

## Acknowledgements

### Guest artists:

Heidi Bindhammer, soprano  
Sarah Schenkman, 'cello  
Nancy Gates, piano  
Jessica Scribner, flute  
Jason Onks, oboe  
Amanda Davidson, clarinet  
Peter Berquist, bass

Temple Mickve Israel

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

### Accommodations:

Dresser Palmer House

### Piano Rental:

Jerry Roberson Piano Inc.

### Recording:

Sonare Recordings, Rich Mays

### I Cantori Logo:

Gene L. Jarvis

### Graphic Design:

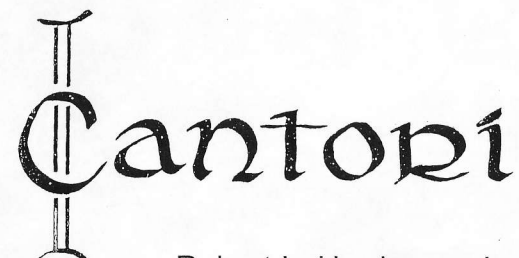
Big House Graphics  
Steve Mousourakis

### Officers:

Randy Canady, manager  
Raymond R. Ellis, treasurer  
Peggy Breese, publicity  
Matthew Kanneberg, publicity  
Billy Wooten, publicity

### Special Friends:

Gregory Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Breese  
Billy Wooten



Robert L. Harris, conductor

presents

# A 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## The Music of Boniam Shur

May 21, 2006

Temple Mickve Israel

## A Celebration of the Music of Bonia Shur

### Mah Tov

How goodly are your tents, Jacob, your dwelling places,  
Israel! As for me, through your abundant kindness I will  
enter Your house; I will prostrate myself toward Your Holy  
Sanctuary in awe of you. O Lord, I love the House where  
You dwell. and the place where Your glory tabernacles. I  
shall prostrate myself and bow; I shall kneel before the Lord  
my Maker. As for me, may my prayer to You, Lord, be at a  
favorable time; O God, in Your abundant kindness, answer me  
with the truth of Your salvation!

### La Rosa

Heidi Bindhammer, soprano

The roses bloom, in the month of March.  
But my soul's full of gloom, suffering in love.

The nightingales sing and are sighing in love.  
The passion will kill me, multiply my pain.

Come faster, of dove, Come faster to me,  
Come faster, my soul, Because I shall die.

### Come Join Me

Come join me in my dance.  
Ya yam baba biribiribam . . .

### Kohelet (Ecclesiastes)

Heather Smith, soprano

Denise Norman, mezzo soprano

Jack Van Eck, baritone

The words of Kohelet, son of David, King in Jerusalem.  
Utter futility! – said Kohelet – Utter futility! All is futile!  
What real value is there for a human being in all the gains one  
makes beneath the sun? One generation goes, another comes,  
but the earth remains the same forever, The sun rises and the  
sun sets – and glides back to where it rises.  
Southward blowing, turning northward, ever turning blows  
the wind; on its rounds the wind returns.  
All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full; to the  
Place (from) which they flow the streams flow back again.  
All such things are wearisome; no one can ever state them;  
The eye never has enough of seeing, nor the ear enough of hearing.  
Only that shall happen which has happened, only that occur  
Which has occurred; there is nothing new beneath the sun.

A season is set for everything, a time for every experience under heaven.  
 A time for being born and a time for dying,  
     a time for planting and a time for uprooting the planted;  
 A time for slaying and a time for healing,  
     a time for tearing down and a time for building;  
 A time for weeping and a time for laughing,  
     a time for wailing and a time for dancing;  
 A time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones  
     a time for embracing and a time for shunning embraces.  
 A time for seeking and a time for losing,  
     a time for keeping and a time for discarding;  
 A time for ripping and a time for sewing,  
     a time for silence and a time for speaking;  
 A time for loving and a time for hating,  
     a time for war and a time for peace.

O youth, enjoy yourself while you are young! Let your heart lead you  
 to enjoyment in the days of your youth. Follow the desires of your heart  
 and the glances of your eyes – but know that God will call you to account  
 for such things.

