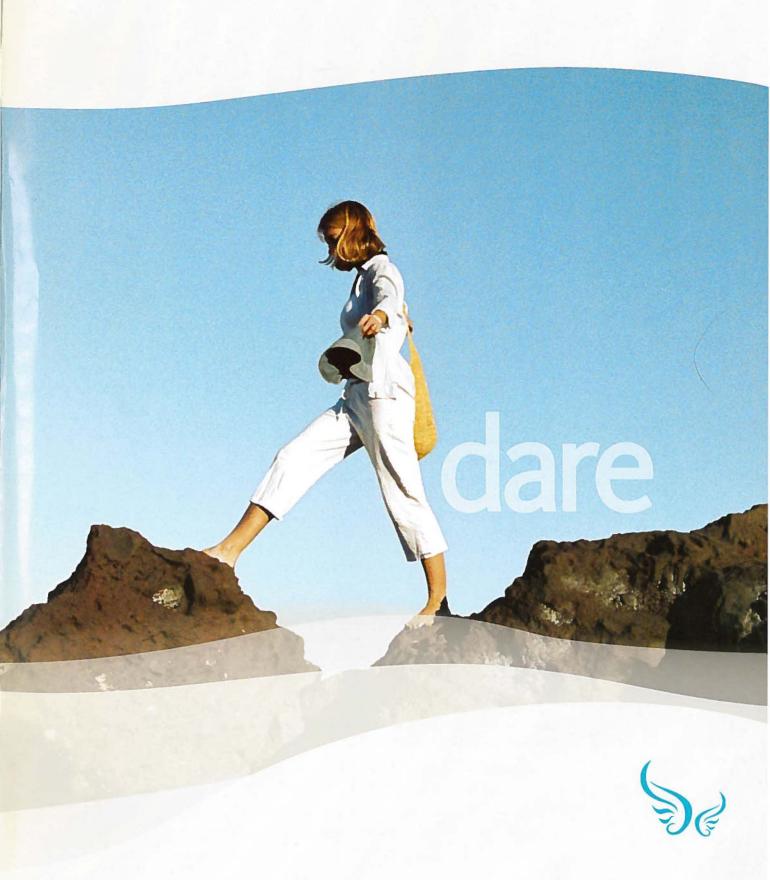
performances

Los Angeles Master Chorale



bigh notes

A Valentine Party

Mark your calendar, then invite your sweetheart to join you for a Valentine's Day Eve benefit gala immediately following the Chorale's February 13th performance of Carmina Burana and Wedding in the Night Garden. A romantic postconcert supper in BP Hall, the signature surround-sing by the Chorale, dancing and champagne - what could be more romantic! Call 213-972-3122 for information or to reserve your spot now for this special event. Proceeds will benefit the Chorale's artistic and educational programs.



In memoriam

We mourn the passing of Larry Rothrock, a long-time supporter of the Los Angeles Master Chorale and the High School Choir Festival, who died September 14, 2004. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Phyllis, and the Rothrock family.



Snow in L.A.? We can dream, can't we?

ound the trumpets, beat the drums and unleash the mighty Disney Hall organ. Guest organist Frederick Swann joins Grant Gershon and the Master Chorale for four holiday performances.

rejoice — Sunday, December 5 at 7 p.m.

We've decked the Disney with the best of Baroque composers and the Hall will resound with thrilling antiphonal effects. A flourish of Gabrieli's stirring Venetian motets with brass, originally performed in St. Mark's Basilica, heralds the holidays. Bach's Jesu', Joy of Man's Desiring is followed by the third installment of our multi-year presentation of the composer's Christmas Oratorio. The fourth cantata focuses on the Feast of the Circumcision and rejoices in the naming day of Jesus, celebrated eight days after Christmas. Glad tidings to all from the Master Chorale!

Holiday Wonders — Tuesday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 11 at 2 p.m.

The wonders never cease in Walt Disney Concert Hall. Youngsters of every age will thrill to the sights and sounds as the mighty new pipe organ springs to life. The Chorale transports you into a wonderland of best-loved carols, songs of the season from around the world, and sing-alongs with spectacular choral arrangements of festive favorites. In the best holiday tradition, you can expect surprises, too! Sponsored by Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts.

ALL NEW Messiah Sing-Along — Monday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.

When 2,200 voices unite at our 24th annual sing-along, you're going to sing more — rehearsing first and then performing your favorite Christmas portion. Grant Gershon shakes things up with a brand new format that emphasizes chorus singing and divides the event into two parts. The first half is a rehearsal of *Messiah*, Part 1, plus the Hallelujah Chorus. Revved up and joined by soloists from the Chorale and the Master Chorale Orchestra for the second half, Gershon leads seasoned vets and first-timers in performance. Disney Hall will be bursting its seams with sound.

