

ECC/EVAE Newsletter, February 22 & 23, 2010

Concert Week!

Diane's favorite time of year is concert week, especially for a performance of something as grand as the Brahms *Requiem*. New members of the Concert Choir, you need to enter the Hult Center through the stage door entrance, in the alleyway between the Hult Center and its parking garage. We will meet briefly in The Studio, the rehearsal room in the Hult Center (choir veterans, it used to be called "Studio One," but a "Studio Two" never got built, so the Hult changed the name "Studio One" to "The Studio."), for a quick warm-up at 7:00 p.m. prior to our orchestra rehearsals on Thursday and Friday onstage. Schedule summary:

- Thursday and Friday, February 25 and 26: Rehearsals, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., Hult Center
- Saturday, February 27: Full warm-up at 7:00 p.m., **PERFORMANCE** at 8:00 p.m., no intermission.
- Black folders and concert dress are required for this performance.

Promotion of Concert

Eugene is a very last-minute market for concert performances. We have sold about 700 tickets for the Brahms *Requiem* at this point. Silva Concert Hall holds 2,500 people. Your excitement and enthusiasm for a glorious upcoming performance can make all the difference in the world to ticket sales. We rarely open the balcony, but even filling the main floor and mezzanine means more than doubling our ticket sales to date. Word of mouth is the most effective ticket promotion there is. Thank you all for your hard work. We are going to have an inspiring performance, and we want as many audience members as possible to experience it.

The Practice Corner

EVAE: All music for ACDA should be memorized by next week. Off book.

ECC: Clean up your personal problem spots in the Brahms.

ECCO

From Jennifer McConochie: Thanks to all who came to last week's rehearsal. You sounded great, and I love working with you all! A reminder that we need to arrive at Emmaus Lutheran by 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 2 to warm up and record the tracks for the CD. Paul will set up earlier, so it would be good to be ready to go right at 6:30. Our first presentation is the following Tuesday, March 9, so this will be a rehearsal as well as a recording session. We need all of you there to re-recreate that great sound we had going last week! Here is the presentation schedule to date:

- Tuesday, March 9, 9:45-10:15 a.m., Adams Elementary, 950 West 22nd Avenue, Eugene. Grade 5, Sheryl Aydelott
- Monday, March 15, 9:10-9:40 a.m., Adams Elementary. Grade 3/4, Beverly Lewis
- Thursday, April 8, 9:45-10:15 a.m., Adams Elementary. Grade 4/5, Catherine Kotlarek-James
- Friday, April 23, 9:15-9:50 a.m., Howard Elementary, 700 Howard Avenue, Eugene. Grade 2, Lupe Callihan

I look forward to seeing you all at the ECCO recording session March 2. I will have more Erie Canal music and complete packets for those who still need them. See me at tonight's (February 23) rehearsal.

The British Invasion

Diane has new music and lots of ideas for both ECC and EVAE for the British Invasion concert. Both choirs will perform both classical and popular music, and there will be several solo opportunities. Thanks to all who have signed up for solo auditions. If you're interested in auditioning, sign up for any open times or talk to Diane if there are no spots available; she will find a time for you.

Re-evaluations

ECC members who joined the choir before the fall of 2009 need to have re-evaluations. Check the Re-evaluation Information Sheet for further information and sign up for a time if you have not already done so. Re-evaluations will be at Emmaus Lutheran Church.

An American premier

From ECC member Bob Thompson:

- **Who and what:** Singers are wanted for the American premier of *Monastic Festival Propers; Four Sacred Festival Anthems*, by Czech composer Petr Eben (1929-2007) for chorus, brass quartet, and organ. This is one of the few Eben works in English. It lasts about 10 minutes, and the music isn't difficult. You can pick up a sample page at ECC rehearsals. A sign-up sheet will also be available.
- **When:** September 27, 2010, 4:00 p.m.
- **Where:** First Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street, Eugene
- **Music:** Singers need to purchase their own copies for \$5.75. The deadline for sign-up and payment for music is May 1, 2010. It takes weeks to get the music from abroad. Please make your payments to Bob Thompson.
- **Rehearsals** will be every Tuesday in August, 7:30 p.m., at First Methodist. You should allow two hours, although we probably won't need that much time. Richard Guy will have rehearsal CDs available by June 1. If you want to sing but have a conflict with rehearsal times, see Bob Thompson to make special arrangements.
- **Questions?** See Bob Thompson at rehearsal or e-mail him at btorgel@aol.com.

The other side of the footlights

Your scribe won't be singing in the Brahms *Requiem*. Instead I'll be sitting in the audience. It will be a rare opportunity to experience the magic of an ECC performance from a listener's point of view. I'm bringing three friends, and I encourage you all to spread the word to as many people as possible. I know you'll fill the hall with your wonderful sound, so please make sure we can fill the seats for this very special gift.

Generic jokes

It's not nice to tell blond jokes, so, for this one, I'll substitute "a newsletter writer." One time a cosmonaut, an astronaut, and a newsletter writer were sitting around having drinks. The cosmonaut said, "We were the first to put a satellite into orbit." The astronaut responded, "Well, we were the first to put a man on the moon." The newsletter writer said, "We're going to upstage both of you. We're going to the sun!" The cosmonaut and astronaut exclaimed, "You can't go to the sun! You'll be burned to a crisp!" The newsletter writer responded, "We're not dumb, you know! We're going at night."

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