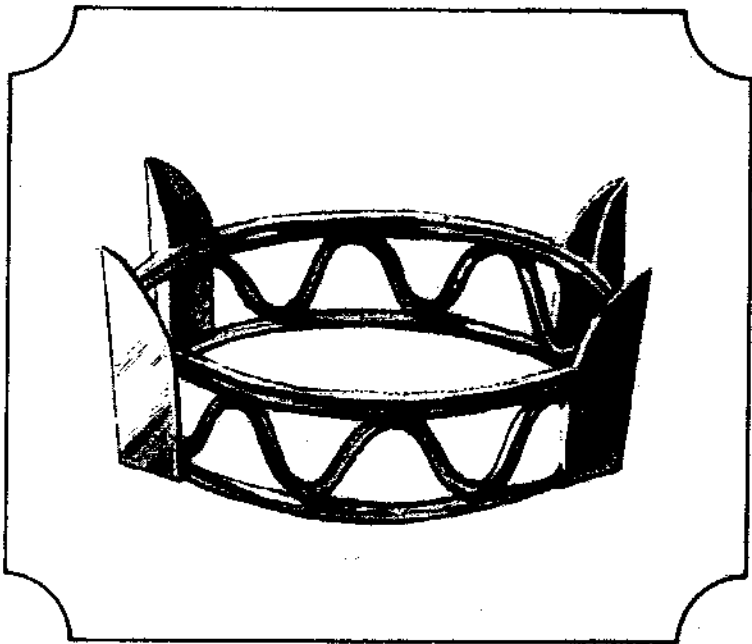


KING DAVID



Bucks County Choral Society

**March 8, 1992 - 4 p.m.
Zion Mennonite Church
Cherry Lane
Souderton, Pennsylvania**

**Elma Heckler, Director
Theresa Jaeschke, Accompanist**

Festive Arts Orchestra

**Bob Crawford, Narrator
Susan Whitesack, Soprano
Lawrence Hoening, Tenor
Catherine Blaine-Shover, Witch
Matthew Riley, boy David**

This performance is sponsored in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

KING DAVID

Arthur Honegger

FIRST PART

Introduction

Orchestra

The Song Of David, The Shepherd

Soprano, Matthew Riley

God shall be my shepherd kind, He shall be my staff and rod, He will keep me from alarm,
He will shield me from the wind, Restore my spirit again; Though the lightning play around,
Lead his lamb to pastures cool, E' on the darkest vale I trod Save me with His mighty arm,
Guide me to the quiet pool. Shall not be travelled in pain. The while, shelter me from harm;
Comfort I have found.

Psalm: "All Praise To Him"

Chorus

All praise to him, the Lord of glory,
The everlasting God, my helper,
He has avenged all my wrongs and my woes,
Any by his hand my people are made safe.

When hordes of heathens arose up against me,
By his right hand I felt myself sustained,
His thunder pealed on the heads of the foe,
Who in their malice sought my end.

Fanfare and Entry Of Goliath

Orchestra

Song Of Victory

Chorus

David is great! The Philistines o'er-thrown.
Chosen of God is he, succoured and unafraid.
Saul hath slain his thousands, and ten thousands David!

March

Orchestra

Psalm: "In The Lord I Put My Faith"

Tenor, Lawrence Hoenig

In the Lord I put my faith, I put my trust.
How say ye unto my soul: "Flee like any bird unto the mountain"?

For behold, evil is here,
And the wicked bend their bow,
That they may privily shoot them that are upright.

Psalm: "O Had I Wings Like A Dove"

Soprano, Cheryl Stitzinger

O had I wings like a dove,
Then would I fly away and be at rest.
Save in the tomb alone is there no comfort?
Is there no balm to heal this woe of mine?

Where shall I find for my head some safe shelter?
Morning and eve I pray and cry aloud.
The storm of my distress blows like the tempest,
Bearing to God my cries and my prayer.

Song Of The Prophets

Men of the Chorus

Man that is born of woman lives but a little while.
Which-ever way he turn, the path he must pursue
Is heavy to his feet.
He cometh up like grass, which in time shall
be mowed down.

He fleeth as a shadow,
And the place that once he knew remembers
him no more.

Psalm: "Pity Me, Lord"

Pity me, Lord, for I am weak!
A refuge and harbour I seek,
My weary head thy wings shall cover;
When will the endless night be over?
Pity me, Lord, for I am weak!

Tenor, Lawrence Hoening

My heart uprising
To hymn thy bounty all my days!
O sun, arise to lead me on,
That with my harp, the victory won,
I may return to sing a joyful song of praise!

