THE COMMITTEE OF CONCERN FOR ST. BONIFACE – SALEM

- presents -

THE COLUMBUS BOYCHOIR

"America's Singing Boys"

IN A BENEFIT CONCERT

♦

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1973

8:00 P.M.

SCOTTISH RITE AUDITORIUM

WILLIAMSPORT

PENNSYLVANIA

- Program -

VENI SANCTE SPIRITUS

W. A. Mozart (1756-91)

Mozart, at twelve, composed this delightful work – which nevertheless can be judged upon its own merits, not by the age of its composer. This is the song of a singing child who has nothing more precious to offer God than his song. However, on closer inspection of this scintillating work one can see that it is scrupulously modeled upon the sacred text, although gay and glory are the dominating themes.

VENI, DOMINE

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)

Translation:

Lord, descend to us! Hear us!

Tarry no longer. Asuage all the suffering of thy people, and gather the scattered unto thy dwelling.

O Lord employ for us Thy gracious power; Bring salvation down to us!

This is the Alleluia from the fourth Sunday in Advent read in Roman and Anglo-Catholic Churches.

SURREXIT PASTOR BONUS

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)

Translation:

A good and patient shepherd His soul he gave to save his sheep, And to bring us salvation!

For the flock he his life gave, In pain and suffering Alleluia!

From the ritual of the Easter Night Office.

THE ANGELS AND THE SHEPHERDS Zoltan Kodaly (1882-1967) Kodaly, a Hungarian composer and teacher, became famous for his choral works. This composition relates the story of the Angels telling the Shepherds of the birth of the Christ Child. Beginning in two parts—the Angels announcing "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth, good will toward men" to the finale of eight parts "Welcome, O Jesus, Lord and Master, Gloria!"

THE VIRGIN'S SLUMBER SONG (Maria Wiegenlied) Max Reger (1873-1916)

Translation:

Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child

While amid the treetops signs the breezes so warm and mild.

AVE MARIA

Johannes Brahms (1833-97)

A song of praise and supplication to the blessed Virgin Mary.

BENIGNE FAC (from the MISERERE)

Johann Adolf Hasse (1699-1783)

Although German by birth, Hasse was thoroughly Italian in his music. This excerpt makes clear the authentic style of Hasse's masterpiece, a model of vocal writing and enchanting sound effect.

Translation:

So, good Lord, in thy good pleasure unto Zion in thy pleasure: that thou mayest build the walls of Jerusalem. Thou shalt be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness and with burnt offering. Then shall they offer upon thy altar bullocks sacrificed upon thy altar.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

ONLY I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY

Charles Davidson (1928-)

Staging: Denis Rosa

A total of 15,000 children under the age of 15 passed through the Terezin Concentration Camp between the years 1942 and 1944. Here in this heartbreaking combination of word and song, we see reflected not only the daily misery of these uprooted children, but a degree of courage and optimism that is their triumph. Because Terezin served as a kind of way station to Auschwitz and other Nazi death camps, it was meant to be a model camp which foreigners could be shown, and it was actually called a ghetto. Yet every one of its inhabitants was condemned in advance to die.

When the children were herded with their parents into the so-called ghetto, they began to look around the strange world in which they were to live. They saw and heard everything that the grown-ups did: the endless queues, the funeral carts, and the human beings harnessed to pull them, the executions, and the shouts of the SS-men. But they saw other things, too: princesses with coronets, wizards and witches, insects with human faces, a land of happiness with cookies, candy and soda pop. All this they secretly drew and painted; and all this they described in their poem.

STANCHIN op. 135

The silent stillness of the night is broken by a Romeo saluting his Juliet to the accompaniment of a town band.

LIEBESLIEDER WALTZES, op. 52

Johannes Brahms (1833-97)

Originally scored for a four part quartet with four hand piano accompaniment, the entire collection consists of eighteen songs. The texts are translations of the poems from folk songs of Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Poland, Sicily, Serbia, Turkey, and Malaya.

WIE SCHON BIST DU

Franz Schubert

A SINGING OF ANGELS (selections to be announced) Charles Davidson

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