MARCH 2010 2009 | 2010

BACH: ST. MATTHEW PASSION





performances



ANNOUNCING 2010 | 2011 SEASON



RACHMANINOFF ALL-NIGHT VIGIL Sun, Sep 26, 2010 at 7pm

Rachmaninoff | All-Night Vigil

FRENCH CONNECTIONS Sun, Nov. 7, 2010 at 7pm

Duruflé | Four Motets on Gregorian Themes Josquin | Missa Beata Virgine Janequin | 16th Century French Chansons Ravel | Trois Chansons

REJOICE! MESSIAH Sun, Dec 12, 2010, 7pm

Handel | Messiah arr. Mozart

LONDON BRIDGES Sun, Jan 30, 2011 at 7pm

Byrd | Four-Part Mass Britten | Missa Brevis in D Vaughan Williams | Five English Folk Songs Tavener | Song for Athene Britten | Hymn to St Cecilia

STORIES FROM KOREA Sun, Mar 6, 2011 at 7pm

with Jennifer Koh, violin Grey | Mugunghwa: Rose of Sharon

(world premiere) original and arranged Korean songs

THE CREATION Sun, Apr 10, 2011 at 7pm

Haydn | The Creation

ELLINGTON: BEST OF THE SACRED CONCERTS

Sun, May 22, 2011 at 7pm

with James Newton, co-conductor Jazz Orchestra, soloists and tap dancer Ellington | Best of the Sacred Concerts

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Christmas at Walt Disney Concert Hall: **HOLIDAY WONDERS** Sat, Dec 11, 2010 at 2:30pm

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Sun, Apr 11, 7 pm SOUNDSCAPE: MONK AND PÄRT

Fri, Apr 16, 1 pm HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR FESTIVAL Maria Guinand, Honor Choir Conductor

Sun, May 23, 7 pm AMERICANA

Guest Appearances

April 29, 30 | May 1, 2 LA Philharmonic Estévez: *Cantata Criolla*

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SOUNDSCAPE: MONK & PÄRT

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BACH: ST. MATTHEW PASSION

Sunday, March 7, at 7 pm

Walt Disney Concert Hall

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

Grant Gershon, Conductor Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra Los Angeles Children's Chorus

Pablo Corá: Evangelist Steve Pence: Jesus

Matthäus-Passion (St. Matthew Passion) JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

Erster Teil (Part I)

... INTERMISSION ...

Zweiter Teil (Part II)

SOLOISTS (Recitatives and Arias):

(in order of appearance)

Adriana Manfredi, MEZZO SOPRANO | Tamara Bevard, SOPRANO Deborah Mayhan, SOPRANO | Jon Lee Keenan, TENOR Abdiel Gonzalez, BARITONE | Leslie Inman, MEZZO SOPRANO Kristen Toedtman, MEZZO SOPRANO

CAST LIST:

(in order of appearance) Evangelist: Pablo Corá Jesus: Steve Pence Judas: Stephen Grimm Peter: Scott Graff

Witnesses: Kristen Toedtman | Daniel Chaney High Priests: Reid Bruton | Kevin Dalbey Maids: Risa Larson | Tracy Van Fleet

Pilate: Gregory Geiger Pilate's Wife: Ayana Haviv



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Members of the audience who leave during the performance will be shown back into the concert hall at the sole discretion of House Management.

PROGRAM NOTES

By Thomas May

BACH'S PASSION, HEAD AND HEART

The *St. Matthew Passion* reaffirms the power of art to transcend historical change. Felix Mendelssohn's legendary revival of the work in 1829 followed over a half-century of posthumous neglect, when the work was considered of marginal interest. News of the revival inspired Goethe to send Mendelssohn a congratulatory letter. "It is as if I heard the sea breaking in the distance," wrote the aged poet. *St. Matthew's* belated success deeply moved Goethe as evidence of the timeless afterlife of a masterpiece.

J.S. Bach himself clearly aimed to create something beyond the "occasion" of liturgical music intended for afternoon service on Good Friday. Although writing within a particular Lutheran tradition—one that had evolved into elaborate musical settings of the gospel story of Jesus' death—Bach planned the *St. Matthew Passion* on an unprecedented scale, surpassing the other great Passion of his Leipzig years, the *St. John* (the composer's obituary records a total of five Passion settings, but only these two have survived complete).

After its first performance—most likely April 11, 1727, at Leipzig's Thomaskirche—Bach revived the *St. Matthew Passion* several times, expanding its dimensions further in revisions he made for 1736. The composer even left a visual testimony of the unique regard in which he held the work. He prepared a complete autograph score in stunning calligraphy (based on the latter revival), using an emphatic red ink for the sacred text taken from scripture (chapters 26-27 of the *Gospel of Matthew*). Bach treated this score as a precious manuscript and painstakingly repaired damage it sustained years later.