Come early for caroling before the concerts — Sun, Dec 5 at 6:30 p.m., Tue, Dec 7 at 6:45 p.m. and by the Voices Within chorus on Sat, Dec 11 at 1:15 p.m.

Tickets are \$19-\$79. Children 5-12 are half-price for Holiday Wonders. Call 213-972-7282, visit the Disney Hall Box Office or go online to www.LAMC.ORG.



Frederick Swann

was chosen to inaugurate the Walt Disney Concert Hall organ in September 2004. Throughout his long and illustrious career, Swann has held pinnacle posts as an organist and has performed throughout North America and Europe in major churches, cathedrals and concert halls. He serves as Organist Emeritus of the Crystal Cathedral as well as First Congregational Church of Los Angeles and is Organ Artist-in-Residence at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert, California.

bigh notes

The Chorale Goes to College

Building on the success of our High School Choir Festival, Music Director Grant Gershon and the Master Chorale introduce an equally inspiring and stimulating program for collegeage choristers. Our inaugural College Choir Festival features top choral ensembles from a number of Los Angeles area colleges in two concerts on one music-filled day.

"I am tremendously excited about launching this festival and establishing a close artistic relationship with the best college ensembles and directors in the region," says Gershon. "This is a special opportunity to hear the next generation of singers showcased in Disney Hall."

In the morning, each choir takes center stage of the concert hall under the baton of its own music director for a 20–25 minute mini-concert.

The afternoon performance begins with the Master Chorale singing favorite a cappella selections and concludes with all of the choirs joining the Master Chorale to sing Polish composer Henryk Mikolaj Górecki's stirring and emotionally charged Miserere, conducted by

College Choir Festival
Saturday, November 13
10:30 a.m. Showcase of
Choirs; 2 p.m. Master
Chorale performance
and massed choirs
singing Górecki's
Miserere.

Tickets are \$20 and give you access to all the festival events. Come for the entire day or any one of the day's events. For tickets, call 213-972-7282, visit the Disney Hall Box Office or go online to www.LAMC.ORG.

"The Miserere is a strong political and social statement asserting the idea of community and solidarity in a very stark and profoundly direct musical language," says Gershon. "The number and quality of voices breathing life into this inspiring work promises to make it a memorable musical experience for both the singers and the audience."

Join us for this fun day of music-making generously supported in part by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department and The Fletcher Jones Foundation.

Participating Schools

California State University, Long Beach, University Choir. Dr. Jonathan Talberg, Director of Choral, Vocal and Opera Studies

California State University Los Angeles, Chamber Singers. Dr. William Belan, Director of Choral Studies

Loyola Marymount University, Consort Singers. Dr. Mary C. Breden, Chair, Dept. of Music/ Director of Choral Activities

Occidental College, Occidental Glee Club.
Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein, Director of Choral Music

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Grant Gershon

Four years of exquisite music-making

Grant Gershon and the Los Angeles Master Chorale

GRANT GERSHON, conductor

Born: November 10, 1960, in Norwalk, California

At the Chorale: Music Director, now in his fourth season

Grant has expanded the choir's repertoire considerably by conducting a number of world premieres: Messages and Brief Eternity by Bobby McFerrin and Roger Treece, Broken Charms by Donald Crockett, Rezos (Prayers) by Tania León, Mother's Lament by Sharon Farber, Two Songs to Poems of Ann Jäderlund by Esa-Pekka Salonen (U.S. premiere).

Press: "Gershon has found a richness of tone and a strength of phrasing that could launch the Chorale onto a new tier of musical importance." — L.A. Weekly

"Gershon is a direct, unfussy conductor, who values clarity, clean execution and immediate statements." — Los Angeles Times

"visionary" — Daily Breeze

Hailed by the *Los Angeles Times* for creating "a dark, rich sound awash with resonant sparkling amplitude."

Programming has been applauded for being "as warmly spiritual as it is ambitious."

