



The Pembroke Community Choir sings ...
with Chamber Orchestra

Christine Murphy, Soprano
Zoe Tarsh, Mezzo Soprano
Sarkis Barsemian, Tenor
Olivier Laquerre, Bass



G.F. Handel's
Messiah

SATURDAY
NOV. 25,
2000
8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY
NOV. 26,
2000
2:00 p.m.

FESTIVAL HALL

KEVIN NIEMAN - Director • DARLENE MILLAR - Accompanist

"For the Relief of the Prisoners in the several Gaols, and for the Support of Mercer's Hospital in Stephen's-street and of the Charitable Infirmary on the Inn's Quay, on Monday the 12th of April, will be performed at the Musick Hall in Fishamble-Street, Mr Handel's new Grand Oratorio, called the Messiah, in which the Gentlemen of the Choirs of both Cathedrals will assist, with some Concertos on the Organ, by Mr Handel." (In this fashion Dublin was introduced to one of the world's most magnificent works. *Enjoyment of Music, Machlis, Joseph.*)

In 1741, Georg Frederic Handel wrote *MESSIAH* in 24 days to the libretto by Charles Jennens. His servant apparently found him, after he had written the Hallelujah Chorus with tears streaming down his face. "I did think, I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself!" What an astonishing feat, considering Handel never intended *MESSIAH* to be anything but a commercial venture.

The meditation is more than a collection of biblical scriptures, it is a concise statement of the basic truths of the Christian faith. The *MESSIAH* celebrates the whole of Christ's life. The prophecy of his coming and the foretelling of his birth, in the Hebrew scriptures of Isaiah, to references in the New Testament, of Christ's life and crucifixion are chronicled. The final anthems refer to Revelations and the second coming.

In the beginning, *MESSIAH* was performed with small baroque orchestras and choirs. It was rescored fifty years later by Mozart, giving the inspiration for larger presentations involving thousands.

Although a religious tradition at Christmas, the world over, Jennens wrote the libretto for Passion Week, the week before Easter, which celebrates the totality of the Christian faith.

Although the intent was to produce an Entertainment for financial gain, the creators of *MESSIAH* gave the world a masterpiece. Of Georg Frederic Handel, Beethoven said, "He was the greatest of us all."

KEVIN NIEMAN, A.Mus. (Perf.) - Choral Director

Kevin is in his 16th year as the Choir's Choral Director. He is an associate of the Western Conservatory of Music, University of Western Ontario. His musical studies have included voice (solo performance), piano, organ, oboe and cello. Kevin has been choir director and choir director/organist for Christ Lutheran Church, Petawawa over the past 26 years, as well as musical director, performer and conductor for the Pembroke Musical Society.

DARLENE MILLAR - Rehearsal Accompanist

Darlene is an accomplished musician who has been associated with many musical organizations including the Pembroke Community Choir, Pembroke Musical Society, and Deep River Symphony Orchestra. Her range of instruments include piano, organ, harpsichord, and percussion. She has 22 years experience as a church organist, and has been the Organist/Choir Director at St. George's Protestant Chapel at CFB Petawawa since 1991. In addition to performing, Darlene enjoys composing and arranging music for piano, voice and woodwind instruments. Darlene and her husband Bob are both avid golfers, and members of the Canadian Ski Patrol.

Christine Murphy - Soprano

Christine Murphy is in her final year of Graduate Studies at McGill University majoring in Opera Performance. Her performances with Opera McGill include Mary Warren from Robert Ward's *The Crucible*, as well as the title role in scenes from Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance from the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, New York.

Her performances at the Crane School include Mimi in Puccini's *La Bohème*, Mother in Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Ottavia in Monteverdi's *l'Incoronazione di Poppea*, Soprano Soloist in Mozart's *Coronation Mass in C*, and she was a winner of the Crane Annual Concerto Competition. A student of William and Dixie Ross-Neill, she is currently preparing the role of Susanna for Opera McGill's production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*.