Saul's Camp

Psalm: "God, The Lord Shall Be My Light"
God, the Lord shall be my light and my salvation;
What cause have I to fear?
God, the Lord shall be my strength in tribulation;
His help is ever near.

**Orchestra
Chorus**

~~Though wicked enemies came,~~
My foes who my flesh would fain devour,
Bright sword and lance they might claim,
Yet they stumble and fall upon that hour.

E'en though an host against me should rise,
I shall not be afraid;
From field of war the Lord will hear my cries,
And their arm shall be stayed.

Incantation Of The Witch Of Endor

The Witch, Catherine Blaine-Shover

By fire, by water, by speech and by wind, by sight and by sound; break thy chains, burst the locks which bind thee! Appear! 'Tis time! I call thee from Sheol's darkness. Return, and enter into the temple of mine doors! Appear! Give thy blood! Let the breath of life return to thy nostrils; come from the depths of the earth! Appear!

The fire burns me; the fire below! It enters into me, it searches the marrow of my bones. It pierces me, like a sharp sword. Arise! Appear! O, why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul!

March Of The Philistines

Lament Of Gilboa

Soprano, Janet Fryling

Contralto, Teresa Washam

Orchestra

Women of the Chorus

SECOND PART

Song Of The Daughters Of Israel

Women of the Chorus

Soprano, Marcia Lincoln-Heinz

Sister, oh sing thy song!
Never hath God forsaken us,
E'en in captivity,
Or in adversity
Chosen of him above,
On us now lights his love.
God the Lord comes to bless Israel.

The Dance Before The Ark

Chorus

The Angel, Susan Whittenack

Chorus

Mighty God!
Jehovah be with us!
O radiance of the morn,
And the splendour of noon!
Mighty God, be with us!

Soldiers

Many nations brought me to war,
Yet in Jehovah's name they were destroyed;
Compassed me round like bees that swarm,
Yet in Jehovah's name they were destroyed.
Each withered bush I set on fire;
In great Jehovah's name it was destroyed.
For he has shielded me from harm,
And his right hand has led me on,
Lord above, show thyself, and scatter all
our foes!

Priests (before the Ark)

Ope wide those doors that lead to Heaven!
Ope wide those gates that lead to justice!
For the righteous alone enter therein,
In those precious portals of God the Lord.

Maidens

Sing to the Lord, sing loud and long!
 Play on your instruments and dance!
 Give to the Lord glory and strength!
 Let the sea roar in its fullness,
 Yea, let the fields rejoice for gladness
 And the trees of the forest sing praises!
 In eternal light he abides,
 He hovers on wings of the wind,
 And his robe the roof of the earth.
 Hidden by clouds, there lies his dwelling,
 and 'mid the tempest, he hath spoken.
 Then magnify the Lord Creator!
 Praise to the holiest,
 Saviour of Israel!

Chorus

Mighty God!
 Jehovah be with us!
 The Angel
 Give ear, 'tis not for thee as king
 To build a house unto my name.
 Behold, a child is born to thee,
 And I will set him on thy throne.

And he shall be my Son,
 And I will be his Father.
 Then shall he build a house for my name,
 And Solomon he shall be called,
 That over Israel peace may reign.

Choir of Angels
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

INTERMISSION**THIRD PART****Song: "Now My Voice In Song Upsoaring"**

Now my voice in song upsoaring
 Shall loud proclaim my king afar.
 His wealth of splendor fast outpouring
 Shall put to nothing e'en the loveliest of star.

Chorus
 Pride of Adam's race that bore thee,
 A simple shepherd wont to sing,
 And yet surpassing all before thee,
 Thou hast been chosen by the Lord to be our King.

God will send thee sons to cherish
 Who shall inherit in their turn;
 Thy name in glory shall not perish,
 And all the people as their pastor
 Shall announce thee Master.

Song Of The Handmaid

Oh my love, take my hand,
 Let us wander the vale,
 Where the vine-leaves so frail,
 Promise fruit for the land!

Contralto, Teresa Washam

Nay, fair one, in this bower,
 As yet, no grapes to cull,
 But see, in splendour full
 The mandrake is in flower!

Psalm Of Penitence

Pity me, God, in my distress!
 Turn not away, but heal me again!
 Wash me of sin and cleanse me of shame
 And in thy hot displeasure, O chasten me not!

Chorus**Psalm: "Behold, In Evil I Was Born"**

Behold, in evil I was born.
 And in iniquity conceived.
 For thou desirest truth and goodness,
 And in the hidden part great wisdom.

Chorus

I have sinned, yea heavily transgressed.
 I have been shown the path to follow,
 And I have wandered from thy footsteps.
 Pity me, God in my distress!
 Pardon, Lord, the evil I have done!

