

# 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This unpublished "gem" came from Bill Ives, a long-time member of the King's Singers.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

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

Genee/Rowley

## 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

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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.