

Upcoming DaCapo Performances

Midnight ~ darkness and wonder

March 3, 2007

featuring members of the Penderecki quartet and soloists Jennifer Enns Modolo, Stephanie Kramer, and Brandon Leis

Daybreak ~ sounds of a new day

May 5, 2007

including music with a distinctly Latin American flavour

For more information about the choir and our upcoming concerts, visit our web site at www.dacapochoir.ca

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Concert

A CANADIAN CHORAL
TAPESTRY

Sunday, November 19, 2006

St. John's Church
1:30 p.m. Lunch
2:30 p.m. Talk
3:00 p.m. Concert
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The Elora Festival Singers
Leonard Enns, conductor

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From the Beginning

Reverend Joy
Passion, Spirit, Wonder
Imagination

DaCapo

Directed by Leonard Enns *Chamber Choir*

Twilight
THERE WILL BE REST

November 11th, 2006
8:00 pm

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, Kitchener

Program

Requiem ~ Eleanor Daley

1. Requiem aeternam I
soloist, Sara Martin
2. Out of the deep
soloist, Jordan Stumpf
3. And God shall wipe away all tears
*soloists, Shannon Beynon, Stephanie Rozek,
Emily Berg & Angie Koch*
4. In remembrance
5. I heard a voice from heaven
6. Thou knowest, Lord
soloists, Sara Martin & Jordan Stumpf
7. Requiem aeternam II
soloist, Sara Martin & Emily Berg
8. In paradisum
soloist, Sara Martin

A Child's Prayer ~ James MacMillan

soloists, Shannon Beynon & Sara Fretz

Elegy ~ Frank Ferko

soloist, Shannon Beynon

Tonight eternity alone ~ René Clausen

soloists Shannon Beynon & Diana Chisolm

intermission

The passing of the year ~ Jonathan Dove

Catherine Robertson, piano

1. Invocation
2. The narrow bud opens her beauties to the sun
soloists, Shauna Leis & Brandon Leis
3. Answer July
4. Hot sun, cool fire
5. Ah, Sun-flower!
6. Adieu! Farewell earth's bliss!
7. Ring out, wild bells

There will be rest ~ Frank Ticheli

please join us for an informal reception following the concert

Acknowledgements

DaCapo logo, poster, and program design – Heather Lee

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Choir Manager – Sara Martin

Board of Directors:

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

You can now donate to DaCapo online! Visit our web site at www.dacapochoir.ca and click on the CanadaHelps logo!

Thank you to tonight's Venue Sponsor, the Harbinger Gallery



The poster for the Harbinger Gallery Christmas Show features the gallery's name in a stylized font at the top. Below it is a photograph of a Christmas tree made of musical instruments, with a white angel figurine at the top. The text on the poster includes the show title, opening date and time, extended hours, and contact information.

harbinger
gallery

Christmas Show
Opening: Friday, Nov. 17, 7-9pm

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Harbinger Christmas Tree

Extended Christmas hours
MTWF: 10:30 - 6, Th: 10:30-8, Sat: 10:30 - 5
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We are currently looking for 2006-2007 sponsors for our upcoming concerts. If you are interested in supporting DaCapo financially, please contact Sara Martin, choir manager at 519-725-7549 or by emailing smartin@dacapochoir.ca.

Notes and texts:

(All notes written by L. Enns)

Twilight is that middle-time, that gift of repose and reflection, which binds the exhausted day with the coming inhalation and rejuvenation of the night. We trust that tonight's program will be a time of reflection, as both day and year draw to a close, as we remember, and as we anticipate. Also, our wish is that somehow our efforts bring us closer to a larger twilight, that exact mid-point which lies between the final two lines of Tennyson's text which we will hear near the end of the concert:

*Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.*

Requiem ~ Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)

Toronto composer Eleanor Daley's *Requiem* has become standard choral repertoire in Canada and internationally. Settings of the liturgical Requiem text, the *Missa pro defunctis*, abound; the most familiar settings include those of Mozart and Verdi. Daley, however, treats the Requiem with poetic freedom, standing comfortably on the path established by composers such as Brahms (who chose biblical texts for his *German Requiem*), and Britten (with his dramatic juxtaposition of texts from the *Missa pro defunctis* with the powerful and provocative texts of Wilfrid Owen), though she writes on a smaller canvas than either. Daley interweaves various texts: from the *Missa pro defunctis*, the Bible, a Russian Benediction, and poetry of Carolyn Smart and Mary Elizabeth Frye.

