

Upcoming I Cantori Concerts

**December 4, 1998 – Christmas Concert
St. John's Episcopal Church**

March 8, 1999 – Spring Concert

Acknowledgements

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

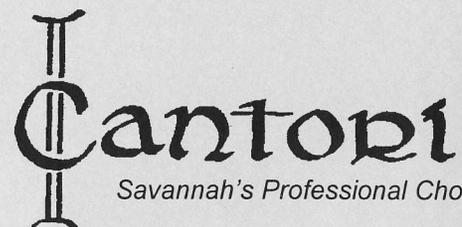
**Armstrong Atlantic State University,
Dr. James Anderson**

**Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church,
Dr. David Haygood, pastor,
Timothy L. Hall, music director**

**Skidaway Island United Methodist Church,
Dr. James Giddons, pastor,
Peggy Breese, choir director**

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Savannah's Professional Choral Ensemble

Presents...

**Folk Songs of the
World**



***Dr. Robert L. Harris, conductor
Gene L. Jarvis, harpsichord
Amanda Crider, piano***

***Monumental Music
Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
October 9, 1998***

Program

Come Heart's Delight (Sweden)
A Maiden Is in a Ring (Sweden)

arr. Norman Luboff
arr. Hugo Alfen

Kolokolchik (Russia)

arr. Vadim Prokhorov

- The Lonely Coach Bell

Oh, how lonely the coach bell is ringing,
And the dust from the road fills the air,
And the coachman's sorrowful singing
Floats across the wild fields in despair.

That sad song overflows with such feeling,
So much grief can be heard in that strain,
That my cold heart, long hardened and weary
In my bosom was kindled again.

I recalled other nights, other wanderings,
And the fields and the forests so dear,
And my eyes, which so long have been arid,
Became moistened like jewels with a tear.

Oh, how lonely the coach bell is ringing,
As it swings in the night to and fro,
And my coachman has now fallen silent.

Three Bulgarian Songs for Women's Voices

Transcribed by Robert L. Harris

- **Katuše Mome**

Katuse, poor Katuse, you are very unfortunate;
You have a bleak future.
Why do you want to marry Nikola the shepherd?

All of the other young men have gone abroad to make a living.
Your boy is in the café:
"Oh, Katuse, I'm burning, sweetheart, for you."

- **Što mi e milo**

How I would like to have a shop in the town of Struga
"Hurry young Kalino"

To sit by the door and watch the girls of Struga go by.
"Hurry young Kalino."

- **Idam, ne Idam**

Come visit me, Felidza, in my little shop.
Will I go or not?
I shall go, alone. When I arrive you will open the large doors.
Will I go or not?

Yerakina (Greece)

arr. Nicholas R. Lesbines

Yerakina runs to fill her water jug at the spring;
How her bangles ring.

Yerakina, while reaching down to fill her water jug,
Tumbles in...
While her bangles ring.

All the village hears her cries. Young and old run to find her, and her
love comes running, too, to save his beloved.
Oh, how her bangles ring.

Ye Banks and Braes (Scotland)

arr. Tom Cunningham

Think on Me (Scotland)

arr. James Mulholland

According to legend, this poignant ballad was written by Mary, Queen of
Scotts, as she awaited her execution.

V podzámcí – Near the Castle (Czech)

Zdeněk Lukáš

- **Minet (Minuet)**

His hair is grey from trouble,
His beard is grey from roguery,
His hair is grey.

Over the water four horses go for my beloved.
Over the water four horses will take my sweetheart away.

- **Kaplanka (dance from Kaplanka)**

Historický tanec (historical dance)

There's a tall tree on our square,
Let the lightning find love and strike it thoroughly,
Burning the heart so as not to disturb love any more.

If the world will disappoint me, I will only lament for you,
Boy, that you left me, poor girl,
And found another sweetheart.