The St. Matthew Passion is, on one level, a summa of Bach's art. In that sense, it anticipates the later B minor Mass, though St. Matthew is conceived on an even grander scale—not only in temporal dimensions but in terms of variety and the magnitude of performing forces. In addition to its large complement of soloists (who either play out the Passion story in recitative or reflect on what is happening), the score calls for double orchestra and double chorus, which Bach sometimes combines and sometimes opposes antiphonally. Another subchoir (children's voices in our performance) is added to the canvas in the two choral movements framing Part One. This extraordinary layout—originally conceived as a "site-specific" arrangement for the space of the Thomaskirche—adds another dimension to the decisions that any performance of the work must address.

In the case of the *St. Matthew Passion* (unlike *St. John*), Bach had the benefit of a close, trusted collaborator for his text—fellow Leipziger Christian Friedrich Henrici, who went by the pen name Picander. A civil servant in his day job, Picander was a prolific poet whose verse

Bach had previously set in several of his weekly cantatas. The libretto interweaves the sacred and unalterable scriptural narrative—in Luther's German translation—with two other elements: Picander's contemporary poetry, offering devotional reflections on the events unfolding, and texts from hymns that were familiar from regular liturgical usage (also known as chorales).

Bach uses a meticulously planned overall structure to articulate the Passion's sixty-eight separate movements. His design frequently evokes analogies with architecture, with the four great choral movements framing the first and second parts as "pillars" (you might even compare the childrens' choir that emerges from the opening chorus' intricate textures to light piercing through clerestory windows). The Passion narrative itself is mostly couched in recitative, guided by a tenor evangelist. Other singers assume the roles of particular gospel "characters," while the chorus also functions as various larger groups in the narrative, from the crowd (the so-called *turba*) to the disciples or centurions, for example.

In counterpoint to the narrative, Bach elaborates a series of arias, ten of which include particularly expressive recitative introductions, and fifteen chorales. Twelve of the latter are brief, self-contained hymns in four-part harmony, but three are incorporated into more complex and large-scale movements. Bach threads the melody from one of the chorales through the Passion on five separate occasions, slightly altering its tonality each time. For example, this tune frames the recitative in which Peter affirms his loyalty to Jesus but is heard a half-tone lower the second time.

The narrative plays out in fifteen scenes that pivot around six major events: the Last Supper and Jesus in Gethsemane (Part One) and the two stages of the trial, the Crucifixion, and the burial (Part Two). Picander's poetry and the chorale verses add a layer that crosses over from these past events to the present, supplementing the narrative "action" with contemplative commentary. Bach exploits this duality to masterful effect so that we are drawn deeply into the story, despite its familiarity, inviting us to reflect on its significance.

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The perspective continually shifts—between past and present, event and reflection, the crowd and the individual—in order to intensify a sense of immediacy. Consider the moment when Peter is forced to recognize the fact of his denial of Jesus (in Part Two). Already, on the narrative level, Bach evokes the emotional reality of the situation through his setting of the Evangelist's report, with a tortuous melisma on the words "and he cried bitterly." There, in compact recitative form, is the bald fact Bach's fellow worshippers knew so well from the scriptural source. But he follows this with one of the most memorable arias of the entire Passion, "Erbarme dich." An alto solo now steps forward—representing both a kind of imagined interior monologue—a reflection on Peter's state of mind—and the voice of humanity in the present, shattered by the experience of guilt. Bach's approach to vocal writing, with its demand for superhuman breath control, is sometimes described as "instrumental." Here that quality is especially apparent in the continuity of articulation between the alto and the solo violin, which in effect engage in a duet of profoundly grief-stricken intimacy.

The bass aria "Komm, sußes Kreuz" (later in Part Two) is another example of how Bach conflates past and present—the musical equivalent of a painter using perspective and color to dissolve the sense of separation from what's painted on the canvas. This moment in fact encapsulates the central paradox of the Passion. As Jesus approaches Golgotha with the cross, the singer attempts to "intersect" with the narrative, seeking a redemptive meaning for the present from this moment of suffering.

Bach's genius is to access this immediacy, at every moment, alongside the many other dimensions that operate throughout the Passion, including its more formal, "monumental" aspects and its function as sacred ritual. The massive opening double chorus announces this strategy in one of the most remarkable beginnings in all of music. Setting Picander's conceit of an allegorical dialogue between the Daughters of Zion and the Faithful, Bach unleashes a churning river of sound and endless melody, catching us up immediately in the tragic gravity of the situation. As the two choruses question and answer back and forth, Bach floats the first of his chorale melodies ("O Lamb of God Most Holy") above them. As Leonard Bernstein once described it, they cut "through the worldly pain with the icy-clear truth of redemption."

