

masterworks

Matters

MASTERWORKS CHORALE • TOLEDO, OHIO • NOVEMBER 2022

Mother & Child

Saturday, December 3 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, December 4 at 3 p.m.
Hope Lutheran Church
2201 Secor Road, Toledo

Please note the location!

Program

Noel, Smith arr. Holmes (b. 1956)



Ave Maria, Victoria (1548-1611)

Ave Maria, Forbes (b. 1957)

Ave Maria, Biebl (1906-2001)



Dixit Maria, Hassler (1564-1612)

Sweet Was the Song,

Mathias (1934-1992)

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine,

arr. Wilberg (b. 1955)

The Holly and the Ivy,

arr. Rutter (b. 1945)



Herself a Rose, Courtney (b. 1954)

There Is No Rose, Forbes

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming,

arr. Helvey (b. 1968)



Of the Father's Love Begotten,

Ijames (b. 1978)

Ding Dong! Merrily on High,

arr. Jennings (b. 1936)

Christmas Lullaby, Rutter



God Rest Ye Merry,

Gentlemen, arr. Ijames

The Work of Christmas, Forrest

(b. 1978)

Rejoice and Sing! Rutter



In the Bleak Mid-Winter,

Holst (1874-1934)

chorale's christmas concerts to celebrate mother & child

The Chorale will begin its fiftieth season with a beautiful Christmas program which explores the themes of mother and child and of the Holy Family. The concert will be held at a new venue: Hope Lutheran Church.

The concert will begin with pure joy expressed by voices, drums, and a cowbell in Holmes' arrangement of the Congolese song "Noel."

Three sets of pieces devoted to Mary follow (see listing to the left). The first group consists of three settings of the "Ave Maria." The Forbes setting is for women only. For Biebl's double-choir setting, the Chorale will be divided into two choirs: A small one, made up of nine sopranos and altos, will sing from the balcony at the back of the sanctuary. The rest of the Chorale will remain at the front. When the smaller choir responds to phrases of the prayer sung by the larger group, they truly sound like angels.

We hear the voice of Mary in the second grouping. In Hassler's "Dixit Maria," the Virgin tells the angel that she will submit totally to God's plan. In Mathias' "Sweet Was the Song," Mary sings gently to her baby. And in Mack Wilberg's setting of a traditional German song "Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine," Mary asks Joseph to rock the baby.

three sets of songs devoted to mary

The mysterious symbolism of the rose is explored in the third group of songs. Mary is the rose in Forbes' "There is No Rose."

However, in the two other pieces in the group, Courtney's setting of Christina Rossetti's poem "Herself a Rose" and Helvey's arrangement of "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," the rose represents both Mary and Jesus. That is, both mother and child.

Three seasonal favorites arranged or written by Rutter will complement Forrest's "The Work of Christmas," which reminds us that once the decorations are down, we must still "heal the broken" and "feed the hungry."

The Chorale's signature closing carol, Holst's "In the Bleak Mid-Winter," is a favorite of many audience members, and also of many of the Chorale's singers. As Alto Emily Georgeson wrote recently for the Chorale's forthcoming history book (see page 3), "The last line of the piece says, 'Yet, what I have I'll give him; Give my heart.'" Emily continued: "It's hard to fully describe just how meaningful it feels to sing those words as part of a musical family. But at the end of the day, I think the words sum up our purpose."

Please note the venue — different this year — and join us for this lovely concert! — Tom Sheehan, Tenor



our 50th anniversary celebration

"Connecting lives and celebrating singing: past, present, and future," our theme for this fiftieth anniversary year, sets the tone for this season. In addition to our three regular concerts, we are planning a special Cabaret Night Fundraiser at the Carranor Hunt & Polo Club in April. Also, a collaborative concert with the Clarence Smith Community Chorus, to be held at the Toledo Museum of Art in March, has the goal of promoting awareness and connection.

The fiftieth anniversary celebration is co-chaired by Sopranos Kate Mason-Wolf and Meghan Schmidbauer. Says Kate, "It's been wonderful to see so many Masterworks friends and members, past and current, come together to celebrate this momentous anniversary. From contributing to the history book, to helping with fundraising and event planning, it has truly been a collaborative effort, which makes the celebration that much more special."



*“this program is full of compositions
that are rewarding for the singer”*

Tim
Tim Cloeter,
Artistic Director

from the artistic director christmas concert connects past, present, future

The mission statement for our 50th anniversary celebration is “Connecting lives and celebrating singing: past, present, and future,” and I like how our first concert of this season illuminates every facet of that mission. First of all, a feeling of connection is fostered not only by repertoire that marvels at the extraordinary connection between parent and child, but also by the more intimate sanctuary at Hope Lutheran Church. (One of our members first heard Masterworks Chorale in this space, and that performance convinced her to join the ensemble!) I expect that these concerts will be marked by a closeness and warmth that connects singers to listeners; for instance, Biebl’s double-choir “Ave Maria” will include a choir in the balcony at the back of the nave, so that the audience will be surrounded by singing.

