Atwood and guest narrator Bruce Dow
- performed a workshop with internationally renowned composer, Eric Whitacre
- appeared as a guest artist on the Elora Festival Singers' latest recording, *NorthWord* on the Centrediscs label of the Canadian Music Centre. This recording, featuring Noel Edison and the Elora Festival Singers, along with oboist James Mason and organist Jurgen Petrenko, is a disc of Leonard Enns' choral music and is on sale at tonight's concert!

Choir Members

Soprano:
Shannon Beynon
Diana Chisholm
Sara Fretz
Sara Martin
Jennie Wiebe

Alto:

Emily Berg Sarah Flatt Angie Koch Shauna Leis Janice Maust Hedrick Sara Wahl Tenor: Brian Black Thomas Brown Michael Lee-Poy Brandon Leis Stephen Preece

Bass: Jeff Enns Bill Labron Kevin Smith Jordan Stumpf Dave Switzer Faithless she was not: she was very woman, Smiling with dire impartiality, Sov'reign, with heart unmatched, adored of men, Until Spring's cuckoo with bedraggled plumes Tempted her pity and her truth betrayed. Then she who shone for all resigned her being, And this must be a night without a moon. Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!

Calme des nuits ~ Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921, b. Paris)

Calmes des nuits, fraicheur des soirs, Vaste scintillement des mondes, Grand silence des antres noirs Vous charmez les âmes profondes. L'éclat du soleil, la gaité, Le bruit plaisent aux plus futiles; Le poéte seul est hanté Par l'amour des choses tranquiles. ~ anonymous author Stillness of the night, cool of the evening, Vast shimmering of the spheres, Great silence of black vaults Deep thinkers delight in you. The bright sun, merriment, And noise amuse the more frivolous; Only the poet is possessed By the love of quiet things.

II. Like Snow ~ Lauridsen

She, then, like snow in a dark night, Fell secretly. And the world waked With dazzling of the drowsy eye, So that some muttered 'Too much light,' And drew the curtains close. Like snow, warmer than fingers feared, And to soil friendly; Holding the histories of the night In yet unmelted tracks.

Snowforms ~ R. Murray Schafer (b. 1933, Ontario)

Schafer composed this work in 1982, inspired – he writes – by his "habit of observing the soft foldings of snow from my farmhouse window in Ontario." Much of the music is hummed, and words that do occur are some of the many Inuit words for snow, such as *apingaut, mauyak, qanit, sitidlorak, akelrorak*, all referring to different qualities of snow.

III. She Tells Her Love While Half Asleep ~ Lauridsen

She tells her love while half asleep, In the dark hours, With half-words whispered low:

As Earth stirs in her winter sleep And puts out grass and flowers Despite the snow, Despite the falling Snow.

Good Night, Beloved ~ arr. by Vera Kistler (b. 1929, Czech Republic)

Dobru noc, ma mila, dobre spi, Nech sa te snivaju sladke sny. Dobru noc, dobre spi. Nech sa te snivaju sladke sny. ~ Moravian-Slovak folk song Good night beloved, good night. May angels watch o'er you through the night. Sleep, my love, my delight. May angels watch o'er you through the night.

IV. Mid-Winter Waking ~ Lauridsen

Stirring suddenly from long hibernation I knew myself once more a poet Guarded by timeless principalities Against the worm of death, this hillside haunting; And presently dared open both my eyes.

O gracious, lofty, shone against from under, Back-of-the-mind-far clouds like towers; And you, sudden warm airs that blow Before the expected season of new blossom, While sheep still gnaw at roots and lambless go –

Be witness that on waking, this mid-winter, I found her hand in mine laid closely Who shall watch out the Spring with me. We stared in silence all around us But found no winter anywhere to see.

Die Nacht ~ Franz Schubert (1797–1828, b. Vienna)

Wie schön bist du freundliche Stille himmlische Ruh Sehet, wie die klaren Sterne wandeln in des Himmels Auen und auf uns herniederschauen schweigend, schweigend aus der blauen Ferne

Wie schön bist du freundliche Stille himmlische Ruh Schweigend naht des Lenzes Milde sich der Erde weichem Schoss kränzt den Silberquell mit Moos und mit Blumen die Gefilde und mit Blumen die Gefilde. How lovely, you, friendly calm, heavenly peace. See how the bright stars wander in heaven's meadows and look down on us quietly, from the blue distance

How lovely, you, friendly calm, heavenly peace. Gentle spring quietly approaches the soft lap of the earth encircling the silver stream and filling the fields with flowers.

V. Intercession in Late October ~ Lauridsen

How hard the year dies: no frost yet. On drifts of yellow sand Midas reclines, Fearless of moaning reed or sullen wave. Firm and fragrant still the brambleberries. On ivy-bloom butterflies wag.

Spare him a little longer, Crone, For his clean hands and love-submissive heart.