Redemption briefly surfaces, like a mirage, much later, in the score's most serene moment, the aria "Mache dich, mein Herze, rein." But the St. Matthew Passion is, by its nature, essentially grounded in the tragedy that must be experienced before that redemption can be effected. Another aspect of Bach's genius here is the variety of emotional truths he reveals beneath the predominant tone of tragic sorrow that the Passion reenacts. This is first apparent on the larger structural level. The Passion's is divided after the vigil on Gethsemane, rather than at the break that occurs between Matthew's two chapters. The two parts vary in overall character, effectively shifting from a philosophical to a dramatic perspective. Bach's setting of the moment when Jesus is arrested foreshadows the violence to come. The change in tone extends from nature (the

lightning and thunder that dramatically steal in with the choral interjections in "So ist mein Jesus nun gefangen") to the wounding of the High Priest's slave.

On a more local level, too, Bach applies an ongoing series of contrasts. Some of these involve shifts in timbral variety in the accompaniment to the arias. Indeed, so often is Bach associated with the intricacies of counterpoint and musical architecture—all splendidly in evidence here—that his mastery of timbral variety and texture sometimes goes uncredited. The pacing of the contemplative elements that punctuate the narrative also offers an element of contrast. Still other contrasts may be more subliminal (the result of subtle shifts in tonality, as in the five recurrences of the "Passion chorale").

Meanwhile, Bach infuses variety in his moment-by-moment word-painting of Picander's earthy, emotive imagery (this illustrative technique is sometimes referred to as "madrigalism" from its heritage in Renaissance masters). These range from various imitations of tears and weeping figures (in the Passion's very first aria, for example) to more symbolic devices, such as the descending motif in the concluding chorus to imply the burial of Jesus in the Sepulcher. An especially moving instance of Bach's attention to every dramatic detail can be found in his musical portrayal of Jesus himself. Throughout, his words (given in recitative) are accompanied by a ritual "aura" of string harmonies. But Bach emphasizes the moment of his utmost humanity and despair—at the words "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"—by removing this device.

The St. Matthew Passion is one of the few truly inexhaustible masterworks of Western art because it contains so much of Bach. His encyclopedic impulse led him to synthesize all he knows—from the most popular dance idioms of the day to esoteric numerological symbolism—in an awe-inspiring musical edifice that has consumed lifetimes of study. Yet in no other work of Bach's are head and heart so inextricably woven together, so that the Passion remains the ultimate musical enactment of compassion.

Thomas May writes frequently about the arts and is the program annotator for the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

Grant Gershon MUSIC DIRECTOR

"Master Chorale Director Grant Gershon captured perfectly the spirit of this work."

— CLASSICAL VOICE



Now in his ninth season, Grant has led more than 70 performances with the Chorale at Disney Hall. In addition to conducting acclaimed performances of the classics, he has expanded the choir's repertoire significantly by conducting a number of world premieres: *You Are (Variations)* by Steve Reich; *Requiem* by Christopher Rouse; *City of Dis* by Louis Andriessen; *Sang* by Eve Beglarian; *A Map of Los Angeles* by David O; *Spiral XII* by Chinary Ung; *Dream Variations* by Andrea Clearfield; *Music's Music* by Steven Sametz; *Voici le soir* by Morten Lauridsen; *Messages* and *Brief Eternity* by Bobby McFerrin and Roger Treece; *Broken Charms* by Donald Crockett; *Rezos (Prayers)* by Tania León.

Other appearances:

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Houston Grand Opera, Minnesota Opera, Utah Opera and Symphony, Juilliard Opera Theatre, Lincoln Center, Zankel Hall, Teatro Colón and music festivals in Edinburgh, Vienna, Helsinki, Ravinia, Rome, Madrid and Aspen. World premiere performances of *The Grapes of Wrath* by Ricky Ian Gordon and *Ceiling/Sky* by John Adams.

Other current assignment: Associate Conductor/Chorus Master at LA Opera; led all 8 performances of *La Traviata* with LA Opera in 2009

Previous assignments: Assistant Conductor for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Berlin Staatsoper, Salzburg Festival, Festival Aix-en-Provence **Member of:** USC Thornton School of Music Board of Advisors

On disc: Two Grammy Award ®-nominated recordings: Sweeney Todd (New York Philharmonic Special Editions) and Ligeti's Grand Macabre (Sony Classical); Glass-Salonen (RCM), You Are (Variations) (Nonesuch) and Daniel Variations (Nonesuch) with the Master Chorale; The Grapes of Wrath (PS Classics)

Prepared choruses for: Claudio Abbado, Pierre Boulez, Lorin Maazel, Zubin Mehta, Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Gustavo Dudamel

On film/tv: vocal soloist in *The* X-Files (I Want to Believe); conducted choral sessions for films I Am Legend, Charlie Wilson's War, Lady in the Water and License to Wed; accompanied Kiri Te Kanawa and Jose Carreras on *The Tonight Show*



Los Angeles Master Chorale

"The sound was glorious, clear and present...the singing was tight, and the hall's acoustics afforded a transparency that highlighted Bach's wondrous polyphony."