Other appearances: St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Houston Grand Opera, Juilliard Opera Theatre, the Finnish chamber orchestra Avanti! and music festivals in Edinburgh, Vienna, Helsinki, Ravinia, Rome, Madrid and Aspen

Previous assignments: Los Angeles Philharmonic assistant conductor, 1994–97

On disc: Two Grammy Award-nominated recordings — Sweeney Todd (New York Philharmonic Special Editions) and Ligeti's Grand Macabre (Sony Classical) Glass-Salonen with the Master Chorale

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

Founded: 1964 as one of three original companies at the Music Center; now in its 41st season

Music Directors:

Grant Gershon, since 2001 Paul Salamunovich, 1991–2001 John Currie, 1986–1991 Roger Wagner, 1964–1986

Awards: ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming

Press: "the most exciting chorus in the country under Grant Gershon" — Los Angeles Times

"singing and direction are firstrate" — Billboard

"sonically exhilarating" — Gramophone

On disc: with Music Director Grant Gershon featuring Esa-Pekka Salonen's Two Songs to Poems of Ann Jäderlund and Philip Glass' Itaipu

with Music Director Emeritus
Paul Salamunovich includes the
Grammy-nominated Lauridsen—
Lux Aeterna, Christmas, and a
recording of Dominick Argento's
Te Deum and Maurice Duruflé's
Messe "Cum Jubilo."

motion picture soundtracks with Paul Salamunovich include A.I. Artificial Intelligence, My Best Friend's Wedding, The Sum of All Fears, Bram Stoker's Dracula and Waterworld





Grant Gershon | Music Director

The Rena Waltz Pierson Music Directorship, a gift of the Pierson and Lovelace Families to honor Lillian Lovelace's mother



dare to have boldness or courage; to meet defiantly; to be as bold as to say because one is prepared to affirm it; to venture to say because one thinks it likely

Tonight's performance is part of the Third Annual Daniel Pearl Music Day festivities. The Daniel Pearl Foundation was formed in memory of journalist Daniel Pearl to further the ideals that inspired Daniel's life and work. The foundation's mission is to promote crosscultural understanding through journalism, music, and innovative communications.

K-Mozart

K-Mozart 105.1 FM is the Official Radio Station of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Tonight's concert will be broadcast on Sunday, November 7 at

Latecomers will be seated at the first convenient pause in the performance. Use of tape recorders, telephones, pagers, and/or cameras is prohibited in the auditorium. Programs and artists subject to change. Patrons cannot be paged during a performance.

dare

Sunday, October 24, 2004 at 7 p.m. | Walt Disney Concert Hall

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Grant Gershon, conductor

Gloria Cheng, piano | Lisa Edwards, piano | Bryan Pezzone, piano | Vicki Ray, piano

Memor esto verbi tui

music by Josquin DesPrez

O think upon thy servant as concerning thy word

You Are (Variations)

music by Steve Reich

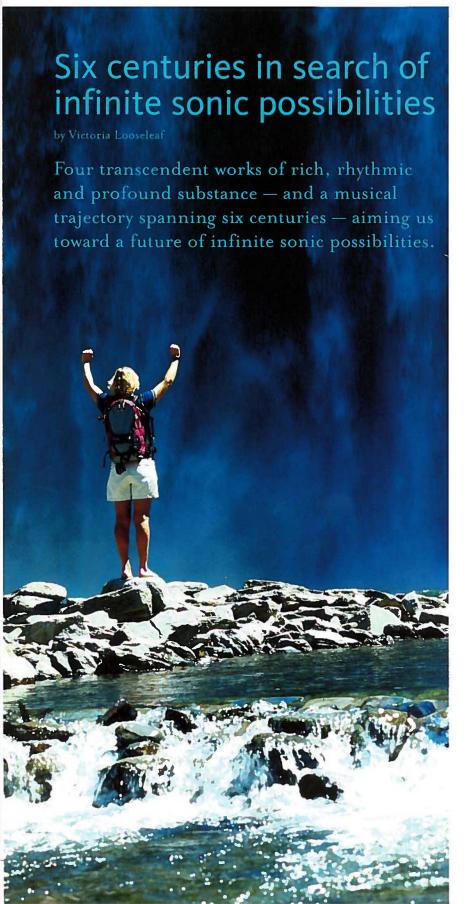
- 1. You are wherever your thoughts are
- 2. Shiviti Hashem L'negdi (1 place the Eternal before me)
- 3. Explanations come to an end somewhere
- 4. Ehmor m'aht, v'ahsay harbay (Say little and do much)
 World premiere

INTERMISSION

Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz Create in me, God, a clean heart music by Johannes Brahms

Symphony of Psalms in three parts, played without pause

music by Igor Stravinsky



f choruses are the new rap groups — gushing with provocative texts, throbbing rhythms and extravagant wall-of-sound harmonies — expectations are sure to be at fever pitch when a world premiere is about to be unleashed. Because the human voice, from sustained or staccato to transparent or tremolo, succeeds more than any other instrument in acting as a pipeline to the primeval, a harkening back to a collective mode of expression, it is uniquely able to soothe, transport and enlighten.

