

Cantopi

Robert L. Harris, conductor

presents

Chorus Lite

An Evening of Humor in Choral Music

March 3, 1997

8:00 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church

presented in conjunction with

Savannah on Stage

program

I

Fa una canzone

Orazio Vecchi
(1550-1605)

Sing me a song without a note of sadness...

El Grillo

Josquin Des Prez
(1450-1521)

This song about a particularly vocal cricket, chirping hither and yon, is said to be a satirical reference to a local priest who "chirped" a bit too much about what he heard in the confessional.

Contrapunto bestiale alla mente

Adriano Banchieri
(1568-1634)

In the "Counterpoint of the animals" the bass is pompously intoning "If a braggart be good, write it in the history books," while the surrounding animals provide nature's counterpoint.

Bonzorno, Madonna

Antonio Scandello
(1517-1580)

Canticle I - Noah

anon.

This unpublished "gem" came from Bill Ives, a long-time member of the King's Singers. While some suspect that Ives' sense of humor is stamped all over the piece, it's author has (wisely?) chosen to remain anonymous.

Der Kuckuck auf dem Zaune sass

Johann Stephani
(c1560-1616)

This selection describes a cookoo bird who manages to get wet while singing and then flies away.

Raymond R. Ellis, jr. **cookoo I**
Randy Canady, **cookoo II**

Begone Dull Care

arr. Gordon Jacob

A 20th century arrangement in madrigal style which sums up the mood of our evening quite well.

II

Italian Salad

Genee/Rowley

A musical jest in the form of the Finale to an Italian Opera
Daniel C. Cohen, baritone

III

Geographical Fugue (1930)

Ernst Toch
(1887-1964)

Ernst Toch was an Austrian-born, naturalized American citizen who, among other compositions wrote music for 32 motion pictures. This work, although spoken throughout, is actually a traditionally constructed fugue, with sequential development, augmentation, diminution and other "tricks of the trade" more commonly associated with the masters of the Baroque.

Auction Cries (1972)

John Biggs

The late John Biggs was a California composer who wrote many choral works with distinctly American themes. The text for *Auction Cries* comes from auction advertisements which appeared in the Emporia (Kansas) Gazette.

intermission

a brief pause for the temporary restoration of sanity

IV

Alouette (France)

arr. Bertalot

Galbally Farmer (Ireland)

arr. Sandler

Bells

arr. Harris

Polly-Wolly-Doodle (USA)

arr. Gail Kubik

Sonia-Belle Yoder; Billy-Bob Wooten; Nat "Fishman" Roper

V

My Bonnie Lass She Smelleth from "The Triumphs of Thusnelda"

**P.D.Q. Bach
(1807-1742?)**

This work was "discovered" and "edited with feeling" by Professor Peter Schickele. Dr. Schickele is preparing a piece in a somewhat more serious vein which I Cantori will premier next season.

Please, Kind Sir from "The Art of the Ground Round"

This round is a dialogue between a young suitor and the father of his intended.

Nathaniel Roper, baritone

Jody Turner, tenor

VI

The Goldfish Song

John Klein

For some unknown reason this "classic" of the choral art is permanently out of print! The soloist in this piece was selected, not only for her vocal skill, but also for her ability to physically portray the deeper meaning of the text.

Mimi Ellis, soprano

Love Lost

Paul Sjolund

**One Perfect Rose
When You're Away
Careless Talk
Your Little Hands**

Quick We Have But a Second

Charles V. Stanford

I Cantori

soprano

**Peggy Breese
Mimi Ellis
Mari Harris
Diane R. O'Brien
Stacie O'Connor
Beth Pafford
Elizabeth van Beest**

alto

**Charlotte Caplan
Linda Estes
Carol Gray
Lori Wacker
Sonia W. Yoder**

tenor

**Randy Canady
Raymond R. Ellis, jr.
Nathaniel Roper
Jody Turner
Timothy Wheelles
Billy Wooten**

bass

**Darien C. Bohannon
Daniel C. Cohen
Jeff Herrin
Gene L. Jarvis
Gregory Allen Johnson**

**manager
treasurer
wardrobe**

**Diane O'Brien
Raymond R. Ellis, jr.
Anita Turner**

acknowledgments

St. John's Episcopal Church
Fr. William Ralston, rector
Kenneth Yates, choirmaster

Armstrong Atlantic State University
Dr. James Anderson
Dr. Chris White

On-Site Sound

Viewfinder Consulting - Melissa Emery

Becky Bowden - The Anderson Group

Sponsorship contributions can be designated for use in support of the I Cantori Scholarship in Choral Music. This award, which covers full tuition for one year, goes to an outstanding music student at Armstrong Atlantic University who is preparing for a career in choral music. The award winner for 1996-97 is Darren Harrison. The past winner is Sonia Yoder.

I Cantori also welcomes support for our ongoing project of commissioning new compositions by eminent choral composers. In 1995 we premiered "Four Fragments from John Donne" by Daniel Pinkham. Last Spring we had the honor of presenting the first performance of "And the White Rose Is a Dove" which was commissioned from Williametta Spencer. In December we presented the premier of "Hodie" by Vaclav Nehlybel.

This Spring we will premier a new work based on the Beatitudes which we have commissioned from the Czech composer, Zdenek Lukas. I Cantori had the honor of premiering his "Requiem" four years ago. Peter Schickele has been commissioned for a new work for March of 1998. We are also joining with Temple Mickve Israel in commissioning a new setting of the Jewish Sacred Service by the Republic of Georgian composer, Joseph Bardanashvili. Significant donors can have their name included in the printed edition of the work when it is published. Any support is most welcome. For more information call 925-7866.

We would like to add your name to our mailing list so that we can inform you of upcoming concerts. Won't you please take the time to fill in the information on the form enclosed in tonight's program and give it to an usher or to one of the singers.