

Elma Heckler
Joyce Goodwin
Elinor Armsby

Artistic Director
Accompanist
Assistant Director

► Michael Stairs

Organist

Lorie Gratis
Wilbert Boone

Mezzo-soprano
Baritone



MAY 10, 1996 – 8 P.M.
NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

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

Soloists for this performance are sponsored by CoreStates Bank.

MUSIC AT CZESTOCHOWA II

I.

REQUIEM, OP. 9

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Introit | 5. Pie Jesu |
| 2. Kyrie | 6. Agnus Dei |
| 3. Domine Jesu Christe | 7. Lux Aeterna |
| 4. Sanctus | 8. Libera Me |
| 9. In Paradisium | |

Lorie Gratis, mezzo; Wilbert Boone, baritone
Michael Stairs, organ

Born in Louviers, France, Maurice Duruflé studied organ with Charles Tournemire and Louis Vierne. He served as organist at Saint-Etienne-du-Mont, Paris, for 45 years, and appeared in recitals in Europe and America with his wife Marie-Madeleine Duruflé-Chevalier, also a highly accomplished and distinguished performer.

Duruflé was a reticent composer, the sum total of his completed works numbering only eleven. His extreme self-criticism was probably derived from his studies at the Paris Conservatory with Paul Dukas, whose published works are also few in number. Although Duruflé found composition a very difficult activity, the fluency and natural beauty of his music reveals evidence of strong spontaneity. His compositions were always influenced by the organ. The modes of Gregorian chant were a primary source for his expression and his music was greatly affected by the works of his countrymen-Debussy, Fauré, and Ravel.

Of the 11 compositions by Maurice Duruflé, the *Requiem* is the most complex and best-developed. Most of the movements are based on plainsong tunes which Duruflé has surrounded with lush impressionistic harmonies and colorful orchestrations. Instead of exploiting the fearfulness and gloom of the "Dies Irae" (Day of Judgment) prominent in the requiem settings of Berlioz and Verdi, Duruflé reaffirms the peace and hope of eternal life, following the example of his predecessor Gabriel Fauré. Completed in 1947, the *Requiem* was dedicated to the memory of the composer's father.

Introit

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.

Exaudi orationem meam,
ad te omnis caro veniet.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine upon them.
A hymn cometh Thee, O God, in Sion
and unto Thee shall a vow be paid in
Jerusalem.

Listen to my prayer.
unto Thee all flesh shall come.

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.

Domine Jesu Christe

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae,
libera animas omnium fidelium
defunctorum de poenis inferni,
et de profundo lacu;
libera eas de ore leonis,
ne absorbeat eas tartarus,
ne cadant in obscurum.

Sed signifer sanctus Michael
repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam.
Quam olim Abrahae promisisti
et semini ejus.

Hostias et preces tibi,
Domine, laudis offerimus;
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
quarum hodie memoriam facimus;
fac eas, Domine, de morte transire
as vitam.

Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Domine Deus Sabaoth,
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine.

Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Lux Aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine;
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,
quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine;
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Libera Me

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna,
in die illa tremenda:

Lord Jesus Christ, King of Glory,
deliver the souls of all the faithful
departed from infernal suffering
and from the bottomless abyss:
deliver them from the lion's mouth
that hell engulf them not,
that they sink not into darkness.

But let the standard-bearer St. Michael
lead them quickly in the holy light,
as of old Thou didst promise to
Abraham and his seed.

Sacrifices and prayers of praise
we offer to Thee, O Lord;
accept them for those souls
of whom we this day commemorate;
cause them, O Lord, to pass from
death to life.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the
Lord.

Blessed Jesus, O Lord, grant them rest.
Grant them rest everlasting.

Lamb of God,
who takest away the sins of the world,
grant them rest everlasting.

May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord,
with Thy saints in eternity,
because Thou art merciful.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord;
and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal
death upon that terrible day:

Quando coeli movendi sunt et terra:

Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.

Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,
dum discussio venerit,
atque ventura ira.

Quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.

Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis et
miseriae,

dies magna et amara valde.

Dum veneris judicare saeculum
per ignem.

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

When the heavens and earth shall be
moved:

When Thou shalt come to judge the world
by fire.

Trembling has laid hold of me, and I will
fear 'til the judgment shall have come,
and the wrath will have been come.

When the heavens and earth shall be
moved.

That day, day of wrath, of disaster,
and misery,

a great and exceedingly bitter day.

When Thou shalt come to judge the
world by fire,

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine upon them.

In Paradisum

In paradisum deducant te Angeli,
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam
Jerusalem.

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere
aeternam habeas requiem.

May the angels lead thee into Paradise;
may the martyrs receive thee at thy coming
and lead thee in to the holy city of
Jerusalem.

May the choir of angels receive thee,
and with Lazarus, who once was poor,
mayest thou have eternal rest.

A free will offering will be received.

INTERMISSION

II.

SANCTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus

Domine Deus Sabaoth,

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine.

Traditional Chant

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lord God of Hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the
Lord.

PLAUDITE OMNIS TERRA

Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)

Born in Venice, Giovanni Gabrieli spent much of his early life in the Bavarian court in Munich where he worked with Orlando di Lasso. In 1585 he was appointed organist at St. Marks' in Venice, succeeding his uncle and first teacher, Andrea Gabrieli. In his brilliant music for the services in the great cathedral, Giovanni was fond of using many choirs of voices plus choirs of instruments. His rich powerful music is full of colorful harmonies and lively rhythmic figures. Few composers have ever achieved such splendor and grandeur in musical tones.

Plaudite Omnis Terra, written for three choirs, was composed for a marriage celebration. The text is from Psalms 66, 67, and 68.

Plaudite, plaudite, psallite.
Jubilate Deo omnis terra.
Alleluja.

Clap, clap, sing.
Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands.
Alleluia.

Benedicant Dominum omnes gentes
collaudantes eum.
Alleluja.

Let the people praise thee, O God, let all the
people praise thee.
Alleluia.

Quia fecit nobiscum Dominus
misericordiam suam
Alleluja.

For God was merciful unto us.
Alleluia.

Et captivam duxit captivitatem;
Admirabilis et gloriosus in secula.
Alleluja.

He hath led captivity captive; wonderful and
glorious forever and ever.
Alleluia.

TOTUS TUUS

Henryk Mikolaj Górecki (b.1933)

Henryk Mikolaj Górecki, born in the village of Czernica in Poland's coal mining belt, studied composition at the State Higher School of Music in Katowice where he continues to live and work. His orchestral work *Scontri*, premiered in Warsaw in 1960, has established Górecki as a leading figure in the Polish avant-garde.

Totus Tuus was first performed in June 1987 by the Choir of the Warsaw Academy of Catholic Theology at High Mass held by Pope John Paul II in Victory Square, Warsaw.

Totus tuus sum, Maria,
Mater nostri Redemptoris,
Virgo dei, Virgo pia,
Mater mundi Salvatoris
Totus tuus sum, Maria!

Entirely yours I am, Mary,
Mother of our redemption,
Virgin of God, pious virgin,
Mother of the world's salvation.
Entirely yours I am, Mary!

THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

C. Thomas Schwalm (b.1942)

C. Thomas Schwalm, a native of Harrisburg, PA, is an acclaimed composer, conductor, pianist and organist. He currently serves as accompanist for the Susquehanna Chorale, Linda Tedford, artistic director.

The Prayer of St. Francis is one of the most frequently set texts in choral music. Mr. Schwalm dedicated this composition to Elizabeth ("Ma") Sonier and the Laurel Music Camp on the celebration of its 50th Anniversary in 1994.

Lord make me an instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy!