And while the 21st century continues to offer sonic technological feasts - where digital layering bumps up against samplers, remixers and an iPod mentality - all is trumped by the raw, emotional power of a voice. One need only look to Icelandic pop sensation Bjork, who might seem light years away from Renaissance composer Josquin DesPrez or the romanticisms of Johannes Brahms, to realize she's hooked up on a harmonic continuum to the past. With her latest album, Medulla, the Grammy Award-winning artist calls upon Schola Cantorum and Inuit throat-singer Tanya Tagaq for some of her startlingly original compositions. Comparisons to Igor Stravinsky and Steve Reich might seem less far afield. The Russian's pulsating rhythms, while not the stuff of dance clubs, is still Slavic at heart, one of Bjork's stated ambitions on this album. And, to conjure comparisons to Reich's amplified hypnotic sound universes, check out Bjork's organic yet synthetically deployed vocalese.

Memor esto verbi tui

music by Josquin DesPrez text from Psalms 118:49–64, translation by Miles Coverdale, 1535

There's nothing synthetic in the motets of Franco-Flemish polyphony expert Josquin. Often called the father of modern harmony, the composer, who lived from 1440–1521, counted among his patrons Italy's Sforza family and France's Louis XII. While he was considered willful and expensive to commission — the Usher of his day — he nevertheless was one of the first western composers to concentrate on the motet. Seeking inspiration from the Psalms, he found poetry there, setting

text in a straightforward fashion but with feeling. Though this was seen as a departure, it drew kudos from such diverse intellectuals as Rabelais and Luther. The motet Memor esto verbi tui was probably composed towards the end of Josquin's career. Featuring a typically small Renaissance choir of SATB (six voices to a part), it begins in strict canon between the basses and tenors, one beat apart. The austere becomes florid when the same rhythmic motif is heard in successive voices (sopranos and altos) on different beats of the bar. The two-section motet divides the text in half, with tenors and sopranos initiating the second part before all four voices sing in interlocking patterns. This contrapuntal overlap is not unlike that found in Reich. Indeed, it is this thinking outside the box - or the beat, as it were that helps weave the threads in this concert's rich tapestry.

Text for Memor esto verbi tui

Memor esto verbi tui servo tuo, in quo mihi spem dedisti.

Haec me consolata est in humilitate mea, quia eloquium tuum vivificavit me.

Superbi inique agebant usquequaque, a lege autem tua non declinavi.

Memor fui judiciorum tuorum a saeculo, Domine, et consolatus sum.

Defectio tenuit me, pro peccatoribus derelinquentibus legem tuam.

Cantabiles mihi errant justificationes tuae, in loco peregrinationis meae.

Memor fui nocte nominis tui, Domine, et custodivi legem tuam.

Haec facta est mihi, quia justificationes tuas exquisivi.

O think upon thy servant as concerning thy word, wherein thou hast caused me to put my trust.

For it is my comfort in my trouble, yea thy word quickeneth me.

The proud have me greatly in derision, yet shrank I not from thy law.

I remember thy everlasting judgments (O Lord) and am comforted.

I am horribly afraid for the ungodly that forsake thy law.

Thy statutes are my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

I think upon thy name (O Lord) in the night season, and keep thy law.

It is mine own, for I keep thy commandments.

Portio mea, Domine, dixi custodire legem tuam.

Deprecatus sum faciem tuam in toto corde meo, miserere mei secundum eloquium tuum.

Cogitavi vias meas, et converti pedes meos in testimonia tua.

Paratus sum, et non sum tur batus, ut custodiam mandata tua.

Funes peccatorum circumplexi sunt me, et legem tuam non sum oblitus.

Media nocte surgebam ad confitendum tibi, super judicia justificationis tuae.

Particeps ego sum omnium timentium te, et custodientium mandata tua.

Misericordia tua, Domini, plena est terra, justificationes tuas doce me.

Thou art my portion (O Lord)
I am purposed to keep thy law.

I make mine humble petition in thy presence with my whole heart,

O be merciful unto me according to thy word.

I call mine own ways to remembrance, and turn my feet in to thy testimonies.

I make haste and prolong not the time, to keep thy commandments.

The congregations of the ungodly have robbed me, but I forget not thy law.

At midnight stand I up to give thanks unto thee, for the judgments of thy righteousness.

I am a companion of all them that fear thee and keep thy commandments.

The earth (O Lord) is full of thy mercy, O teach me thy statutes.



JOSQUIN DesPREZ

Born: c. 1440 in northern France; **Died:** c. 1521, in Condésur-L'Escaut, France

Assignments: in Milan, 1459–1479, at the papal chapel in Rome, 1486–1494, by King Louis XII of France, at the court of the d'Estes in Ferrara and finally in his native region of Condé as Provost of the Collegiate Church

Music for the church: Eighteen Mass settings survive, including one using as a basic motif the well known secular song L'homme armé; one honouring his Ferrara patron, Duke Ercole d'Este, Hercules Dux Ferrarie, its motif based on the musical transliteration of its title, and the Missa Pange lingua, which uses the Latin hymn of the same name.

