

THE LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE
AND SINFONIA ORCHESTRA
ROGER WAGNER, MUSIC DIRECTOR

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1983 AT 8:30 PM
PREVIEW AT 7:30 BY ESTHER WACHTELL
DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION

CALIFORNIA BOYS CHOIR

DOUGLAS NESLUND, Conductor
ROBERT H. ROGERS, Stage Director

CHICHESTER PSALMS*

Leonard Bernstein (b. 1918)

- I. Psalm 108, verse 8
Psalm 100, entire
- II. Psalm 23, entire
Psalm 2, verses 1-4
- III. Psalm 131, entire
Psalm 133, verse 1

*C.B.C. Alumni Mens' Chorus to accompany the Boys Choir

HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD

Medley arranged by Douglas Neslund

INTERMISSION

L.A. JAZZ CHOIR

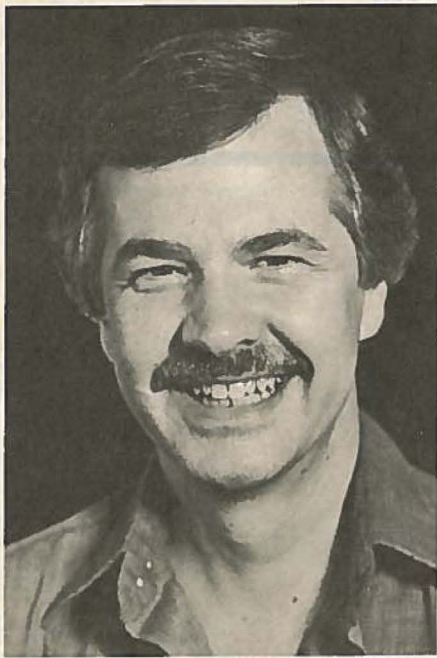
GERALD R. ESKELIN, Director
DWIGHT ELRICH, Piano
ED ALTON, Bass
DAVE KARAZONY, Drums
IAN MOSS, Lights
STEVE BARKER, Sound Technician

Presenting a program of tunes which made them a national winner
in Johnny Mann's Great American Choral Festival.

Kathy Buckley	Bryan Cumming
Lynn Carey	Phil Elmore
Elin Carlson	Ken Freundlich
Dee-Dee Dellson-Cummins	David Hamrell
Vicky McClure	Jeff Johnson
Linda Metzler	Mike Metzler
Linda Normando	John Revheim
Amy Weston-Cumming	Jim Williams
Stephanie Yost	Marc Williams

Latecomers will not be seated until the first convenient pause in the performance. / Invited guests are welcome backstage after the performance, use performers' entrances. Grand Ave. side of Plaza for Pavilion, corner of Temple & Grand for Ahmanson, and rear of theatre for Forum. / Use of tape recorders and/or cameras prohibited in auditorium. / Your use of a ticket constitutes acknowledgement of willingness to appear in photographs taken in public areas of The Music Center and releases The Music Center Operating Co., its lessees and all others from liability resulting from use of such photographs. / Program and artists subject to change. / Patrons cannot be paged during a performance. Individuals expecting emergency calls must leave their seat numbers with the House Manager.

WHO'S WHO



GERALD ESKELIN, director and founder of the L.A. Jazz Choir, comes from a varied musical background, including both vocal and instrumental, each as performer and conductor. He is equally competent in both the classical and popular idioms.

He has sung on the opera stage as well as in the pop recording studio. He played clarinet in the Lakeland (Florida) Symphony as well as saxophone in a number of jazz bands.

Besides directing the L.A. Jazz Choir he conducts the Valley Master Chorale, a 100-voice ensemble which performs a broad spectrum of music, reflecting Eskelin's diversified interests.

His formal training includes a Doctorate and a Masters degree from Indiana University. He is presently a member of the faculty at Pierce College in Woodland Hills and was on the faculties of USC and California Institute of the Arts.

Eskelin's reputation as an exponent of vocal jazz came to prominence when his Pierce College Jazz Choir was invited to perform at a number of prestigious jazz festivals around the world, including Montreaux, North Sea, Reno, Playboy (Hollywood Bowl). Last year the Pierce College Jazz Choir was named best in the state by the Community College Music Association of California, and the L.A. Jazz Choir was a national winner in Johnny Mann's Great American Choral Festival.



Vocal Interpretation of big-time jazz is the basic concept on which the **L.A. JAZZ CHOIR** operates. Such 40's favorites as Tommy Dorsey's *Opus One*, Glenn Miller's *Tuxedo Junction*, and Woody Herman's *Woodchopper's Ball* are the main staples of the fare offered by this 18-voice jazz ensemble, directed by Gerald Eskelin.

The choir earned an international reputation as the Pierce College Jazz Choir, and it soon became evident that the group had outgrown its amateur status. In March of 1981, prominent members of the musical and business community formed a non-profit corporation to support the group as a professional performing ensemble. While professional big-bands have been in existence for decades, there had not been, up to now, an 18-voice professional jazz choral ensemble.

The choir has performed at the 1980 North

Sea Jazz Festival and has produced three records. Now in its tenth season, the group frequently appears at schools and colleges and was selected to perform this year as a headliner at the California Music Educators Association Convention.

Dwight Elrich has been accompanying the choir for eight years. An accomplished arranger as well as pianist, he has contributed greatly to the group's success.

The group receives partial financial support from the Performing Arts Division of the Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department. The California Arts Council has recently named the L.A. Jazz Choir as one of a select group of music, dance, and theatre companies to receive state financial aid to put their talents "on the road" to outlying communities.



THE CALIFORNIA BOYS' CHOIR was formed in 1968 by Douglas Neslund as a Masters Thesis project in conjunction with his studies in choral music at the University of Southern

California. The Choir quickly became a mainstay in the musical life of Southern California. His methods enable a boy to continue singing through the period of voice change into manhood's tenor or bass.

Robert Rogers joined the organization in 1972, expanding the Choir's range of educational instruction to include stage dynamics, body control and dramatic involvement in performance, as well as costuming, lighting, and staging the Choir's varied repertoire.

In 1975, training classes were added to the Choir's schedule, to enable instruction in basic music theory to begin at an earlier age, prior to Concert Choir membership. The training classes concentrate on music theory and sight-singing, employing the Kodaly method, and vocal technique, which concentrates on breath control and freedom of vocal mechanism. Graduation from the training classes is mandatory for membership in the California Boys' Choir. In 1979 the Choir performed throughout the United States and Canada. Since then, the ensemble has toured over 250 cities, and before an estimated total audience of more than 800,000 persons. The choir is currently seeking a suitable location for the purpose of establishing a choir school.