— THE DAILY NEWS

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Music Directors:

Grant Gershon, since 2001; Paul Salamunovich, 1991–2001; John Currie, 1986–1991; Roger Wagner, 1964–1986

Accomplishments: 26 commissions; 63 premieres of new works, of which 41 are World Premieres; ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming (1995 and 2003); Chorus America Education Outreach Award (2008) for Voices Within

In the community: in-school assemblies featuring the Los Angeles Master Chorale Chamber Singers involve and educate 10,000+ students annually; 10-week residency program Voices Within teaches songwriting and collaborative skills to more than 300 5th and 6th graders each year; annual High School Choir Festival celebrates its 21st anniversary in 2010

On disc: with Music Director Grant Gershon featuring Esa-Pekka Salonen's *Two Songs to Poems* of *Ann Jäderlund* and Philip Glass' *Itaipú*; and Steve Reich's *You Are* (Variations) and Daniel Variations.

ARTIST'S IPOD:

Michael Lichtenauer, Tenor Air, Andy Williams, Beastie Boys, The Carpenters, Chet Baker, Clara Ward, Kraftwerk, Poulenc, Green Day, Grizzly Bear, Led Zeppelin, MIA, Petula Clark, Pop Levi, Roisin Murphy, Prokofiev, Sergio Mendes, Stevie Wonder, Yello

With Music Director Emeritus Paul Salamunovich includes the Grammy Award®-nominated Lauridsen – Lux Aeterna, Christmas, and a recording of Dominick Argento's Te Deum and Maurice Duruflé's Messe "Cum Jubilo."

On film: Motion picture soundtracks with Grant Gershon include Lady in the Water, Click and License to Wed. Soundtracks with Paul Salamunovich include A.I. Artificial Intelligence, My Best Friend's Wedding, The Sum of All Fears, Bram Stoker's Dracula and Waterworld.

MASTER CHORALE PERFORMERS

SOPRANO

Tamara Bevard
Karen Hogle Brown
Claire Fedoruk
Rachelle Fox
Ayana Haviv
Susan Judy
Risa Larson
Lesley Leighton
Emily Lin
Deborah Mayhan

ALTO

Nicole Baker Amy Fogerson Leslie Inman Adriana Manfredi Alice Kirwan Murray Drea Pressley Niké St. Clair Nancy Sulahian Kimberly Switzer Kristen Toedtman Tracy Van Fleet

TENOR

Andrew Brown
Matthew Brown
Daniel Chaney
Jody Golightly
Jon Lee Keenan
Shawn Kirchner
Charles Lane
Michael Lichtenauer
Christian Marcoe
George Sterne

BASS

Joseph Bazyouros Mark Beasom Reid Bruton Kevin Dalbey Greg Davies Gregory Geiger Abdiel Gonzalez Scott Graff Steven Grimm Jim Raycroft

The singers of the Los Angeles Master Chorale are represented by the American Guild of Musical Artists, AFL-CIO; Leanna Brand, AGMA Delegate.

MUSICA ANGELICA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Martin Haselböck, Music Director

ORCHESTRA 1

VIOLIN 1 Cynthia Roberts Concertmaster Joel Pargman Maia Jasper

VIOLIN 2 Janet Strauss Principal Anne Rardin Jennifer Heilig

VIOLA Suzanna Goirdano-Gignac

Principal Renata Van der Vyver

CELLO William Skeen Principal Leif Woodward

VIOLONE Denise Briese Principal

FLUTE Mindy Rosenfeld Principal Sherrill Wood

OBOE, OBOE D'AMORE & OBOE DA CACCIA Debra Nagy

Principal Lani Spahr BASSOON

Kate van Orden Principal ORGAN

ORGAN Charles Sherman Principal

ORCHESTRA 2

VIOLIN 1 Rob Diggins Principal Neli Nikolaeva Adriana Zoppo

VIOLIN 2 Susan Feldman Principal Amy Wang Carrie Kennedy

VIOLA Ondine Young Principal James Bell

CELLO Elisabeth Le Guin Principal Alexandra Roedder

VIOLONE Josh Lee Principal

FLUTE Janet Beazley Principal Asunción Oieda

OBOE & OBOE D'AMORE Paul Sherman Principal Sand Dalton

BASSOON Charles Koster Principal

ORGAN Ian Pritchard Principal

LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Anne Tomlinson, Artistic Director

Rebecca Boman Justus Bradshaw Chesed Escobedo Annela Flores Caleb Glickman Giselle Inchaurregui Katherine Kim Clara Lemon Madeleine Lew Nicole Lussier **Avery Roberts** Sara Scheidemantle Ryan Schiller Gabrielle Smotrys Noah Sonderling Wesley Tani Nicole Toto