Josquin also wrote a large number of motets of equally faultless technique, the epitome of Renaissance musical achievement, among which may be mentioned Absalom, fili mi, Ave Maria gratia plena and his Stabat mater dolorosa.

Quotable: "Josquin is master of the notes, which must express what he desires; other choral composers must do what the notes dictate." — Martin Luther

Less than six degrees of separation: Josquin and Reich both use *L'homme armé*.



STEVE REICH

Born: October 3, 1936 in New York City

Press: "America's greatest living composer" — *The Village Voice*

"the most original musical thinker of our time" — The New Yorker

"among the great composers of the century" — The New York Times

"There's just a handful of living composers who can legitimately claim to have altered the direction of musical history and Steve Reich is one of them." — The Guardian (London)

Musical maverick: From his early taped speech pieces It's Gonna Rain (1965) and ComeOut (1966) to the digital video opera Three Tales (2002), Reich's path has embraced not only aspects of Western Classical music, but the structures, harmonies, and rhythms of non-Western and American vernacular music, particularly jazz.

Reich's 1988 piece, Different
Trains, in which speech recordings generate the musical material for musical instruments, was hailed by The New York Times as "a work of such astonishing originality that breakthrough seems the only possible description...
(It) possesses an absolutely harrowing emotional impact."

Awards: 1990 Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Composition for DifferentTrains as recorded by the Kronos Quartet on Nonesuch 1999 Grammy award for Music for 18 Musicians You Are (Variations)
music by Steve Reich

Composed in 2004. Scored for 3 soprano parts, 1 alto part and 2 tenor parts with 2 flutes, oboe, English horn, 3 B-flat clarinets, 4 pianos, 2 marimbas, 2 vibraphones and strings.

Approximate duration is 26 minutes. The piece was co-commissioned by the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Lincoln Center and the Ensemble Modern. Tonight's performance is the world premiere.

The use of Psalms is another unifying motif of tonight's program. Reich, at age 68, longed for a restorative — music free from technology — and his You Are (Variations), is both radical and a return to form. The first Reich composition to have its world premiere in Los Angeles, the four-movement work is scored for 18 singers and 24 instrumentalists (all amplified), and though the orchestration is physically downsized, it's not at the expense of sonic bling.

You Are (Variations) also recalls Reich's Jewish roots and his abiding interest in the philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein. In addition, all the texts, says Reich, who cites Stravinsky as a major influence, contain a truism. Opening with rhythmic urgency, the chorus sings the words of Rebbe Nachman, hurling the listener into a musical world akin to a spiritual rave, with exact canons working their magic much as Josquin's did, one beat apart. The second movement, from Psalm 16, also makes use of a text sung in Hebrew, with brilliant splashes of color marimbas, vibes and pianos - surging forward in constantly changing meters. In fact, it is the relentlessness of the four pianos, with their harmonic orgies, that unite the piece with a buoyant D major chord. The meditative third section offers fragments of Wittgenstein's text, with Reich employing brooding, minor harmonies as a gambit to complement his varying text repetitions. The final movement, which Reich calls a summation of the work, explodes into

an E-ticket ride tempo, propelling the music to an abrupt end: a shattering silence, a vision unveiled.

Text for You Are (Variations)

The work is in four movements with each movement a setting of a short text. The movements/texts are:

You are wherever your thoughts are

Shiviti Hashem L'negdi I place the Eternal before me

Explanations come to an end somewhere

Ehmor m'aht, v'ahsay harbay Say little and do much

From the composer

The first text is an English translation from Rebbe Nachman of Breslov, one of the most magnetic and profound of the late 18th century Hasidic mystics. The quote is from his *Likutey Moharan* 1:21.

The second text is from Psalm 16 in the original Hebrew and translates as "I place the Eternal before me."

The third is an English translation from the German of Ludwig Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations*.

The fourth quote is from Pirke Avot, one of the earliest parts of the Talmud and by far its most popular tractate. The Hebrew, from Rabbi Shammai, translates as "Say little and do much."

Since these texts are all quite brief, it is natural to repeat them with a somewhat different musical setting in each repeat. Hence variations were basically forced on me as a form by my choice of texts. The actual means of variation varies considerably.