I. Requiem aeternam I

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.

Grant them rest eternal, Lord our God, we pray to Thee.

~ from Missa pro defunctis

Each night I listened for your call,
when your call stopped
I held my breath, suspended,
I'd grown accustomed to a dialogue with silence,
then wait for the sounds of night
you, dying,
and I but witness to the end.

~ Carolyn Smart

2. Out of the deep

Out of the deep have I called unto Thee, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice.
O let Thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.
If thou Lord wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss:
O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with Thee: therefore shalt Thou be feared.
I look for the Lord: my soul doth wait for Him:
and in His work is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord;
Before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:
And with Him is plenteous redemption.
And He shall redeem Israel from their sins.
~ *Psalms 130*

3. And God shall wipe away all tears

I heard a voice out of heaven saying,
"Behold the dwelling of God is with all people
and God shall dwell with them
and they shall be God's people.
God shall be with them and the voice of weeping
shall no more be heard;
and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying,
neither shall there be any more pain,
for the former things are passed away."
~ *Revelation 21:3,4*

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine.
Light eternal shine upon them, Lord.
~ *from Missa pro defunctis*

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord:
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
And whosesoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.
~ *from the Burial Service, 1662 book of Common Prayer*

Leonard Enns, Artistic Director

Conductor and composer Leonard Enns is the founding director of the DaCapo Chamber Choir. He holds a PhD in Music Theory from Northwestern University (with a dissertation on the choral music of Harry Somers), a Master of Music in choral conducting (supervised by the late Margaret Hillis), and undergraduate degrees from Wilfrid Laurier University, and Canadian Mennonite University.

Enns has been on faculty in the Music Department at Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo since 1977, where is the director of the Conrad Grebel College Chapel Choir. He is active as adjudicator and guest conductor: currently, he has been invited as guest conductor of the Honours Choirs at the Waterloo Region High School Music Festival for the second consecutive year; and, on the 19th of this month, he will conduct the Elora Festival Singers in a *Canadian Choral Tapestry* concert at 2:30 pm at St John's, Elora.

An Associate Composer of the Canadian Music Centre, Enns has composed 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. Recent premieres of his choral works include *Nocturne* at the 2005 Guelph Spring Festival; *Te Deum Brevis* in Kyoto, Japan at the 2005 World Choral Symposium; and *Sparrow* at Festival 500 in Newfoundland.

The most recent recording of his works is the 2006 CD *NorthWord*, recorded by the Elora Festival Singers on the Canadian Music Centre *Centrediscs* label. This CD is on sale at tonight's concert.

His music is published by Boosey & Hawkes, E.C. Shirmer, Gordon V Thompson/Warner Chappell, and other publishers.

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. She has been a medalist and award winner in numerous international competitions. Catherine 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 is also active as a singer and conductor. Catherine sings with, and frequently accompanies, the Elora Festival Singers. She is music director of the Renaissance vocal octet, TACTUS. Catherine maintains a busy schedule adjudicating at music festivals across the country. She teaches piano and keyboard literature at Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo.

The ARTISTS

DaCapo Chamber Choir

The DaCapo Chamber Choir is dedicated to exploring unaccompanied music, primarily of the 20th Century and later. Our performance season consists of three annual concerts in Kitchener-Waterloo: one 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. This recording is on sale at tonight's concert!

Choir Members

Soprano:

Shannon Beynon
Diana Chisolm
Sara Fretz
Sara Martin
Stephanie Rozek

Tenor:

Brian Black
Thomas Brown
Tim Corlis
Michael Lee-Poy
Brandon Leis

Alto:

Emily Berg
Sarah Flatt
Angie Koch
Shauna Leis
Janice Maust Hedrick
Susan Schwartzentruber

Bass:

Jeff Enns
Bill Labron
Alan Martin
Kevin Smith
Jordan Stumpf
Dave Switzer

4. In Remembrance

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle morning rain.

And when you wake in the morning's hush,
I am the sweet uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.

~ *Mary Elizabeth Frye*

5. I heard a voice from heaven

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me,
"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,
for they rest from their labours:
even so saith the spirit."