Oh Lord, grant that we seek not to be consoled, but to console;
Not to be understood, but to understand;
Not to be loved, but to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
In forgiving, as we are forgiven.
In pardoning that we are pardoned,
And in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

ALLELUIA

Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

Randall Thompson is one of America's best loved composers of choral music and the *Alleluia* is one of his most beloved works. This composition, written at the request of Dr. Serge Koussevitsky for the opening of the Berkshire Music Center, was first performed in July, 1940.



Out of courtesy to the performers, kindly refrain from using cameras or tape recorders.

The Bucks County Choral Society Music Award is presented this year to Neshaminy High School Senior, Matthew Agzigian, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Agzigian of Langhorne. The recipient of the annual award is chosen by audition from the first chair singers in the Bucks County Chorus. Matt's high school music teacher is Mr. Roy Nelson.

Special Thanks

To Shrine Director Father Stephen Wozniczka and the Czestochowa staff
for their assistance in the production of tonight's concert.

To Sue Cassel for the cover art.

ELMA HECKLER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

From a background as a church and school music director, Ms. Heckler became Artistic Director of the Choral Society in 1977, and has shepherded most of its growth and development. Her educational credits include a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Juniata College and a Masters degree in Choral Conducting from Westminster Choir College, as well as postgraduate courses at the University of Colorado and Eastman School of Music. Twice selected to participate in the Robert Shaw Choral Workshop at Carnegie Hall, she has also honed the conducting techniques taught by her graduate mentor, Joseph Flummerfelt, under the guidance of such noted choral conductors as Dale Warland, Gregg Smith, Paul Salamunovich and Robert Page. She is professionally active in the American Choral Directors Association, Chorus America, and was formerly a member of the opera/choral panel of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. She often shares her knowledge with other singing groups as a guest conductor or choral clinician.

JOYCE GOODWIN, ACCOMPANIST

In her maiden season with Bucks County Choral Society, Ms. Goodwin provides the group with that rare combination of great performance ability and sensitivity to the needs of choral singers. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from Pillsbury Baptist Bible College, her Bachelor of Science from Mankato State College and Master of Arts from Bob Jones University. She has served on the music faculty of two universities and has had many years experience as an accompanist, church pianist and church organist. Currently, in addition to her duties with the Choral Society, she teaches privately in her home in Pipersville.

MICHAEL STAIRS, organist, is a graduate of Westminster Choir College, and received an Artist's Diploma at the Curtis Institute of Music. He has played under Stokowski, Bernstein, Leinsdorf, and William Smith, and was appointed by Ricardo Muti in 1985 to do the organ work for the Philadelphia Orchestra. He was assistant Wanamaker organist from 1968 to 1988 and now serves on the board of the recently formed Friends of the Wanamaker Organ. He presently serves in the choral music department of the Haverford School.

LORIE GRATIS, mezzo-soprano, has won numerous competitions and awards, including the Bodky Early Music Competition, Musica Sacra's Bach Vocal Competition, the National Artist Award presented by the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and most recently the Young Artist Award from the National Federation of Music Clubs. She has recently recorded two Bach works, the *B Minor Mass* and the *Magnificat* and joined the Temple University Choirs and Orchestra under Louis Biava at the Academy of Music in April for Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. She has degrees from Westchester University, the Eastman School of Music, and the Curtis Institute of Music and is currently studying at Temple University.

WILBERT BOONE, lyric baritone, has performed recently in Purcell's opera *Dioclesian* with Karl Middleman and the Philadelphia Classical Symphony, Brahms' *A German Requiem* with the Princeton Chamber Symphony, and Hayden's *Creation* with the Corning (N.Y.) Philharmonic Society. In addition to singing with the Philadelphia Opera Chorus, Mr. Boone recently sang the Philadelphia premiere of John Adams' *The Wound Dresser* with Orchestra 2001 under James Freeman. He has also been a three-time performance fellowship recipient at the Bach Aria Festival at SUNY-Stony Brook and will return to Spoleto, Italy this year as a member of the Festival Chorus at the Festival of Two Worlds.