#### As a Child (solo)

Heidi Bindhammer, soprano  
 Sarah Schenkman, 'cello

As a child  
 I could be the sky  
 And marshal clouds  
 And sparkling stars  
 The glow through me,  
 harnessed to instant call.

As a child  
 I could brush the fog  
 Till it shone like a wedding veil,  
 under it I'd marry  
 Blind ones to deaf ones  
 And then let the sun out!

As a child  
 I could crawl deep down And nestle  
 in the earth's tangled heart  
 And become – one by one –  
 The roots of different trees  
 and we would shake hands with  
 Each other  
 As a child.

#### Kedushah

Jamie Keena, tenor

We sanctify Your name on earth, even as all things, to the ends  
 of time and space, proclaim Your holiness; and in the words of  
 the prophet we say:  
 Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts; the fullness of the whole  
 earth is His glory! Source of our strength, Sovereign Lord, how  
 majestic is Your presence in all the earth! Blessed is the glory of  
 God in heaven and earth. He alone is our God and our Creator;  
 He is our Ruler and our Helper; and in His mercy He reveals  
 Himself in the sight of all the living:  
 I am Adonai your God! The Lord shall reign for ever; your God,  
 O Zion, from generation to generation. Halleluyan!  
 To all generations we will make known Your greatness, and to  
 all eternity proclaim Your holiness. Your praise, O God, shall  
 never depart from our lips. Blessed is the Lord, the holy God.

#### The Rain Is Over

Angela Wilson, soprano  
 Heather Smith, soprano

The rain is over and gone, the winter no more sends its clouds,  
 the turtle dove coos in our land, it's time to blossom for flowers.

#### Niggun of Joy

### i n t e r m i s s i o n

#### Shalom - commissioned for this concert - world premier performance

Jamie Keena, tenor  
 Nathaniel Roper, baritone

Eternal wellspring of peace. Be it Your will to annul wars and the  
 shedding of blood from the world and to extend peace, great and  
 wondrous, in the universe.

Since the dawn of human history, tribes and nations have invaded the  
 lands of their neighbors, killing innocent people in the name of their  
 gods – in the name of Marduk, in the name of Caesar, in the name of  
 Yahweh, in the name of Christ, and in the name of Allah. Did you,  
 Master of the Universe, ever command them to do so?  
 When, on Christmas eve of 1914, your German Christian soldiers  
 faced their enemy – Your British Christian soldiers – they laid down  
 their rifles, left their trenches, crossed the barbed wires that separated  
 them, and began to embrace each other.

With one voice they sang the Christmas carol "Stille Nacht – Silent Night." This was a moment of true universal peace, but it was all too brief, for the officers on both sides, in the name of country and flag, quickly pulled their soldiers back into the trenches.

Surely, You were the inspiring force at this unique celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace! How, then can you help us – your creatures, your children – to stop killing each other in Your name? Disavow suicide bombers who explode themselves on buses and in marketplaces, and claim that they act for your glory, O Allah! Master of the Universe, will you prevent us from murdering each other?

Eternal Source of Peace, may we be flooded with the yearning for peace. May we give ourselves over as the soil to the rain, as the leaves to the dew, as the sand to the waves, until peace overflows all our lives.

*God above, Ruler of the world, give us peace.*

There shall not be clouds of war, the world will glow with knowledge of God and one to all, will call from far, be not afraid, not afraid.

No more will swords thunder from the sky, the ocean waves will hold the World in peace, and one to all, will call from far, be not afraid, not afraid.

Bonia Shur, Fanchon Shur, Reb Nachman

## The Rabbi's Dance

### Lechah Dodi

Heather Smith, soprano

Come, my beloved, to meet the bride, let us welcome the Sabbath.  
A Sabbath of peace, blessed Sabbath.

### Ki Atah Ta'ir Neiri

O God, make my light burn bright. Eternal God will lighten my darkness.  
The Holy One who is blessed said to me: Your light is in hand and my light is in your hand. The light of God is the human soul, to cause a light to cause a light to burn continually. The Holy One who is blessed said, if you illumine my light I will illumine your light.

## Hasidic Niggun

### Kol Haneshamah

Let everything that has breath praise God. (Psalm 150:6)

### Shalom

## Bonia Shur

Composer Bonia Shur is a major musical force in the Reform Jewish Movement in America. He has over 300 published compositions in use in synagogues and on stage across the country and abroad. He has also taught hundreds of rabbinical students since his appointment in 1974 as Director of Liturgical Arts at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati.