~ *from the Burial Service, 1662 book of Common Prayer*

6. Thou knowest, Lord

In the midst of life we are in death.
Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not Thy merciful ears to our prayer;
but spare us, Lord most holy.

Lord most holy, O God most mighty,
O holy and merciful Saviour,
Thou most worthy Judge Eternal,
Suffer us not, at our last hour,
for any pains of death to fall from Thee.

~ *from the Burial Service, 1662 book of Common Prayer*

7. Requiem aeternam II

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.
Grant them eternal rest, Lord our God, we pray to Thee, grant them everlasting rest.
~ from *Missa pro defunctis*

The stillness is a room I've moved into,
and you are not here, you are gone
the dark heart of a night without song.
~ Carolyn Smart

8. In paradisum

Go forth upon Thy journey from this world, O Christian soul,
in the name of God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit,
in company with the blessed angels and archangels
and all the heavenly host.
May Thy portion this day be in peace and Thy dwelling place
in Jerusalem.
~ from a *Russian Benediction*

In paradisum deducant angeli,
May the angels receive thee in paradise.
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,
At thy coming may the martyrs receive thee
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.
and bring thee into the Holy City Jerusalem.
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,
May the choir of angels receive thee
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere,
and with Lazarus, once a beggar,
aeternam habeas requiem.
may thou have eternal rest.
~ from the *Burial Service, 1662 book of Common Prayer*

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.
Grant them eternal rest, Lord our God, we pray to Thee,
grant them everlasting rest.
~ from *Missa pro defunctis*

6. Adieu! Farewell earth's bliss!

Adieu, farewell earth's bliss,
This world uncertain is;
Fond are life's lustful joys,
Death proves them all but toys,
None from his darts can fly:
I am sick, I must die.
Lord, have mercy on us!

Rich men, trust not in wealth,
Gold cannot buy you health;
Physic himself must fade;
All things to end are made;
The plague full swift goes by:
I am sick, I must die.
Lord, have mercy on us!

Beauty is but a flower
Which wrinkles will devour;
Brightness falls from the air,
Queens have died young and fair,
Dust hath closed Helen's eye:
I am sick, I must die.
Lord, have mercy on us!
–Thomas Nashe

There will be rest ~ Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)

The text which Ticheli has chosen comes from the mind of a poet, deeply troubled in the last years of her short life (1884 – 1933). Yet, here is a promise of peace – in many ways a truly “northern” one, in which the darkness of the long night is the perfect foil for those ancient harbingers of peace and hope.

7. Ring out, wild bells

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.
–Alfred Lord Tennyson

There will be rest, and sure stars shining,
Over the roof-tops crowned with snow.
A reign of rest, serene forgetting,
The music of stillness holy and low.

I will make this world of my devising,
Out of a dream in my lonely mind,
I shall find the crystal of peace, – above me
Stars I shall find.
–Sara Teasdale

3. Answer July

Answer July–
Where is the Bee–
Where is the Blush–
Where is the Hay?

Ah, said July–
Where is the Seed–
Where is the Bud–
Where is the May–
Answer Thee – Me–

Nay – said the May–
Show me the Snow–
Show me the Bells–
Show me the Jay!

Quibbled the Jay–
Where be the Maize–
Where be the Haze–
Where be the Bur?
Here – said the Year–
~ *Emily Dickinson*

4. Hot sun, cool fire

Hot sun, cool fire, tempered with sweet air,
Black shade, fair nurse, shadow my white hair;
Shine sun; burn, fire; breathe, air, and ease me;
Black shade, fair nurse, shroud me and please me:
Shadow, my sweet nurse, keep me from burning,
Make not my glad cause, cause of [my] mourning.

Let not my beauty's fire
Inflame unstead desire,
Nor pierce any bright eye
That wandereth lightly.
~ *George Peele*

5. Ah, Sun-flower!

Ah Sun-flower! weary of time,
Who countest the steps of the Sun,
Seeking after that sweet golden clime
Where the traveller's journey is done;

Where the Youth pined away with desire,
And the pale Virgin shrouded in snow,
Arise from their graves and aspire,
Where my Sun-flower wishes to go.
~ *William Blake*

A Child's Prayer ~ James MacMillan (b. 1959)

Scottish composer James MacMillan dedicates this work to the dead of the Dunblane tragedy of March 1996, in which sixteen children and their teacher were killed in a murder-suicide at their primary school. One can only grieve the sad timeliness and timelessness of the relevance of such a dedication.