BUCKS COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY

From its first concert on June 3, 1973 featuring excerpts from "Brigadoon", the Bucks County Choral Society has steadily grown in size, accomplishment and prestige, attaining in 1993 the Lifetime Achievement Award in the Arts from the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce. The Society has brought to the area quality performances of renowned choral masterworks featuring outstanding soloists and instrumentalists, as well as adding to the choral repertoire by commissioning new works. By presenting each season an eclectic mixture of old and new, sacred and secular, short pieces as well as long, it has sought to attain its mission of "influencing and enriching the choral experience". Choir members participate each year in workshops led by such outstanding choral directors as Robert Page, Elaine Brown, Greg Funfgeld and Constantina Tsolainou. The choir has made three invitational singing tours abroad, and performed at home with the Bucks County Symphony, the Delaware Valley Philharmonic, The Orchestra Society of Philadelphia and the Festive Arts Orchestra. For the last two years, a co-concert in mid-October with Bright Hope Baptist Church Celestial (gospel) Choir has raised thousands of dollars for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Bucks; the choir is proud to be a part of this effort.

1995-1996 Membership List for Bucks County Choral Society

- *Barbara Adams, Sellersville
- Elinor Armsby, Philadelphia
- *Kathy R. Benner, Richboro
- Elizabeth K. Burke, Chalfont
- *Bud Cassel, Chalfont
- Doris W. Charles, Doylestown
- Eugene W. Chranowski, **Buckingham**
- Audrey E. Close, Doylestown
- Anne Colombo, Richboro
- Merrill M. Detweiler, Sellersville
- Cynthia L. Detwiler, Warminster
- *Jill Dulany, Souderton
- *Susan Eastburn, Chalfont
- Mary Ernst, Newtown
- Judith Fay, Hatfield
- D. Wayne Focht, Chalfont
- Philip J. Franchois, Perkasia
- Ruth A. Geiger, Doylestown
- Jack N. Graham, Maple Glen
- Donald E. Groff, Hatfield
- Catherine Guenzel, Willow Grove
- Lynne Guest, Richboro
- *David H. Gundrum, Richboro
- Elaine Harbin, Harleysville
- Roberta Harding, Perkasia
- Frances Hemstreet, Newtown
- Richard H. Hulbert, Doylestown
- Tony Islan, Newtown
- Suzanne Jenkins, Doylestown
- *Alan F. Johnson, Warminster
- Edward Johnson, Richboro
- Susan G. Johnson, Richboro
- Lori M. Jones, Harleysville
- *Carolyn Knower, Lansdale
- Paul Lewis, Hatfield
- Adam Luebke, Doylestown
- *Stephen W. Luebke, Doylestown
- Nancy S. Maul, Doylestown
- *Ladd S. McCoy, Chalfont
- Kay Mengers, Pipersville
- Juana Mestres, Yardley
- Bill Moore, New Britain
- Christie Moore, New Britain
- Lois H. Moore, New Britain
- Meryl Nelson, Hatfield
- Esther Paist, Newtown
- *Kathy Payne, Yardley
- Shirley K. Piercy, Furlong
- Jay Poko, Perkasia
- Christine M. Remiker, Doylestown
- **David Rhyne, Lansdale
- Kit Ruland, Richboro
- Mary L. Scherrer, Doylestown
- Patricia Seaver, Chalfont
- Marcy Spielvogel, Lansdale
- *Cheryl L. Stitzinger, Warrington
- Ron Tempest, Hatboro
- *Barbara Tull, Doylestown
- *Timothy Vogel, Langhorne
- **Joseph Voicheck, Lansdale
- Frances W. Waite, Doylestown
- Thomas G. Weidner, Chalfont
- Janet Whitfield, Harleysville
- J. Thomas Whitefield, Harleysville
- *Claudia Whittaker, Doylestown
- Patricia A. Winey, Warminster

**Chamber Singers of the Bucks County Choral Society **Guest Singers
To arrange an audition, please call membership chairperson Mary Ernst at 860-9804*