COMPOSER

Johann Sebastian Bach



- **B.** March 21, 1685, in Eisenach, Germany
- **D.** July 28, 1750, in Leipzig, Germany

Studied: with his father, Johann Ambrosius, who taught him the violin and trumpet, and with Johann Pachelbel

Assignments: 1700: chorister at the Michaelis monastery in Lüneberg; 1703-07: organist at the Neuekirche in Arnstadt; 1708: court organist and orchestra leader for the Duke of Sachsen-Weimar; 1717: Kapellmeister at Cothen; 1723: Kantor at the Thomas School in Leipzig

Best known for: *The Well-tempered Clavier*, a collection of 48 fugues and preludes which essentially standardized the practice of equally tempering keyboard instruments. J.S. Bach is also widely known for his works for unaccompanied violin and cello, his concerti, cantatas, and oratorios, among others.

Notable compositions: Well-tempered Clavier, Easter Oratorio, St. Matthew Passion, Christmas Oratorio, Jesu, meine Freude, Mass in B Minor

Quote: "The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." —J.S. Bach

Did you know LA Master Chorale has a blog?

That's right...and it's called **Our Voice**. In it you'll find notes from Grant about repertoire and the rehearsal process, excerpts of concert program notes, links to articles and reviews, composers' notes, musings from Los Angeles Master Chorale singers...and all sorts of information to enhance your concert experience and help you get to know this organization better. Visit **Our Voice** by linking from our website's home page (www. lamc.org) or going directly to the blog (www. lamc.org/ourvoice/). And if you have ideas about what you'd like to see there, please email them to Amy Fogerson, Program Book Coordinator, at afogerson@lamc.org.

SOLOISTS

Pablo Corá



Seasons with Chorale: 9

Hometown: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Previous Chorale solos: Handel's Messiah; J.S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Magnificat; Rachmaninoff's Liturgy of St. John

Education: BM Ithaca College; MM Indiana University

Chrysostom; Ariel Ramírez's Misa

Criolla and Navidad Nuestra

Opera performances: The Faerie Queen and Dido and Aeneas with Musica Angelica; Orphée in La Descente d'Orphée with Catacoustic Consort, Les Arts Florissants with Camerata Pacifica, Alfred in Die Fledermaus with the Rome Festival Orchestra

Has appeared as a guest artist and soloist with: Piffaro; Catacoustic Consort; Cappella Romana; The Concord Ensemble; Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra; Aguavá New Music; Theatre of Voices; The Pro Arte

Singers

Recordings: Cappella, Padilla:
Sun of Justice; gravitación, elements;
Los Angeles Master Chorale,
Steve Reich: Daniel Variations, Steve
Reich: You Are (Variations) and
Glass-Salonen; Pro Arte Singers,
William Byrd: The Three Masses;
Aguavá New Music, Itineraries of
the Night; Theatre of Voices, I am
the True Vine, Carols of the Old and
the New World, vol. 2, and Monastic
Song; The Concord Ensemble, The
Victory of Santiago and Il Trionfo
d'amore e della morte

Film/Television credits: License to Wed, Lady in the Water

Steve Pence



Seasons with Chorale: 5

Hometown: Costa Mesa, CA

Education: BM from Chapman University and two MM degrees from New England Conservatory

Previous Chorale solos: Bach's Christmas Oratorio; Handel's Messiah; Haydn's Creation Mass, Lord Nelson Mass, and Theresienmesse

Opera Performances: Sciarrone in *Tosca*, Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and Nonancourt in Nino Rota's *Il Cappello di Paglia di Firenze*

As a soloist: Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 at UCLA's Royce Hall with the American Youth Symphony, Britten's War Requiem with Cypress Masterworks, Walton's Belshazzar's Feast and Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem with the Cuesta Master Chorale, Bach's B Minor Mass with the Los Angeles Bach Festival, Mozart's Grand Mass in c-minor with the Orange County Catholic Chorale, Mendelssohn's Elijah with Lark Society

Tamara Bevard



Seasons with Chorale: 3

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Previous Chorale solos: Haydn's *Paukenmesse*, Handel's *Messiah*

Previous engagements: 8 seasons as a professional singer with the Chicago Symphony Chorus

Opera roles: Micaëla/Frasquita in *Carmen*, Sylviane in *The Merry Widow*, La Contessa di Ceprano in *Rigoletto*, First Sprite in *Die Zauberflöte*

Recent solo appearances:

Morton Feldman's Rothko Chapel with Jacaranda; Haydn's Theresienmesse in Rome and Florence with Nova Amadeus Orchestra and in Munich with the Seuddeutsche Kammer Philharmonie; Mozart's Requiem and Vesperae solennes de Confessore with the Praga Sinfonietta Orchestra in Prague, Vienna, and Budapest; Fauré's Requiem with the Santa Barbara Symphony and Illinois Chamber Symphony

