

ECC/EVAE Newsletter, January 18 & 19, 2010

The Practice Corner

ECC: Brahms, movement 2

EVAE: Leonardo – The Flight and Elegy

Documents you should have

- 2010/2011 Season Concerts and Events
- Member Handbook – (revised and updated January 2010)
- Administration Contact List
- ECC & EVAE 2009/2010 Rehearsal & Performance Schedule
- EVAE members should also have the ACDA Northwest Conference information document.

Remember, you can always access these documents, as well as all season newsletters, on our website: eugeneconcertchoir.org. Scroll to the bottom of the homepage and click on the word Members to take you to our Members page.

Brahms *Requiem* Memorial Sponsorships

From Diane: Dear choir members,

The Brahms *Requiem* is such an extraordinary work of beauty and comfort, we did not want to pass up the opportunity to personalize our performance for choir members and audience alike. We are offering a special memorial listing in the program book to dedicate this performance to someone you hold dear who is no longer with us. A listing in this special Memorial section of the program will be \$25 per name.

We are also offering a dedication of \$500 for a movement of the *Requiem*. At the same time, this sponsorship helps make it possible for us to perform this beautiful music. Information and dedication forms will be provided next week.

Re-evaluations

As a member of the Eugene Concert Choir, you are expected to participate in a re-evaluation process every other year. Diane is going to do re-evaluations with the entire choir this spring. This gives her the opportunity to hear voices individually and evaluate how the singer is doing as a choir member and if each singer is appropriately placed with voice part. It is also a time when singers can address any concerns they have with their voices. In the re-evaluation process, each choir member sings his or her vocal part in a short passage along with the recording of the parts. Diane will use Richard Guy's practice CD for the recording*. This year, re-evaluations will be done on the following passage: Brahms *Requiem*, movement 3, mm. 173-to the end.

Diane has been encouraged that choir members have done very well on re-evaluations in recent years. If you do not do well, you will not lose your membership in the choir. Rather, you will be given another year to address any concerns, and you will be given the opportunity to do re-evaluations again the following year. If, however, you have two years of difficulty singing your part, you must go through a formal audition to regain admission to the Concert Choir.

New members do not go through re-evaluations. If you have joined the choir since the fall of 2009, you will not need to do re-evaluations until the next time around, which should be in the 2011/2012 season.

The Traceys

Please come join Annie Tracey, ECC alto, and Steven Myers, ECC tenor, with the Traceys once again this Friday evening, January 22, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., at the Supreme Bean, next to the Market of Choice at 29th and Willamette in Eugene. The Traceys perform classic and original acoustic soul, folk, blues, and even a cappella music. Don't miss it!

Rehearsal CDs for the Brahms *Requiem

Richard Guy has produced rehearsal CDs of the Brahms *Requiem*. They will be available at rehearsals for the next two weeks. These recordings include every note of music from the vocal score. The recordings are in perfect pitch and rhythm and are at Diane's performance tempi. There is a separate recording for each vocal part, with the part emphasized. The emphasized parts are performed on piano, while the orchestra parts are rendered in synthesized strings and the other parts in choral "aahs." The more complex portions of the work are produced at slower rehearsal tempi as well as at performance tempi. There is also a pronunciation guide, with Diane reading the text in German. The recordings are \$7 each.

Scribe's note: Thank you, Richard. You're the best!

Sacred Harp

- **What.** The Eugene Sacred Harp Singers, sponsored by SHOcase, will lead an old-style singing of traditional American shape-note hymns. All are welcome to join in the singing, in foursquare arrangement. A limited number of hymnals are available for loan, so interested singers are encouraged to arrive 15-20 minutes early.
- **When.** Thursday, January 21, 11:00 a.m.
- **Where.** Hult Center Lobby, 7th Avenue and Willamette Street
- **Wherewithal.** The event is free.

Weekly paper newsletter—Listen up, y'all!

The weekly paper newsletter appears at each week's rehearsals, sort of like Brigadoon, although more frequently. It contains important information about choir business, events, schedules, and late-breaking announcements. One of its purposes is to reduce the amount of time taken by oral announcements during rehearsal breaks. It is also a vehicle for choir members to post notices, musical and extra-musical. If you would like to post a notice in the newsletter, contact Jill Liberty, chief perp and editor, at jl Liberty@efn.org. The deadline is Sunday noon before each week's rehearsals. If you send an e-mail to Diane for the paper newsletter, she'll just forward it to me, so save my e-mail address and save yourselves some time.

Words for the week

- Acnestis<Greek ακνεστις, spine, cheese grater. "The part of the body where one cannot reach to scratch."
- Aptronym. "A name that is especially suited to the profession of its owner." Example: Your scribe's dad, an M.D., was Doctor Hart. ☺

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