Starting out, I made an harmonic ground plan with a short cycle of chords that would serve as the underpinning for all the variations, as has been done historically numerous times before. However, I found that upon completing the first setting of "You are wherever your thoughts are," the second time I started to vary

tonight I concert

the harmonies. As I went on, they departed further from the original ground plan. I frankly enjoyed this immensely since I was following spontaneous musical intuition. In the third variation there are quotes from "L'homme Armee," the popular song from the 14th century. Starting with the fifth variation I began piling all four pianos on top of each other with conflicting harmonies that produces something new and extremely energetic. In the sixth variation one may hear echos of James Brown.

The second text, in Hebrew, is sung and then immediately sung in canon which is then repeated and augmented creating a kind of slow motion canon with marimbas, vibes and pianos driving it on in constantly changing meters. After a short pause the slow third movement begins, varying the repetitions of its text in changing, often minor, harmonies. The last movement, again in Hebrew, returns to the original tempo and is composed of augmenting canons similar to the second movement.

What unites the piece harmonically is a constantly recurring D major dominant chord - usually with G, rather than A in the bass. This bright ray of D major light illuminates most of the piece, most intensely in the final movement.

- Steve Reich, August 2004



GLORIA CHENG, piano

Soloist and chamber artist: Los Angeles Philharmonic and its New Music Group, Ojai Festival 1989, 1992 and 1996, and appears annually on Pasadena's PianoSpheres series

Composers writing for her: John Adams, Pierre Boulez, Don Davis, Joan Huang, David Raksin, Terry Riley, Chinary Ung, Andrew Waggoner and Esa-Pekka Salonen.

On disc: music by Oliver Messiaen on Koch, works of John Adams and Terry Riley on

Telarc CD and Piano Dance: A 20th-Century Portrait.

Education: Economics degree from Stanford University, graduate degrees in Music from UCLA and USC.



LISA EDWARDS, piano

At the Chorale: pianist and music assistant Currently: chamber recitalist and vocal coach

Previous appearances: Los Angeles Philharmonic, Santa Barbara Symphony

Previous assignments: faculty positions at California State University Long Beach and Glendale Community College

Studies: North Texas State University and Masters of Music from University of Southern California



BRYAN PEZZONE, piano

Currently: Since 1987, piano faculty at California Institute of the Arts where he created the keyboard program

Pianist on virtually all of the cartoons released by Warner Brothers and Disney over the past six years

Conducts workshops on his comprehensive approach to improvisation

Consulting editor for Piano and Keyboard

Acclaim: One of the primary free-lance pianists for film and television soundtrack recording, contemporary music premieres

and chamber music accompanying. Excels in classical, contemporary, jazz and experimental genres

Appearances: Atlanta, Colorado, Pacific and San Antonio Symphonies; Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute Orchestra, tours with the jazz group Free Flight



VICKI RAY, piano

Currently: member of the California EAR Unit, Xtet, and Southwest Chamber Music Society; piano faculty at California Institute of the Arts since 1991.

Recent appearances: Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the German ensemble Compania and Blue Rider Ensemble of Toronto

Composers writing for her: Donald Crockett, John Adams, Paul Dresher and Arthur Jarvinen

Press: founding artist of PianoSpheres. Her recital in January, 1994 was hailed by Daniel Cariaga of the *Los Angeles Times* for displaying "that kind of musical thoroughness and technical panache that puts a composer's thought directly before the listener."

Awards: First place winner in the 1989 National Association of Composers USA competition for contemporary music performers

On disc: New World, CRI and Mode labels.

tonight & concert



JOHANNES BRAHMS

Born: May 7, 1833 in Hamburg; Died: April 3, 1897 in Vienna

Studied: piano from the age of seven and theory and composition (with Eduard Marxsen) from 13, gaining experience as an arranger for his father's light orchestra

Early years: In 1853, he met Joseph Joachim and Liszt; Joachim, who became a lifelong friend, encouraged him to meet Schumann. Brahms's artistic kinship with Robert Schumann and his profound romantic passion (later mellowing to veneration) for Clara Schumann, 14 years his elder, never left him.

Assignments:

1859, director of a Hamburg women's chorus 1863–4, director of Vienna Singakademie

1872–3, director of Vienna Gesellschaftskonzerte

Compositions:

Serenade No. 1, 1858

Piano Concerto No. 1, 1861 German Requiem, 1868 Alto Rhapsody, 1869 Schicksalslied, 1871 Variations on the St Antony Chorale, 1873 Symphony No. 1, 1876 Symphony No. 2, 1877 Violin Concerto, 1878 Academic Festival Overture, 1880 Piano Concerto No. 2, 1882

Piano Concerto No. 2, 1883 Symphony No. 3, 1883 Symphony No. 4, 1885 *Tragic Overture*, 1886 Double Concerto, 1887 Schaffe in mir Gott ein rein Herz music by Johannes Brahms text from Psalm 51:12-14 opus 29, number 2, composed in 1864