Guest artist with: Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Northwest Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Deborah Mayhan SOPRANO



Seasons with Chorale: 8

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Previous Chorale solos: Handel's Messiah, Louis Andriessen's City Of Dis, Haydn's Harmoniemesse and Lord Nelson Mass, Mozart's Coronation Mass

Education: Bachelor Degree in voice from California State University, Northridge

Opera performances:

Marguerite in Gounod's Faust with West Bay Opera, Clorinda in Rossini's La Cenerentola with Opera Santa Barbara, The Voice in Beaumarchais' The Guilty Mother with Long Beach Opera

Guest appearance as a soloist:

Los Angeles Philharmonic conducted by Julian Kuerti, Santa Rosa Symphony conducted by Jeffrey Kahane, Opera a la Carte, Santa Barbara Choral Society, Pacific Chorale, New West Symphony, Claremont Chorale, Pasadena Pops Orchestra, Los Robles Master Chorale, Cuesta Master Chorale, Mendocino Music Festival

Recordings: As soloist in John Biggs' A Vocal Bouquet and A Choral Bouquet; her solo voice also appears in Disney Channel's made-for-TV movie The Proud Family and in the film The Virgin of Juarez

Awards and honors:

Metropolitan Opera Western Regional Finalist, Winner of the Los Angeles Artist of the Future Contest, Scholarship Participant at Israel Vocal Arts Institute in Tel Aviv

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Leslie Inman MEZZO SOPRANO



Seasons with Chorale: 14

Hometown: Balboa Beach and Temple City, CA

Previous Chorale solos: Handel's Messiah; Haydn's Theresienmesse, Creation, and Paukenmesse; Brahms Liebeslieder Walzer, Bach's B Minor Mass

Education: Chapman University, University of Southern California

Opera performances: Opera Pacific (Madama Butterfly, Turandot, Otello, La Bohème, I Pagliacci, Die Fledermaus), Opera Pacific Outreach Program, Dame Quickly from Falstaff (Festa Italiana at the Irvine Bowl), Southland Opera

As a soloist: Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Opera California, Pasadena Pops Orchestra

Recordings: Lauridsen: Lux Aeterna, Christmas, Argento: Te Deum and Glass-Salonen with the LAMC; Mahler 3rd Symphony with the Los Angeles Philharmonic; Cristal: Glass Music through the Ages and A Merry Little Christmas with Linda Ronstadt; These Are Special Times with Céline Dion

Musical theatre credits include: Hodel in Fiddler on the Roof, Anita in West Side Story, Mdme Ernestine von Liebedich in Little Mary Sunshine

Awards and Honors: Los Angeles Artist of the Future, Miriam Oppenheim Scholarship (USC), Orange County Opera Guild

Adriana Manfredi **MEZZO SOPRANO**



Seasons with Chorale: 8

Hometown: Costa Mesa, CA

Previous Chorale solos: Britten's Ceremony of Carols, Haydn's Harmoniemesse

Education: Oberlin College, California Institute of the Arts (CalArts)

Has appeared as a guest artist with: Long Beach Opera, Los Angeles Chamber Singers, Eighteen Squared, CalArts New Century Players

As a guest soloist: Tehillim by Steve Reich at Skirball Cultural Center

Opera Roles: The Frog/ Woodpecker in Janáček's The Cunning Little Vixen; Cherubino in Mozart's Le nozze di Figaro

Movie soundtracks include: Lady in the Water, Click

Has toured with: Helmuth Rilling, Bachakademie Festival Ensemble Stuttgart/Berlin

Kristen Toedtman

MEZZO SOPRANO



Seasons with Chorale: 3

Hometown: Baltimore, MD

Previous Chorale solo: Messiaen's Trois petites liturgies

Education: MM Vocal Performance from Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore; BM Vocal Performance from Indiana University Bloomington; Manhattan School of Music Prep Division (violin)

Performs regularly with: Concord Ensemble, Jacaranda Chamber Singers, the Kristen Toedtman Band

Opera performances: Second Lady in Mozart's Die Zauberflöte at Peabody

Has appeared as a guest artist with: Folger Consort, Chorale Bel Canto, as a back-up singer with The Brendan Hines band and Holly Conlan

As a soloist: Duo Encina, Handel Choir of Baltimore, St. Michael & All Angels Church

Recordings: The Fall, EP of original soul songs; I Am the True Vine (music of Arvo Pärt) and Carols from the Old & New Worlds with Paul Hillier & Pro Arte Singers on Harmonia Mundi

Has toured with: Concord Ensemble, Duo Encina

Film/Television credits include: Penned & recorded music for various television and radio advertisements

Jon Lee Keenan TENOR



Seasons with Chorale: 3

Hometown: Carson City, NV

Previous Chorale solos: Haydn's Theresienmesse, Handel's Messiah, Charpentier's Messe de minuit pour

