

ECC/EVAE, Newsletter January 4 & 5, 2010

Thanks from Diane

I am deeply grateful for the generous bonus gift I received from you after the Holiday show. You all give so much toward the success of the Choir. It is really above and beyond for you also to chip in for a gift to me. I appreciate it immensely. I feel like the most fortunate person in the world to be able to surround myself with all of you wonderful, committed, talented people and your beautiful voices. I offer you a truly heartfelt thanks.

Auditions

Auditions for new members are this Thursday, January 7, at Emmaus Lutheran Church. Those who still want to sign up for a spot may contact the choir office at 687-6865 or choir@eugeneconcertchoir.org. Current choir members, be ready to welcome new members next week.

Digging into MUSIC

From Diane: I just have to comment that I am absolutely thrilled to be looking forward to weeks of rehearsing the Brahms *Requiem* with ECC and sophisticated vocal chamber music with EVAE. Scrumptious!

For at least the next month, ECC will work on the Brahms *Requiem* exclusively. (Was that a sigh of joy I just heard from Barbara Baird?)

EVAE will work on the ACDA Northwest performance plus the Britten *Five Flower Songs*. We will perform one of the Britten songs at ACDA-NW (haven't decided yet which one - either 3 or 5) and the complete set at EVAE's April 10 concert. I am replacing "Salseo" with "The Fool on the Hill," so please return "Salseo."

EVAE's repertoire:

The asterisks mean that we plan to perform these pieces for the ACDA-NW program. They also mean *memorize!*

*Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine - Eric Whitacre

*Fyer! Fyer! (verse 1 only) - Thomas Morley

*Io Piango - Morten Lauridsen

Five Flower Songs - Benjamin Britten

1. To Daffodils

2. The Succession of the Four Sweet Months

3. *Marsh Flowers (possible ACDA-NW)

4. The Evening Primrose

5. *Ballad of Green Broom (possible ACDA-NW)

*Elegy - Vesiley Kalinnikov

*The Swingle Singers Beatles Book

The Fool on the Hill - Lennon/McCartney

ECCO

From Jennifer McConochie: Hello, ECCO members, past, present and future, and welcome to the new season of the Education Outreach program. I hope more of you will sign up for this spring's classroom visits. I am interested in tweaking the presentation to involve more members in the actual lesson, so I will plan a meeting in a few weeks to garner ideas and suggestions.

To further the development of our repertoire, I will have a suggestion shoebox at the newsletter table. I hope all ECC and EVAE members will put in at least one suggestion for a song they believe every American child should know as part of our native folk song tradition. From your suggestions, we will choose songs and begin rehearsing them so that we can offer ECCO presentations earlier in the year. Last year we served nine classes. We hope to double that number this season. Thanks for all your help. I look forward to working with all of you again soon!

The Practice Corner

EVAE: Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine

ECC: Brahms *Requiem*, movement 6

Great performances

Comments from Diane: The 2009 Mason Williams Holiday show delighted many and was a wonderful celebration for the community. It was also fun to listen to the 2008 show on KLCC on Christmas Eve. It seemed a perfect fit for the occasion. Thanks to Matt Laubach for pursuing the idea and setting it up on KLCC.

The English Madrigal Dinner was an enchanting experience in a distant 16th century. A whole lot of you worked diligently on the music, drama, set-up, decorations, costuming, and serving. We couldn't put on an event like this without the tremendous commitment of so many people. Thank you all.

ECC concert blouses

Keep your standard blue concert blouses. Please return the gold, green, and red blouses, hand-washed or dry-cleaned (dry-cleaning is preferable) either to the ECC office, 1590 Willamette Street, suite 400, or to Jeannie Crabtree, ECC women's concert dress coordinator, at rehearsal. Please remember to return them in plastic bags with your name attached. The plastic bags are important; Jeannie has been spending her own money to procure them. The names are important to make it easy for her to check the blouses in. If you have questions, call Jeannie at 688-0139. Many thanks for your great work, Jeannie!

Happy New Year from your scribe

Fast away the old year passéd. 2009 gave this old world quite a ride, some of it thrilling, some of it chilling. And now for something completely different? Probably not, but we'll at least have variations on a theme.

For some reason, this makes me think of the pre-Socratic Greek philosophers Heraclitus and Parmenides. Heraclitus proposed that one could not step into the same river twice, because the water was always in flux. Parmenides proposed that the river was an entity unto itself and that its essence, despite the flow of water, was constant. I think they're both right. We don't need to view the world in terms of binary oppositions. Our choir members come and go, but our Choirs remain a constant entity.

I am so grateful that we are the river and part of the river flowing. How can we keep from singing?

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