Psalm: "O Shall I Raise Mine Eyes Unto The Mountains"

O shall I raise mine eyes unto the mountains,
 From whence should come my help?
 The Lord shall guide thy steps, going and coming,
 From henceforth, ever more.

Tenor, Lawrence Hoosig

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved,
 For he is on high, watching above;
 The Lord who is thy keeper
 neither stumbers nor sleeps.

The Song Of Ephraim

O thou forest of grief,
Where ravens seek their prey,
The fruit is gathered in
That hung upon thy boughs.

Soprano, Marcia Lincoln-Heinz
Women of the Chorus

Thy fruit, fiery as blood,
Was plucked by envious hands;
And must this be the price
And forfeit of a kiss?

March Of The Hebrews

Orchestra

Psalm: "Thee Will I Love, O Lord"

Chorus

Thee will I love, O Lord, who art my fortress,
Thou art my shield, the horn of my salvation.
God is my refuge safe, I trust in him,
My rock, my strength, my tower and my deliverer.

In him I find the solace that I long for;
He guideth my steps, that I may walk in comfort.
I call on him and invoke his aid,
And I am saved from my strong enemy.

When waves of death encompassed me,
And snares of men made me afraid,
Then did he send, and take me from above,
And drew me forth out of many waters.

Psalm: "In My Distress"

Chorus

In my distress then I cried to my God.
Sorrows of Hell did so compass me round.
Out of his temple he listened and heard,
E'en to his throne came my voice to his ears.

Suddenly, the earth did shake in its foundations,
The very hills moved and trembled, and broke,
From summit above to the foot of the vale,
So great the anger and wrath of the Lord!

The Crowning Of Solomon

Orchestra

The Death Of David

Chorus

The Angel
And God said: The day shall dawn
To bring a flower, newly born;
From thy stem in fullness growing,
In fragrance sweet, night and morn,
All my people shall adorn,
With breath of life bestowing.

Choir of Angels
Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE FESTIVE ARTS ORCHESTRA was founded in 1985. Its main goal is to make available to choirs in the tri-state area an orchestra with the highest standards of musicality and one with enthusiasm and appreciation for the choral arts.

Flute Ellen Finks Ellen Redman (piccolo)	Bassoon Karla Ekholm	Trombone Charles Hutchings
Oboe and English Horn Stephen Labiner	Horn Joan Dowlin	Bass Dennis Topper
Clarinet Kathleen Harrod Sherry Appgar (bass clarinet)	Trumpet Barbara Prugh Nancy Dowlin	Tympani Bruce Chaffin
		Percussion Florence Ierardi
Piano Theresa Jaeschke	Celeste and Harmonium Charles DeMets	

Arthur Honegger (1892-1955) was a Swiss-descendent composer born in France. He was a member of a group of composers referred to as "Les Six", which included Ravel, Satie, Durey, Tailleferre, and Honegger. These composers had a style of composition which was influenced by light music as well as jazz. This was in contrast with the styles of other well-known composers of the time such as Debussy, Wagner and Faure.

King David, a dramatic psalm, was first produced in Mesleres, Switzerland, in 1921. This original version, with text by French author Reese Morax, was performed as a stage work with a chamber ensemble. Honegger later enlarged the orchestra and Morax wrote narration to illustrate the drama. Then in 1925 King David was produced in New York as an oratorio.

The work is in three parts. The first describes the boy David, whom the Lord has chosen to succeed Saul as King of the twelve tribes of Israel. Saul embraces David, but trust and love soon turn to jealousy and anger as David grows in stature, and Saul tries to kill David, pursuing him into many desert hiding places. The music is often rough and archaic, purposely depicting the pre-Christian era and the rudeness of David's life in exile, always fleeing from Saul. The First Part closes with the Philistines' slaying of Saul at Gilboa. Saul's son, Jonathan, dearly loved by David, is also slain at Gilboa, and David's lament at their loss is one of the most poignant modern dirges.

David is proclaimed King; he establishes Jerusalem as his capitol, and the Second Part opens with the arrival of the Ark of the Covenant, which Moses brought from Mt. Sinai, and Joshua then brought to the temple at Shiloh, and which now, several hundred years later, David brings to Jerusalem. The "Dance Before The Ark" is the remainder of the Second Part: all Jerusalem, and the King himself dance and sing and rejoice wildly in the presence of the Ark. The rejoicing comes to a sudden end with an angel's foretelling that David's son, Solomon, will be chosen to build the temple to house the Ark. The angel's message is also the Messianic prophecy, and the chorus joins in a glorious blending of Alleluias, interweaving in the style of the great eighteenth century Protestant composers.