Education: BM in Vocal Performance, Music Education, and Jazz Studies from UNLV; MM in Choral Conducting from CSULA (coursework completed); MM in Vocal Arts from USC; currently pursuing a DMA in Vocal Arts at USC

Opera Performances: Fenton in Falstaff (in Cagli, Italy), Male Chorus in The Rape of Lucretia (USC Thornton Opera), Tamino in The Magic Flute with Opera Nova (Santa Monica), Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni, Camille in The Merry Widow, Rinuccio in Gianni Schicchi

Recordings: Featured soloist with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale on Christmas in Santa Fe

Also known as: an accomplished jazz bassist

SOLOISTS CONT...

Abdiel Gonzalez **BARITONE**



Seasons with Chorale: 2 Hometown: Riverside, CA

Previous Chorale solos: Handel's Messiah, Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols, Maestro Dinner, Copland's The Boatman's Dance

Education: BA in Music from La Sierra University

Opera Performances: include Papageno in Die Zauberflöte, Enrico in Lucia di Lammermoor, Shrike in Miss Lonelyhearts, Mercutio in Roméo et Julliette, Pandolfe in Cendrillon, Athanaël in Thaïs, Morales in Carmen, Guglielmo in Così fan Tutte, King Melchior in Amahl and the Night Visitors, Pirate King in The Pirates of Penzance, Ko-Ko in The Mikado, Slook in La Cambiale di Matrimonio, Gasparro in Rita

As a soloist: Orff's Carmina Burana, Fauré's Requiem, Stravinsky's Pulcinella with the Debut Orchestra

Has toured with: Opera A La Carte and Orange County Opera

Musical theatre credits include: Don Quixote in Man of La Mancha, Perchik in Fiddler on the Roof, Levi and the Butler in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Awards and Honors: 1st Place in the San Diego District Metropolitan National Council Auditions; 1st Place in the Opera 100 Competition; Vocal Fellow at the Music Academy of the West, Summer 2008

GUEST ARTISTS

Musica Angelica **Baroque Orchestra GUEST ORCHESTRA**

Music Director: Martin Haselböck

Regarded as: Southern California's premiere Baroque ensemble

Founded in: 1993 by lutenist Michael Eagan and gambist Mark Chatfield

Has collaborated with: Los Angeles Opera, Long Beach Opera, J. Paul Getty Museum, Norton Simon Museum, Wiener Akademie of Vienna



Last LAMC appearance: Bach B Minor Mass, March, 2008

First international tour: performing Bach's St. Matthew Passion in 2007, with stops in New York, Austria, Mexico, Hungary, Spain, Italy, Germany

Recordings: 1998's Vivaldi Concertos for Lute, Oboe, Violin and Strings; 2007's release on the New Classical Adventure label of Handel's Acis and Galatea



Music Director: Anne Tomlinson

Founded: 1986

Has appeared with: LA Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Pasadena Symphony, Southwest Chamber Music, Calder



Commissions include: the choral opera Keepers of the Night by Peter Ash and Donald Sturrock (world premiere performances conducted by Grant Gershon); Dona nobis pacem/Give Us Peace by former LAMC singer Paul Gibson; Jubilant the Music, a work for multiple children's choirs and full orchestra by Ruth Watson Henderson

Has toured in: Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Germany, Italy, Australia, Canada, Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Poland, China, and Brazil and many parts of the United States

Has performed for: the Emperor and Empress of Japan, former British Prime Minister Margaret Thacher, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, The Grammy Awards® show, the Tonight Show

Awards: named "2003 Artists of the Year" by the Los Angeles Opera League

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THANK YOU!

Walt Disney Concert Hall has had a tremendous impact on the Los Angeles Master Chorale, playing a significant role in our recent success. This building – which is a magnificent work of art in its own right – will always be an integral part of our organization's artistic vision. The Chorale's residency has attracted the best singers, encouraged Music Director Grant Gershon to program concerts that take advantage of both the exceptional acoustic and creative architectural aspects of the concert hall, and has heightened the Chorale's national and international profile in ways that would not have otherwise been accomplished. Everyone affiliated with our organization feels an immense gratitude and a powerful attachment to this extraordinary concert home.

Responding to these experiences, the Chorale's Board of Directors authorized a \$1 million institutional pledge in support of the Walt Disney Concert Hall construction campaign. This important and unprecedented gesture was made both as recognition of the Chorale's historic accomplishments and as an investment in its very bright future.

The people listed to the right have made gifts and pledges in support of our capital pledge, in addition to their annual fund contributions. Their leadership and generosity tangibly demonstrate their recognition of the concert hall's impact and their belief in the Chorale's future.