Furiant (Czech dance)

Intermission

Psalm 23 (A Metrical Paraphrase) **R. Gregory Canady**
(World Premier Performance)

My Lord, What a Moanin' **arr. Adolphus Hailstork**
(African American Spiritual)

Cert'n'ly Lord **arr. Hall Johnson**
(African American Spiritual)

Psalm 23 **R. Gregory Canady**
conducted by the composer

My Old Kentucky Home **arr. James Mulholland**

I Cantori

Soprano

Heidi Bindhammer
Peggy Breese
Mari Harris
Amy Mullis
Diane O'Brien
Mimi Witherington

Alto

Amanda Crider
Linda Estes
Tonya Hillis
Suzanne Ricks
Elizabeth van Beest
Sonia Yoder

Tenor

R. Gregory Canady
Randall Canady
Wayne Ealey
Raymond R. Ellis
Timothy L. Hall
Timothy Wheelles
Billy Wooten

Bass

Daniel C. Cohen
Gene L. Jarvis
Gregory Allen Johnson
Preston Powers
Nathaniel Roper
Ira Ryan

Manager
Treasurer

Diane O'Brien
Raymond R. Ellis, jr.

Benefactors

Jim and Melissa Emery
Wachovia Bank
Dorothea Costrini

Contributor

E. Shaver

Introducing I Cantori

I Cantori, Savannah's Professional Choral Ensemble, was founded in 1991 by its current conductor, Dr. Robert L. Harris. The group, which consists of 24 auditioned singers, has devoted itself to the performance of quality choral literature, and has specialized in seeking out unusual repertoire. They have presented Renaissance Christmas programs, a concert of music by Spanish composers, concerts of music by American composers, concerts of international folk songs, and a program made up entirely of music by women composers.

I Cantori has made a strong commitment to bringing newly composed choral music of high quality to the repertoire. Toward that end, the group commissions well-known choral composers to write original works for *I Cantori*. Previous commissions have included works by the Czech composer Zdenek Lukas, Daniel Pinkham, Vaclav Nelhybel, and Williametta Spencer. In March, 1998, the group presented the world premier of a piece commissioned from Peter Schickele, an internationally-known composer and performer, best known under his pseudonym P.D.Q. Bach. The group also has a forthcoming commissioned setting of the Jewish Sacred Service by Joseph Bardanashvili, a noted composer from the Republic of Georgia, and a composition by Robert Young, which is expected to be premiered in December, 1998.

Another way in which *I Cantori* supports the future of choral music is by funding scholarships for choral musicians. Currently, they fund half of a full-tuition scholarship at Armstrong Atlantic State University for a student who has demonstrated a commitment to a career in choral music, either as an educator or as a church musician. They hope to expand this scholarship program on two fronts. First, to develop a fund that will assist choral musicians in post graduate programs, and, second, to initiate a program of sharing choral music in the schools

through concert programs and residencies in which the members of the group would assist local teachers and choir members.

Proceeds from concert ticket sales and donations are applied toward future performances and commissions. Donations and contributions are applied to the scholarship programs. If you are interested in supporting these activities, please call 912-925-7866.

Dr. Robert L. Harris *Conductor*

I Cantori was founded in 1991 by its present conductor, Dr. Robert L. Harris. A California native, Dr. Harris received his bachelors and masters degrees in Vocal Performance from the Conservatory of the University of the Pacific. He was extremely active in regional opera houses, including in his repertoire the leading baritone roles in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *La Traviata*, *Il Trovatore*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Faust*, and *l'Incoronazione di Popea*. His oratorio appearances included Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* and *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff.

Dr. Harris completed his doctorate in Conducting at the University of Washington, studying under Rodney Eichenberger and Abraham Kaplan, former chorus master of the New York Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein. His conducting career began in earnest when he was asked to take the podium for performances of *The Bartered Bride*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Die Fledermaus*, and Haydn's *Creation*.

Also active as a choral scholar, Dr. Harris has edited the scores from manuscript and conducted the first modern performances of a number of works by the Italian Baroque masters Nicola Porpora and Francesco Durante. He is recognized as an expert and lecturer on the music written and performed in the World War II concentration camp at Theresienstadt. He has also been pursuing the music of the 19th century American composer, George F. Root. His research