We can't know what George Bernard Shaw might have made of Reich's music, but referring to Johannes Brahms he said, "...the real Brahms is nothing more than a sentimental voluptuary with a wonderful ear..." That ear, fortunately, helped Brahms to compose Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz, (Create in me, God, a Pure Heart) from Psalm 51. In three sections, it is stamped with Brahmsian harmonies and embedded canons and makes use of the full chorale with the kind of rigorous counterpoint found in Reich and Josquin. It is also Brahms at his most Bach-influenced, with fugues to burn. Beginning with sopranos, the basses then enter, but four times slower. Tenors, also in canon, enter a bar later with the third fugue, a joyous one, redividing four voices (SATB) into a showpiece for the choir. Ending with a vibrato-laden, Germanic bang, the motet doesn't require one to know the precise harmonic and melodic intricacies in order to, well, feel the groove.

Text for Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz

Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz, und gibt mir einen neuen gewissen Geist.

Verwirf mich nicht von deinem Angesicht, und nimm deinen heiligen Geist nicht von mir.

Tröste mich wieder mit deiner Hilfe, und der freudige Geist erhalte mich.

Create in me, God, a clean heart, and renew in me a steadfast spirit.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Comfort me anew with Thy succor, and may a joyous spirit sustain me.

Symphony of Psalms

music by Igor Stravinsky composed at Nice and Charavines in 1930; commissioned by Serge Koussevitzky to celebrate the Boston Symphony's 50th anniversary; first performance at the Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels on December 13, 1930. American premiere in Boston on December 19, 1930. A revised version of the work was published in 1948.

Stravinsky once said, "My music is best understood by children and animals." Add to that quote anyone listening to Stravinsky's Symphony of Psalms. A formidably devout aural palette and hailed as one of the 20th century's most important pieces, it is also Stravinsky's first major religious score. Sung in Latin, it culls from Psalms 38 and 39 and makes use of the entire Psalm 150 ("Alleluia"). Stravinsky, more concerned with the syllables' sounds than the meaning of the words, dared cut up the texts, a precursor, perhaps, to the DJ scratchings found in today's house, or club, music.

The scoring also fascinates. Abandoning violins, violas and clarinets, Stravinsky opts for a wall of brass and winds - five flutes, five trumpets, three trombones and, lending the music an ancient air, four oboes and four bassoons. A harp ups the lyrical ante, while two pianos and tympani punctuate offbeat rhythmic accents. The first movement, its shortest, is a juxtaposition of recurring ostinato-like patterns, as descending thirds accompany the first entrance of the full chorus. Those same thirds serve as prelude to the double fugue of the second movement, recalling Bach, albeit turned sideways, with four fugal entries in the instrumental opening followed by the choir's entrance and a completely different fugue subject. The third movement, alternating minor and major thirds, opens with a gorgeous phrase of exalted devotion. The chorus, singing "Dominum," ends in a unison E-flat, followed by a barrage of E-major arpeggios and a hushed four-note rising figure

Stravinsky said was a depiction "of Elijah's chariot climbing into the Heavens."

Text for Symphony of Psalms

I — Psalm 38:13-14 (Vulgate)

Exaudi orationem meam, Domine. Et deprecationem meam. Auribus percipe lacrimas meas. Ne sileas.

Quoniam advena ego sum apud te et peregrinus, sicut omnes patres mei.

Remitte mihi, ut refrigerer prius quam abeam et amplius non ero.

I — Psalm 39:12-13 (King James)

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; and hold not Thy peace at my tears.

For I am a stranger with Thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were.

O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

II — Psalm 39:2-4 (Vulgate)

Expectans expectavi Dominum, et intendit, intendit mihi.

Et exaudivit preces meas: et eduxit me de lacu miseriae, et de luto faecis.

Et statuit super petram pedes meos: et direxit gressus meos.

Et immisit in os meum canticum novum, carmen Deo nostro.

Videbunt multi et timebunt: et sperabunt in Domino.

II - Psalm 40:1-3 (King James)

I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry.

He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

And He hath put a new song in my mouth, Even praise unto our God.

Many shall see it, and fear, And shall trust in the Lord.

III - Psalm 150 (Vulgate)

Alleluia.

Laudate Dominum in sanctis Ejus; laudate Eum in firmamento virtutis Ejus. Laudate Dominum.

Laudate Eum in virtutibus Ejus. Laudate Dominum in virtutibus Ejus. Laudate Dominum in sanctis Ejus.

Laudate Eum secundum multitudinem magnitudinis Ejus. Laudate Eum in sono tubae, laudate Eum.

Δlleluia

Laudate Dominum, Laudate Eum.

Laudate Eum in timpano et choro; laudate Eum in cordis et organo.