Bonia Shur is a versatile composer. In addition to his vast liturgical repertoire he has written for theatre, television and film. In 1966 he collaborated with Johnny Mandel on the vocal score to the motion picture "The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming." In 1968 he received a National Television Academy Award for his music to the TV special, "Revolt in Mode'in."

His orchestral music was played by the Israeli Radio Orchestra, the Minneapolis Chamber Symphony, and the Cincinnati Chamber symphony. His choral works were performed and recorded among others by The Sarasota Chorale Symphonic Chorus, The Nova Singers of Florida, the Oshkosh Chamber singers, the Rinat Choir of Israel, and the Chicago Children's Choir.

In the last few years he composed nine major commissioned works which were premiered in Washington D.C., New York, Philadelphia, Sacramento, Seattle, Cincinnati, and Appleton, Wisconsin.

Mr. Shur's music is vibrant, dynamic, and highly individual. He has an extremely diverse background: he was born in Latvia, escaped the Nazi invasion, fought in the Russian Army, emigrated to Israel and lived on a kibbutz for many years before coming to the United States in 1960. In Los Angeles he studied with the eminent American composer Roy Harris and with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco who also taught such American musical luminaries as Andre Previn, Henry Mancini and John Williams. His personality and his music integrate and reflect the many diverse cultural heritages in which he has lived.

There are three CD's of Mr. Shur's music which will be available after the concert.



## I Cantori

In December of 1991, with a concert of Christmas music, sixteen singers embarked on a journey which has continued for fifteen years. Founded by its current director, Dr. Robert L. Harris, the group has specialized in presenting concerts of diverse and unusual choral repertoire. Six months after the initial concert *I Cantori* presented its first concert at Temple Mickve Israel. Thus began a relationship which has involved singing for High Holy Days services, Bar Mitzvahs, the Rededication of the sanctuary and several concerts – a total of more than 80 appearances. It is only fitting that this celebration of our fifteenth anniversary should be at Temple Mickve Israel. It is also fitting that we continue in a rich history of first performances of new music which has been composed expressly the group. The premier of “*Shalom*” by Bonia Shur has been commissioned for this concert.

Over the years, *I Cantori* has presented such varied programs as a concert of music by Spanish composers, concerts of music by American composers, and two programs made up entirely of music by women composers. *I Cantori* has also presented a historically accurate performance of Handel’s *Messiah*, and a fully staged performance of Gian-Carlo Menotti’s beloved Christmas opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. *I Cantori* presented benefit concerts for the Lucas Theatre and Savannah’s public radio station WSVH, FM-91. On several occasions the choir joined with the Savannah Symphony on Masterworks concerts, and in January of 2006 they joined the Hilton Head Orchestra’s Beethoven Festival under the baton of Mary Woodmansee Green.

Because of a concern about the questionable quality of a great deal of the new choral music being published today, *I Cantori* has made a strong commitment to bringing newly composed choral music of high quality to the repertoire. To that end *I Cantori* has embarked upon an active program of commissioning new compositions by leading choral composers and making it available to the choral community through the I Cantori Series of choral music published by National Music Publishers.

The Requiem setting by the leading Czech composer Zdeněk Lukáš was given its American premiere in 1993. In 1995 the group premiered *Four Fragments from John Donne* by Daniel Pinkham, and in 1996 commissioned Williametta Spencer’s *And the White Rose Is A Dove*.

*I Cantori* has also premiered new choral compositions by the Czech-American composer Vaclav Nelhybel, Peter Schickele, Vera Kistler, Eugene Butler, Randall Reese, Robert Young, James Mulholland, Kevin Hampton, R. Gregory Canady, and Vijay Singh.

Dr. Harris has also edited a number of works from the Italian Baroque which have received their first modern performance by *I Cantori*. Among the composers who have received long awaited premiers are Alessandro Scarlatti, Nicola Porpora and Francesco Durante. Newly available performance editions of five of the delightful Moravian duets by Antonin Dvorak and the English anthem written by Wolfgang Mozart at the age of nine also have been made available through newly prepared editions by Dr. Harris. These works also appear in the *I Cantori Series* which now has more than 45 works in the catalogue.

