

ECC/EVAC Newsletter, February 15 & 16, 2010

Some schedule adjustments for ECC and ECCO

There has been a good expression of interest for solo spots in the British Invasion concert, and Diane is encouraged to open more spots for auditions. We will adjust ECC and ECCO rehearsals as follows:

- Tuesday, March 2
 - 6:30 p.m. ECCO records practice CD in Sanctuary
 - 7:15 p.m. ECC rehearsal as usual
 - 9:00 p.m. ECC early release. Solo auditions in Sanctuary
ECCO stays for touch-up rehearsal in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, March 9
 - 6:30 p.m. Solo auditions in Sanctuary
 - 7:15 p.m. ECC rehearsal as usual
 - 9:00 p.m. ECC early release. Solo auditions in Sanctuary
ECCO stays for rehearsal in Fellowship Hall

ECCO

From Jennifer McConochie: We will not rehearse the week of the Brahms concert but will be recording with Paul Swadener on Tuesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. Because we're not rehearsing during concert week, this is a critical rehearsal. All ECCO members, even those who haven't been able to sign up for individual presentations, are asked to come swell the Sanctuary with lovely sound. I'll have the individual sign-up sheets with me for those of you who find you can come sing with us.

During the week of your home preparation for the Brahms, perhaps you can warm up with a little Skip to My Lou or I've Been Working on the Railroad!

Our first presentation will be Tuesday, March 9. We still have room for more male voices! Thanks to all of you for making this program happen.

Brahms *Requiem* schedule reminder

We are almost to the point of getting together with the orchestra! For the rehearsals at the Hult Center, enter through the stage door in the alleyway between the Hult Center and its parking garage.

- Thursday, February 25 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Hult Center
- Friday, February 26 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Hult Center*
- Saturday, February 27 7:00 p.m. warm-up Hult Center
8:00 p.m. concert performance – 75 minutes long, no intermission
- Concert dress for the performance
 - Women: ECC blue blouses and black skirts
 - Men: Tuxedos with white wing-collar shirts and black bow ties
- *The rehearsal on Friday, February 26 is the "dress rehearsal," but we do not wear concert dress for that rehearsal. Save it for the performance.

Re-evaluations

Diane has scheduled the first round of re-evaluations for Thursday, March 4. She would like to hear as many people as possible on that evening, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is available at rehearsal. Other than that date, Diane will schedule additional re-evaluations before and after rehearsals. Everyone who joined ECC prior to the fall of 2009 is required to have a re-evaluation this year. Choir members sing their parts individually along with a recording of the major work. The passage for re-evaluations this year is the Brahms *Requiem*, movement 3, measure 173 to the end of the movement. Refer to the Information Sheet regarding re-evaluations.

Solo opportunities for the British Invasion concert

In case you missed the solo audition information last week, we are running the blurb again. Looking ahead to the British Invasion concert, Diane would like to involve several choir members in solo songs or short solo portions of songs. Use your imagination and think of anything British or British-influence, e.g., musicals, pop songs, rock and roll, classical. Some voices Diane is particularly looking for are those who could cover the BeeGees, Shirley Bassey singing Goldfinger, Petula Clark singing Downtown, some raucous Rolling Stones version of Satisfaction, Freddy Mercury singing We Will Rock You or We Are the Champions, songs from British musicals by Andrew Lloyd Webber or American musicals influenced by Britain, such as My Fair Lady or Mary Poppins, the “Pie Jesu” from John Rutter’s *Requiem*, or whatever else you can think of.

Diane will listen to auditions at the end of the Tuesday rehearsals March 2nd and 9th. A sign-up sheet for audition times will be available at rehearsals. Solo opportunities are open to both ECC and EVAE members.

The Practice Corner

- EVAE: Begin rehearsing free of scores for all music other than Leonardo starting next week. You may still refer to your scores for Leonardo, but we will be completely off book the following week.
- ECC: Drill yourselves on any problem spots in the Brahms. All pitches and rhythms should be completely confident by now.

The Zen of Sarcasm

Thanks to John Bredesen for sending these along.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a broken fan belt and a leaky tire.

It’s always darkest before dawn, so, if you’re going to steal your neighbor’s newspaper, that’s the time to do it.

Give a man a fish, and he’ll eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he’ll sit in a boat all day, drinking beer.

Birthdays

Belated birthday greetings to Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin, both born on February 12, 1809.

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