Laudate Eum in cymbalis, benesonantibus, laudate Eum in cymbalis jubilationibus.

Laudate Dominum. Laudate Eum. Omnis spiritus laudet Dominum. Omnis spiritus laduet Eum.

Alleluia. Laudate Dominum.

III - Psalm 150 (King James)

Praise ye the Lord.

Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise God.

Praise Him for His mighty acts. Praise God for His mighty acts. Praise God in His sanctuary.

Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet, praise him.

Praise ye the Lord. Praise God. Praise Him.

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Praise God. Praise Him. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Let everything that hath breath praise Him.

Praise ye the Lord. Praise God.



IGOR STRAVINSKY

Born: June 17, 1882 in Lomonosov, Russia;

Died: April 6, 1971 in New York

Studied: with Rimsky-Korsakov 1902–8, who was an influence on his early music

In Paris, with Dyagilev and the Ballets Russes The Firebird, 1910 Petrushka, 1911 The Rite of Spring, 1913

The driving pulsations of *The Rite* of *Spring* marked a crucial change in the nature of Western music.

In Switzerland, during World War I: Les noces (The Wedding), 1917 Reynard, 1916 The Soldier's Tale, 1918 Pulcinella, 1920

In Paris, 1920-1939 Symphonies of Wind Instruments, 1920 Mavra, 1922 Octet for wind instruments, Piano Concerto. 1924 Sonata for piano, 1924 Serenade in A. 1925 Oedipus rex, 1927 Apollon musagète, 1928 Capriccio, 1929 Symphony of Psalms, 1930 Violin Concerto, 1931 Perséphone, 1934 Ave Maria, 1934 Dumbarton Oaks Concerto, 1938 In 1939, Stravinsky moved to the USA, followed by Vera Sudeikina,

In 1940 they settled in Hollywood, which was henceforth their home.

who was to be his second wife

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Victoria Miskolcsky † Darren McCann † Catherine Reddish †

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

ctober is a particularly exciting month at the Center with all of the Resident Company seasons now underway; the month marks the first anniversary of Walt Disney Concert Hall, the start of our second season of DANCE *at the* MUSIC CENTER, and the start of the Music Center's 40th anniversary year.

The Los Angeles Philharmonic debuts the beautiful new pipe organ, designed by Frank Gehry and constructed by Manuel Rosales, at its gala and in a series of concerts that follow. Los Angeles Opera presents the final two performances of Academy Award-winner William Friedkin's new production of Ariadne auf Naxos and begins its run of Bizet's beloved Carmen later in the month. Center Theater Group's acclaimed production of Nothing But The Truth continues at the Mark Taper Forum as Little Shop of Horrors finishes its successful run at the Ahmanson Theatre. The Los Angeles Master Chorale will put the new organ through its paces at its season opening illumine on October 3. The second season of DANCE at the MUSIC CENTER kicks off on October 6 with performances by New York City Ballet and, later in the month, Garth Fagan Dance.

Complementing these marvelous performances, the Music Center presents several additional exciting and unique events this month. On October 9, the wildly popular World City performance series revs up a second season at the W.M. Keck Foundation Children's Amphitheatre with two performances for kids and families. Our new Dance Downtown! series moves on as salsa and swing dancing heat up the Music Center Plaza, so if you love to dance, put on your dancing shoes and dance for free under the stars. On Sunday, October 17, the First Annual Grand Avenue Festival kicks off at 11:00 a.m. Join this all-day family-fun party, the product of an exciting new collaboration

among 13 organizations, and enjoy music, performances, exhibitions, tours, art making activities and a Taste of Downtown.

We move into our second season in Walt Disney Concert Hall with several notable improvements. First, there is now improved exterior lighting, increasing both the evening ambiance of this architectural icon and the safety of our patrons. There is comfortable new furniture in the garden areas.

Over the summer we improved the amplification systems in the concert hall. Steven Hochman of the Los Angeles Times said of the summer Jason Mraz concert, "Though there have been concerns about the sound for nonclassical performance in the finely tuned acoustics of Disney Hall, the relatively spare approach (amplified acoustic guitar, subtle percussion) worked as well here as at any conventional pop facility."

The Concert Hall Café has been further enhanced, making it an even more comfortable and convenient dining experience. On select evenings music will greet guests stopping in for a post-concert aperitif or dessert. Patrons will also appreciate reduced prices on many of the delicious menu items.

When Dorothy Chandler and the civic leaders of Los Angeles opened the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in 1964, they did so with the dream that the Music Center would increase the vibrancy of the city center — forty years later the Center continues to bring new vitality to the heart of this metropolis.

Sincerely,

John B. Emerson Chairman, Music Center

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