## I CANTORI PERSONNEL

Donna Berry  
Dan Bolta  
Peggy Breese  
Randy Canady  
Jan Curtis  
Amanda Davidson  
Raymond R. Ellis, jr.+  
Rachel Finley  
Mari Harris+  
Edie Hockspeier  
Karin Kanneberg  
Matthew Kanneberg  
Jamie Keena+  
Matt Leff

Nycole Leff  
Gregory Martin  
Carla McCurry\*  
Mary Catherine Mousourakis\*  
Denise Norman  
Amanda Phillips  
Catherine Rogers  
Nathaniel Roper+  
Ted Seamen\*  
Heather Rose Smith  
Jack Van Eck  
Del Weeks  
Angela Wilson  
Billy Wooten  
Jim Worrell

\*on leave

+charter member

## *I Cantori Music in Print*

*Four Fragments From John Donne	Daniel Pinkham	Wm. Thorpe Pub.
*Three Spanish Ballades (SATB)	Eugene Butler	Warner Bros.
*A Babe Is Born in Bethlehem	Robert Young	Gentry
(AP)Requiem	Zdenek Lukas	Alliance
(AP) Magna es vis Veritatis	Zdenek Lukas	Alliance
*Praedicatio	Zdenek Lukas	Alliance
*No Man Is an Island	Zdenek Lukas	Alliance
(AP) Te Deum	Zdenek Lukas	Alliance
*Morning Star	Vera Kistler	Alliance
*Quaker's Love Song	Vera Kistler	Alliance

## **National Music Publishing, Inc - *I Cantori Series***

*And the White Rose Is a Dove	Williametta Spencer
*Of Crickets and Daffodils	Randall Reese
+Barbaree	Randall Reese
*Three Yeats Choruses (published separately)	James Mulholland
A Dawn-Song	
Down By the Salley Gardens	
Had I the Heavens' Embroidered Cloths	
+Four Folk Choruses (trans. RLH)	Zdenek Lukas
*Alleluia!	Zdenek Lukas
Cepeni	Zdenek Lukas
+Psalm 23	Robert G. Canady
+Serenade	George F. Root (RLH)
+Roll On, Majestic Ocean	George F. Root (RLH)
Three Choruses from "The Haymakers" (published separately)	George F. Root (RLH)
Good Morning	
'Tis a Bright Summer's Day	
Quick, to the Work	
+Bonnie Charlie (Scotland)	arr. RLH
+The Slovak Carols (SSA)	arr. RLH
+The Parting Glass	arr. RLH
+Resplendet Novo Sole	Nicola Porpora (RLH)
+In Exitu Israel (SSA-SSA)	Nicola Porpora (RLH)

+Ave Maria	Bartlomeij Pekiel (RLH)
Sub Tuum Praesidium	Bartlomeij Pekiel (RLH)
Beata Es, Virgo Maria	Mikolaj Zielenski
+The Girls Ghorus ((SSA) from "Pepo")	A. Baskakov (RLH)
+Mass for Three Voices	Francesco Durante (RLH)
*The Nightingale	Robert Young
+Five Duets - SA (published separately) (translation - RLH)	Antonin Dvorak (RLH)

Zajata

Venecek

Hore

Moznost

V Dobrym sme se Sesli

+Pala, pala (Venezuela)

\*Dobru Noc (Bohemia) - trans. RLH

Ach Dolino - trans. RLH

Siroky, Hlubloky - trans. RLH

\*Three Motets

Benedixerunt Eam

Qui Tollis

Haec Dies

+God Is Our Refuge

+Puer Natus Est

+Sumer is a cumin in

Nee Inati

Mario Perini (RLH)

Zdenek Lukas

Zdenek Lukas

Zdenek Lukas

Vijay Singh

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (RLH)

Johann Adolph Hasse (RLH)

anon. (RLH)

Jesus Pinzon

\*I Cantori commission - World Premier

+I Cantori Series - National Music Publishing

AP American premier performance

(RLH) following the name of the composer indicates that the edition was researched and prepared by Robert Harris