Biebl’s “Ave Maria” leads me to the next facet: “past.” This summer, thanks to the great work of our archivist Anne Morris, I was able to peruse nearly all of the past concert programs of Masterworks Chorale, dating back to 1973. Anne also maintains a list of pieces that have been repeated, and the Biebl is in the top tier of that list of historical favorites, having been performed six times since its composition in 1985, including on the Christmas Concerts of our 40th anniversary. Since I’ve never performed the piece with Masterworks Chorale, its presence on this program feels like a nod to the past. Another nod to the past will be my

invitation to Chorale alumni to join us in singing “In the Bleak Mid-Winter” at the end of the concert.

Regarding “present,” more than two thirds of the pieces on this program were created by composers who are yet living, and fully one third of the pieces were composed within the last decade. In “Of the Father’s Love Begotten,” one of the youngest composers on this program, Molly Ijames, creates a beautiful setting of the oldest tune on the program (a liturgical chant that dates from the eleventh century) that is a pleasure to sing. In fact, this program is full of compositions that are rewarding for the singer, and nearly two thirds of the pieces will be sung without keyboard accompaniment, giving us lots of opportunity to “celebrate singing.”

Lastly, there is “future,” and for this I draw your attention to Dan Forrest’s clear and sensitive setting of the poem “The Work of Christmas,” published in 1973 by the influential civil rights leader Howard Thurman. In this poem, Thurman urges us “To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations; To bring peace among brothers, To make music from the heart.” This anniversary is an opportunity to imagine our future, and to determine how we might break the bonds of injustice and discrimination in our community, establish peaceful cooperation, and pursue equity and inclusion with our music from the heart.

chorale soprano: maria kalantzis bg doctoral student finds community singing in chorale

Audiences at our Christmas Concerts last year will remember Maria Kalantzis’s rich soprano in her solo in “I Saw Three Ships.” Maria agreed to introduce herself in the following piece. Welcome, Maria!

Greetings! I am honored to write in this newsletter for Masterworks Chorale. My name is Maria Kalantzis (she/her), and I’m from Chicago, Illinois. I have been a choral singer since I was in eighth grade. In my undergraduate studies, I minored in music and sang with my university’s chamber group.

My grandmother, who immigrated to the United States in pursuit of a better life, inspired me to sing as she told me stories of how her singing with other immigrants at the community church provided unification and allyship in the face of discrimination.



Soprano Maria Kalantzis

I came to Bowling Green in 2020 to pursue my PhD. While I was enjoying my first year in grad school, I felt like there was a piece missing in my life. I was not finding community through singing and making art. Thus, I was honored to join Masterworks Chorale in 2021, and I believe that the space we hold for each other builds a community in spite of our differences. I am honored to sing with a group that makes music for the “greater good.”

My PhD studies are in clinical psychology. Currently, I’m in my third year in my grad school program, and my research pursuits are understanding sociocultural risk factors for eating and other psychology-related disorders. I hope to one day use my research as a tool to help marginalized groups, as well as to incorporate my values as a singer into my work as a future professor. All together, I am honored to share my story with other folks in the choir, and look forward to continuing singing with this wonderful group.

*chorale makes music
“for the greater good”*

sneak preview, chapter two of history of masterworks chorale; book coming soon 1980 to 1990: the chorale's years of transition and accomplishment

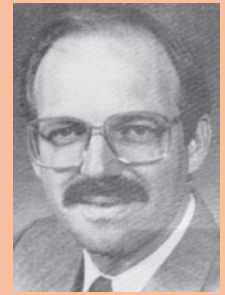
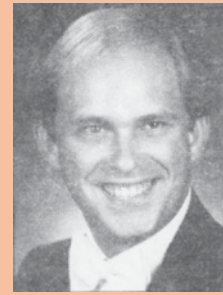
As part of the Chorale's 50th Anniversary Celebration, *Masterworks Chorale: Fifty Years of Connecting Lives Through Choral Music* will be published this fall (see ad below). The book includes factual articles, recollections by members and others as well as dozens of images and extensive appendices. The book is a collaboration by Bass Elliot Tramer, Tenor Tom Sheehan, and Archivist Anne Morris. Below is a preview of Chapter Two of the book, which covers the Chorale's transitional decade, the 1980s.

After the departure of Founding Director Ben Locke, the Chorale continued to expand its musical horizons and began to extend its reach into the wider community. In addition to our traditional three annual concerts, we began to seek opportunities to perform for diverse groups at different venues and times. During the 1980s, Chorale membership, which had grown steadily during the Locke years, became stabilized at about forty singers.

The Chorale's only LP, **CHORAL MUSIC BY WOMEN COMPOSERS**, was recorded in 1985 under the direction of Carol Poolman. It included works by Vittoria



Aleotti, Lili Boulanger, and Emma Lou Diemer as well as by three composers from Northwest Ohio, Elizabeth Gould, Marilyn Shrude, and Margaret Weber.