The Third Part describes David's reign, the entry of sin into his life, and his repentance before the Lord. David's son, Absalom, rises up against his father and is slain by David's chief captain at Ephraim. The Song of Ephraim, while shorter than the Lament of Gilboa, is equally poignant, and establishes a symmetry to the work. The following Crowning of Solomon and the Death of David are both of great beauty. In The Death of David, the angel restates the Messianic prophecy, the chorus repeats it and merges into the Alleluias from the "Dance Before The Ark." The basses repeat the prophecy under the Alleluias, much as a German chorale melody would appear in a Bach cantata. The Alleluias and prophecy swell to an ecstatic finale.

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Audrey Close:
345-9333.

About The Guest Musicians...

ELMA HECKLER, now in her fifteenth season with the Choral Society, holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Juniata College and Westminster Choir College where she was a conducting student of Joseph Flummerfeldt. She has taken additional study at Eastman School of Music and with Blaine Brown, Robert Page, and Dale Warland. Recently she was selected to participate in the Robert Shaw Choral Workshop held in January at Carnegie Hall. She is serving her second year on the Music Advisory Panel of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Mrs. Heckler maintains active membership in the American Choral Directors Association, the American Choral Foundation, and in Chorus America - the Association of Professional Vocal Ensembles.

TERESA JAESCHKE, a 1984 graduate of William Tennent High School in Bucks County, received her Bachelor's degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. There, she studied with department head Payllis Lehrer. Until 1990, she was on the Artist Faculty at Westminster Conservatory as both teacher and accompanist. Currently, Ms. Jaeschke is a Master's degree candidate majoring in Piano Accompanying and Vocal Coaching. As an accompanying major, she has worked and studied with such coaches as Martin Katz, Glenn Parker and Dalton Baldwin.

BOB CRAWFORD has been involved in both professional and community theater for nearly thirty years. He is a drama coach, a playwright, and his voice is heard on scores of radio-commercials each year. Mr. Crawford is a graduate of Leland Powers School of Radio, Television and Theatre in Boston. He lives in Mechanicsburg, near Harrisburg.

MATTHEW RILEY lives in Chalfont and is a fifth grader at Simon Butler Elementary School. He studies voice with Frances Watson at Biwood Studio, and piano at The Music Studio in Colmar. He rounds out his activities by participating in sports with the Lehigh Valley Recreational League. Matthew has performed the role of Amahl in Manotti's classic Epiphany opera ten times over the past three seasons, at local churches and at Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

LAWRENCE HOENIG holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University. He is currently director of choral and vocal music at Germantown Friends School and is the Associate Director of the Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia. He has recently performed as tenor soloist with the University of the Arts, the Choral Arts Society, the Music Group of Philadelphia, and the Aspen Music Festival. Mr. Hoenig's opera performances include the title roles in Gunther Schuller's *The Fisherman and his Wife* and Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring*.

CATHERINE BLAINE-SHOVER hails from the Harrisburg area. She is a six-year veteran of the popular Mundry/Mystery Weekends at the Allenberry Playhouse in Boiling Springs, and was last seen on the Allenberry stage as Cookie in *Rumors* and Mrs. Swettenham in *A Murder is Announced*. Ms. Blaine-Shover has made award-winning commercials.

SUSAN WHITENACK is a graduate of Smith College and the Eastman School of Music. She was a resident artist with the Cincinnati Opera in 1985-86, and in 1987 held a fellowship with the Aspen Opera Theatre Center. Ms. Whitenack has toured nationally and in Canada with the DeCormier Singers, the Norman Luboff Choir and the Dusing Singers. She performs in the Philadelphia area with the Camerata Opera Theatre and the Silver Dollar Singers, a cabaret group.

BUCKS COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY

Now in its nineteenth season, the Bucks County Choral Society has continuously grown and been refined into the select 60-voice ensemble that performs today. Its repertoire extends from the great choral masterpieces through contemporary and commissioned works. In 1988, the choir commissioned and premiered Pennsylvania composer Richard Wargo's *Voices in the Mist*. In the summer of 1992, the Society will inaugurate its 20th anniversary season with a second European tour. Choir members regularly participate in workshops whose clinicians have included outstanding choral directors such as Robert Page, Elaine Brown, Judith Nicosia Civitano, and Greg Funfgeld. The Society has performed with the Bucks County Symphony, the Delaware Valley Philharmonic, and the Orchestra Society of Philadelphia. Its concerts are supported by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, as well as community and business patrons.

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For further information about the Choral Society or to arrange an audition, please call membership chairman Mary Ernst at 860-9804.

* guest singers

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