Zoe Tarshis - Mezzo-soprano

Zoe Tarshis is currently completing her first year of a Masters degree in Opera Performance at McGill. Zoe has most recently performed the alto solos in *Bach's B Minor Mass* with La Chapelle de Montreal. She has also sung the role of the Angel in Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* with the McGill Symphony Orchestra, and performed the role of Nicklausse in Offenbach's *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* with Opera McGill. Zoe recently made her radio debut with the CBC Jeunes Artistes program. With Toronto-based Opera Buffa, she has performed such roles as Zita in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and the Second Lady in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Zoe's upcoming performances include *Messiah* with La Chapelle de Montreal in December and the role of Marcellina in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Opera McGill in January.

Sarkis Barsemian - Tenor

Mr. Barsemian has recently completed his Bachelor's degree of Music, majoring in Voice Performance at McGill University. His latest performances in *Les Contes d'Hoffman* at McGill University cast him in four roles as Andres, Frantz, Pitichinaccio and Spalanzani. He has performed the roles of Fenton in *Falstaff*, Count Almaviva in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Prinz Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus* and Armand de Claval in *Thérèse*. He also performed in the North American premiere of von Suppe's operetta *Zehn Madchen und Kein Mann*. This season he appears with Choeur classique, Ottawa in *Bach's Magnificat*.

Olivier Laquerre - Baritone

Olivier Laquerre is completing his degree at McGill University where he has been working with Jan Simons since 1996. He won the prestigious Joseph Rouleau competition in the spring of 1999. He also won prizes at the Paris and Viviers International voice competitions and first place in the voice category at the National Music Festival in Winnipeg in the summer of 1999. He recently appeared with the Montreal Symphony with song cycles of Maurice Ravel and Hugo Wolf and with the "Studio de musique ancienne de Montreal", singing two secular cantatas by Handel. He has performed the Haydn *Creation*, the Bach *Magnificat*, the Verdi *Requiem*, Handel's *Samson and Messiah*, and Beethoven's *9th Symphony*.

PART I

1. Overture.....Orchestra
2. Comfort ye my people.....Tenor Recitative
3. Ev'ry valley shall be exalted.....Tenor Aria
4. And the glory of the Lord.....Chorus
5. Thus saith the Lord.....Baritone Recitative
6. But who may abide.....Baritone Aria
7. And He shall purify.....Chorus
8. Behold a virgin shall conceive.....Alto Recitative
9. O thou that tellest good tidings.....Alto Aria/Chorus
10. For behold, darkness shall cover.....Baritone Recitative
11. The people that walked in darkness.....Baritone Aria
12. For unto us a child is born.....Chorus
13. Pastoral Symphony.....Orchestra
14. There were shepherds.....Soprano Recitative
And lo! the angel of the Lord.....Soprano Recitative
15. And the angel said unto them.....Soprano Recitative
16. And suddenly there was with the angel.....Soprano Recitative
17. Glory to God in the highest.....Chorus
18. Rejoice greatly.....Soprano Aria
19. Then shall the eyes of the blind.....Alto Recitative
20. He shall feed His flock.....Alto and Soprano Aria
21. His yoke is easy.....Chorus

~ 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION ~

PART II

22. Behold the Lamb of God.....Chorus
23. He was despised.....Alto Aria
24. Surely, He hath borne our griefs.....Chorus
25. And with His stripes we are healed.....Quartet
26. All we like sheep.....Chorus
27. All they that see Him.....Tenor Recitative
28. He trusted in God.....Chorus
29. Thy rebuke hath broken His heart.....Tenor Recitative
30. Behold and see if there by any sorrow.....Tenor Aria
31. He was cut off out of the land.....Tenor Recitative
32. But Thou didst not leave.....Tenor Aria
33. Lift up your heads.....Chorus
34. Unto Which of the Angels said He at any time.....Tenor Recitative
35. Let all the angels of God worship Him.....Quartet
36. Thou Art Gone up on High.....Baritone Aria
37. The Lord gave the word.....Chorus
38. How beautiful are the feet.....Soprano Aria
39. Their sound is gone out.....Chorus
40. Why do the nations.....Baritone Aria
41. Let us break their bonds asunder.....Chorus
42. He that dwelleth in Heaven.....Tenor Recitative
43. Thou shalt break them.....Tenor Aria
44. Hallelujah! *AUDIENCE PLEASE RISE*.....Chorus