Three of the Chorale's conductors from 1980 to 1990: Carol Poolman, 1980–1985 (now Carol Tyson); Ken Sass, 1985–1986; and Dr. Terry Eder, 1987–1990. Terry also conducted the concert in December 1986. David Connell (not pictured) conducted the concert in March 1987, and Carol conducted the concert in June 1987.

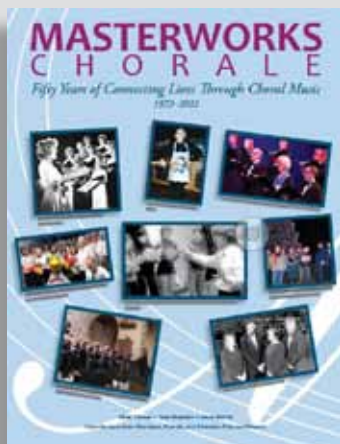


Fall 1986: **Floor:** Dick Entenmann, Terry Eder (director), Valrie Kantorski (accompanist), Brooke Taylor. **First row:** Jeanna Shade, Meg Keller, Linda Smith, Marilyn Eder, Lyn Miller, Diane Pribor. **Second row:** Martha Carver, Sigrid Mann, Martha Terrie, Nancy Verner, Joyce Lavoy. **Third Row:** Judy Spicker, Carol Winegar, Betsy Kolasky, Mark Smith, Ron McMaster, David Baar, Donna Myers. **Fourth row:** Steve Taylor, Lynn Israel, Bill Jones, Carolyn McMaster, Larry Winegar, Don Pribor. **Fifth Row:** Brian Burnett, Mark Haga, Anne Morris, Elliot Tramer*, Eileen Flower, Gary Miller, Susan Craig, Sandy Craig*, Dave Gruwell*.



*Still singing with the Chorale today!

Order Your Copy Today! Fifty Years of Connecting Lives Through Choral Music



This is a lively eighty-page history of Masterworks Chorale which includes twenty-five recollections by past and present members, friends, and directors as well as scores of images and extensive appendices. It's a great read and an important addition to our local history. Order yours today at masterworkstoledo.com or at a concert

outreach to youth intern evvie van vorhis to sing in chorale's christmas concerts

Evvie Van Vorhis is the Chorale's intern this fall. Evvie is in eighth grade at Bowling Green Middle School. Evvie's beautiful soprano voice is a product of passion, hard work, and years of lessons (she started at just six years old). It's no surprise that Evvie has amassed a list of accomplishments far beyond her thirteen years. Evvie was the youngest soloist to perform with the Toledo Symphony, and has performed the National Anthem at games for OSU, BGSU, UT and, most recently, the Cleveland Browns. In addition to these impressive solos, Evvie has a long list of theater credits to her name. She has performed in *Shrek*, *the Musical* (Young Fiona), *Lion King Jr.* (Young Nala), and *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* (Oracle), just to name a few. In addition to singing and theater, Evvie plays basketball for her junior high, all while maintaining straight A's! — Lindsay Andrews, Soprano and Evvie's Chorale mentor



Soprano Evvie Van Vorhis

50th MASTERWORKS CHORALE

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Masterworks Chorale connecting lives through choral music

masterworks *Matters*

Go Ahead! Slit the Seal! Here's What's Inside!

A preview of our Christmas Concert • A look at our 50th anniversary celebration • A sneak peak at our forthcoming book: *Masterworks Chorale: Fifty Years of Connecting Lives Through Choral Music* • An introduction to one of our sopranos, Maria Kalantzis • An introduction to our current intern • An inspiring message from our Artistic Director, Tim Cloeter

Mark Your Calendar and Join Us!

Heralding the Tree Lighting at the Toledo Zoo

Friday, November 18 at 6 p.m.

Our Christmas Concerts

Mother & Child

Saturday, December 3 at 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 4 at 3 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church

2201 Secor Road (at Indian Road), Toledo

Radio Broadcast of Mother & Child

Friday, December 23 at 2 p.m.

WGTE FM, 91.3

TV Broadcast of 2017 Christmas Concert

Christmas Day at 2:30 p.m.

WGTE HD

Collaborative Concert with the Clarence Smith Community Chorus

Saturday, March 4, at 3 p.m.

Toledo Museum of Art

Our Classics Concert

Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m.

Sylvania United Church of Christ

Cabaret Night Fundraiser

Tuesday, April 25 at 6 p.m.

Carranor Hunt & Polo Club

Our Connections Concert

Sunday, June 11 at 4 p.m.

Franciscan Center

Tickets

Tickets are \$20 or \$10 for students. Order at www.masterworkstoledo.com or call Meghan at (419) 742-2775.

Accessibility



If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please advise the Chorale's business office at (419) 742-2775 at least two weeks before the concert. For TYY/TDD use Ohio Relay Service 1 (800) 750-0750.

Contact the Chorale

PO Box 114, Toledo, OH 43697 • (419) 742-2775

www.masterworkstoledo.com

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We will continue to provide information regarding health safety requirements for performers and audience members. Visit www.masterworkstoledo.com for the latest details.



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