Typical of MacMillan's approach, the music confronts us with two contrasting ideas – the gentle, near mumbling of the choral “Welcome, welcome”, and the increasingly passionate duet of the two soprano voices, singing a simple child's prayer. The energy of this juxtaposition breaks into bursts of “joy, joy”, before the music returns to the opening idea, finally ending with the solo voices alone, bereft of the choral “welcome”. The text is a prayer MacMillan remembered from his childhood, when he was six years old, as were the children who died in Dunblane.

Welcome Jesu,
Deep in my soul forever stay,
Joy and love my heart are filling
On this glad Communion day.

Elegy ~ Frank Ferko (b. 1950)

Elegy by Chicago-based composer, organist and conductor Frank Ferko is from his hour-long *Stabat Mater*. In some ways similar to those of Eleanor Daley, Ferko has personalized a familiar text with five contemporary interpolations, of which *Elegy* is one.

Ferko's composition is a response to the tragedy of pointless deaths, particularly of young people and children. In comments on his *Stabat Mater*, Ferko writes: “...it would be difficult for anyone to ignore the overwhelming number of children and young adults whose lives have been lost to the ravages of war, murder, suicide, and crimes of hatred, as well as to disease and tragic accidents of all kinds.” In this particular movement, *Elegy*, the grief is muted by a calm hope, not unlike the comfort expressed by Eleanor Daley at the centre of her *Requiem* with the text: “Do not stand at my grave and weep.”

~ *Text on next page*

My child has said her farewells.

She has stretched out her arms
to the sun
– Sun, will it be warm where I lie?

She has stretched out her arms
to the moon
– Moon, will you wrap me in silver?

She has stretched out her arms
to the river
– River, do not flow over me long.

Now she is alone with the earth.

She lifts her face to the wind
and remembers organ-scented trees

– Earth, I shall bring you soft blossoms
unwithered and fragrant
and you shall not harm me.

–Sally M. Gall

Tonight eternity alone ~ René Clausen (b. 1953)

Clausen has been conductor of the Concordia Choir at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota for the past two decades, and is becoming increasingly known across the United States as composer and choral clinician. His compositional style is representative of the solid choral tradition which has developed especially in the Lutheran schools in north-central USA over the past century, often based in lush sonorities blending a Nordic Lutheran heritage with a contemporary American style, and associated with conductors such as F. Melius Christiansen and, currently, Anton Armstrong.

Tonight, eternity alone is near,
the sunset and the darkening blue,
there is no space for fear,
only the wonder of its truth.

–Thomas S. Jones, Jr.

The Passing of the Year ~ Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

pianist, Catherine Robertson

The music of British composer Jonathan Dove is often imbued with a strong pulse and dancing rhythms. Here, in *The Passing of the Year*, Dove often uses his typical technique of overlapping repeating patterns (in both piano and choir), creating points of breathless energy and excitement, and also sublime moments of calm and reflection. The work opens and ends with bell-like sonorities – typical that bells should both mourn a passing and celebrate a new beginning. Dove's selection of poetry for the work is masterful, flowing from the celebrative and playful opening poems by Blake and Dickinson (the Dickinson *Answer July* fairly bursting with breathless excitement and urgency) to the more introspective fourth and fifth movements (with texts by Peele and Blake). This is followed by the wonderfully poignant penitential movement which Dove creates by marrying the Nashe text, *Adieu! Farewell earth's bliss!*, with the refrain, "Lord, have mercy." The cycle returns to the first music at its end, but now the bell sonority newly-focused and defined: "Ring in a thousand years of peace."

I. Invocation

O Earth, O Earth, return!
~ William Blake

2. The narrow bud opens her beauties to the sun

The narrow bud opens her beauties to
The sun, and love runs in her thrilling veins;
Blossoms hang round the brows of Morning, and
Flourish down the bright cheek of modest Eve,
Till clust'ring Summer breaks forth into singing,
And feather'd clouds strew flowers round her head.

The spirits of the air live in the smells
Of fruit; and Joy, with pinions light, roves round
The gardens, or sits singing in the trees.

–William Blake

Sumer is icumen in
Lhude sing cuccu