We invite you to join them in this very special show of support for the Los Angeles Master Chorale in its home – Walt Disney Concert Hall. Once our \$1 million goal is reached, donors of \$10,000 or more will enjoy architectural recognition in Choral Hall or in the Garden – a permanent acknowledgment of their generosity, commitment and foresight. To further explore the ways in which you can join these individuals in their leadership as patrons of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, please contact Ilean Rogers, Director of Development, at 213.972.3138 or irogers@lamc.org.

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Tricia MacLaren and Philip A. Swan photo: Lee Salem

"Many people believe that the concept of endowment, particularly planned giving, is for older, more established individuals, but Tricia and I learned that there are benefits for younger couples as well. Current endowment contributions supplement the Chorale's annual operating needs by providing immediate endowment income and, on a long-term basis, they safeguard the future."

- Philip A. Swan

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n at the Music Ce

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

WEDNESDAY MARCH 3

Music Center Bravo Awards 4:30 PM

Grand Hall, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

8:00 PM

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

The Subject Was Roses 8:00 PM CTG / Mark Taper Forum

THURSDAY, MARCH 4 8:00 PM

Conlon Conducts Prokofiev

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM Dreamairls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses CTG / Mark Taper Forum

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

11:00 AM

TSFY Beethoven's in the House LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

2:00 PM Dreamgirls

& 8:00 PM CTG / Ahmanson Theater

2:30 PM The Subject Was Roses

& 8:00 PM CTG / Mark Taper Forum

8:00 PM Conlon Conducts Prokofiev LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

SUNDAY, MARCH 7 1:00 PM Dreamairls

& 6:30 PM CTG / Ahmanson Theater

1:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

& 6:30 PM CTG / Mark Taper Forum

2:00 PM Conlon Conducts Prokofiev

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

7:00 PM Bach: St. Matthew Passion

> LA Master Chorale / Walt Disney Concert Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

Green Umbrella: Focus On Eötvös 8:00 PM

LA Phil New Music Group

Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

The Subject Was Roses 8:00 PM

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

FRIDAY MARCH 12

de Waart Conducts 8:00 PM

Beethoven and Strauss LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall 8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

2:30 PM The Subject Was Roses & 8:00 PM

8:00 PM de Waart Conducts

Beethoven and Strauss LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

1:00 PM & 6:30 PM

2:00 PM

Dreamgirls CTG / Ahmanson Theater

1:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

& 6:30 PM CTG / Mark Taper Forum

de Waart Conducts

Beethoven and Strauss LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

Organ Recital Hector Olivera 7:30 PM

Presented by LA Phil /

Walt Disney Concert Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 15

8:00 PM Keith Jarrett

Presented by LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

8:00 PM Chamber Music with Lars Vogt

and members of LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

8:00 PM

8:00 PM A Medieval Ladymass

Presented by LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

Dreamairls CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

THURSDAY, MARCH 18 8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

Vogt Plays Gried 8:00 PM

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Vogt Plays Grieg 11:00 AM

Dreamairls

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

& 12:30 PM

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM Keali'i Reichel

Presented by LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

The Subject Was Roses

CTG / Mark Taper Forum

SATURDAY, MARCH 20 11:00 AM World City at the Music Center—Bolivia

> Corazon De America & Andes Manta W.M. Keck Amphitheatre /

Walt Disney Concert Hall

2:00 PM Dreamgirls

& 8:00 PM CTG / Ahmanson Theater 2:00 PM The Subject Was Roses

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

1:00 PM Dreamgirls

& 6:30 PM CTG / Ahmanson Theater

The Subject Was Roses 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM CTG / Mark Taper Forum

Presented by LA Phil /

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

8:00 PM Emanuel Ax and Dawn Upshaw in Recital

Presented by LA Phil /

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Ax Plays Chopin

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM Dreamgirls

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

FRIDAYY, MARCH 26

Ax Plays Chopin

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

Music Center Plaza

Ax Plays Chopin

2:00 PM Dreamgirls

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

& 6:30 PM CTG / Ahmanson Theater

Chamber Music with Emanuel Ax and members of the LA Phil /

Walt Disney Concert Hall

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31 8:00 PM

CTG / Ahmanson Theater

Through the Board of Supervisors, the County of Los Angeles plays an invaluable role in the successful operation of the Music Center. We applaud the Supervisors: Don Knabe, Chair; Michael D. Antonovich; Gloria Molina; Mark Ridley-Thomas; Zev Yaroslavsky and William T Fujioka, CEO, Los Angeles County.

8:00 PM Al Jarreau — Dee Dee Bridgewater

Walt Disney Concert Hall

Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM Dreamairls

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 27 11:00 AM

A Taste of Dance Active Arts at the Music Center /

2:00 PM

LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

& 8:00 PM CTG / Ahmanson Theater

Dreamairls 1:00 PM

8:00 PM Presented by LA Phil / Walt Disney Concert Hall

8:00 PM Dreamairls