PART III

45. I know that my Redeemer liveth.....Soprano Aria
46. Since by man came death.....Quartet and Chorus
47. Behold, I tell you a mystery.....Baritone Recitative
48. The trumpet shall sound.....Baritone Aria
49. Then shall be brought to pass.....Alto Recitative
50. O death, where is thy sting?.....Alto & Tenor Duet
51. But thanks be to God.....Chorus
52. If God be for us.....Soprano Aria
53. Worthy is the Lamb.....Quartet and Chorus

THE PEMBROKE COMMUNITY CHOIR

SOPRANOS: Marjorie Alburger, Helen Bayne-Owens, Cathy Brennan, Judy Bucholtz-Valliant, Pat Charette, Carolyn Hepburn, Mary Hill, Elizabeth Ives-Ruyter, Joyce Kaiser, Karen Krause, Jackie Lian, Anne Livesey Fong, Suzanne Lortie, Eleanore Marion, Nellie Moores, Miriam Mottiar, Janet Pearson (Librarian), Sr. Loretta Rice, Wendy Surr, Dorothy Tario, Inge Vibe, Dawna Webber.

ALTOS: Eileen Barber (Ways and Means), Janet Brennan, Marion Burton, Wendy Donohue, Lynne Epps (Publicity), Norma Fiebig, Sandra Fleming, Ruth Grant, Maureen Havey, Shirley Jones, Maureen Kearns (Valley Arts Council Representative), Gaby Kumpat, Paulette Lacasse, Debbie Lamb, Adrienne Madill (Assistant Librarian), Reta McBean, Pam McNeil, Jane Mottershead (Treasurer), Charlotte Norcop, Julie Pick, Yvonne Powell, Christa Reitlingshoefer, Jill Renault, Pauline Sack, Janet Schultze-Jones, Margaret Thuemen, Sylvia Vandersluis, Evelyn VanStarkenburg, Barbara Vaudry, Diane Wolfgram.

TENORS: Maurice Armstrong (President), Tabitha Bucholtz-Valliant, Tom Cuthbert, Mark Ferrier, Lee Gallagher, Bentley Horne (Concert Chairperson), Lloyd Koch, Lynda Maher (Secretary), Robert Montminy, Tom Purvis, Betty Rowe, Bob Spadoni, Vidya Vijay (Social).

BASSES: Gordon Brandstadt (Historian), Charles Drew, Frank Egan, Don Healey, Gerald LaRonde, Jamie Loback, Al Lockley, Douglas Rickers, Larry Scales, Stanley VanderVelde, Harry Willoughby,

LIFE MEMBERS: Henry Akre, Ruth Grant, Joyce Moore.

MESSIAH 2000 ORCHESTRA

Violin I: Kirsten Waymann (Concertmaster), Caroline Kelly, Alison Arthur, Craig Stuart

Violin II: Lisa Wong, Kathy Hughes, Mico Schwartzentruber

Viola: Betty Lorimer, Peter Morris, Paul Schwartzentruber

Cello: Rosalyn Smith, Neil Dickson, Teo Schwartzentruber, Brandon Wilkie

Bass: Peter Kilpatrick, Kit Coleman

Trumpet: Gordon Tapp

Flute: Cheryl St. Elier, Erica Graham

Clarinet: Anne Dickson, Ted Clifford

Bassoon: Ann Serdula

Timpani: Trevor Grahl

Harpsichord: Darlene Millar

PATRONS

Sean Conway, MPP • Dr. John Epps • Margaret Gervais • Ruth Grant • Mary Hill • Kathleen Huckabone
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THE PEMBROKE COMMUNITY CHOIR, now in its 41st year, rehearses every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Wesley Community Church, 210 Renfrew St., Pembroke. New members are most welcome. They take part in the Kiwanis Music Festival. The Choir is a member of the Valley Arts Council and The Ontario Choral Federation.

Deep River Choral Group presents ...
"Greeting The Christmas Season"

Sunday, December 10, 2000
Child's Auditorium • Deep River
7:30 p.m.

Deep River Symphony Orchestra presents ...
"Celebration"

featuring Pembroke Violinist Lisa Wong
Saturday, December 16, 2000
Child's Auditorium • 8:00 p.m. • Deep River

**A Special Thank you to Cassidy's Transfer & Storage for storing our risers for us.
To Dan and all the guys, thanks again!**