

For the convenience of concertgoers
the Garden Café remains open until 6:00 pm.

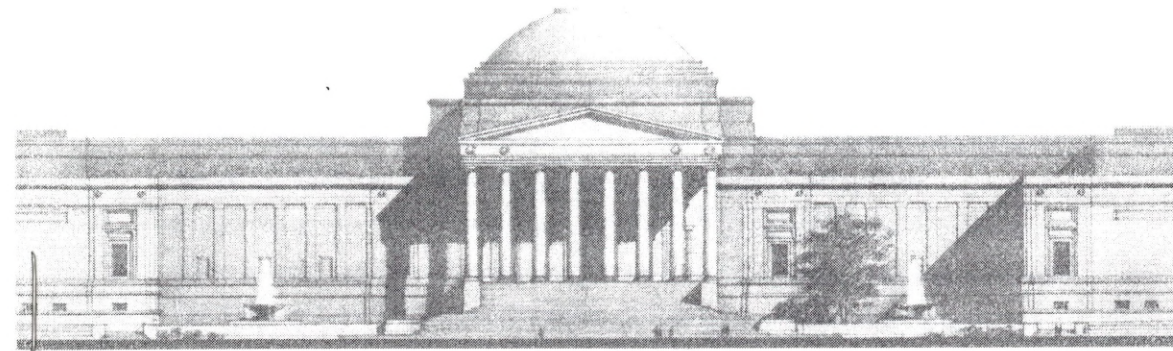
The use of cameras or recording equipment during the
performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones,
pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that late entry or reentry of
the West Building after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

Music Department
National Gallery of Art
Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC

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Landover, MD 20785

www.nga.gov



The Sixty-sixth Season of
The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin
Concerts

National Gallery of Art
2,678th Concert

The Choral Arts Society of Washington Chamber Chorus

Joseph Holt, *conductor*
Leigh Ann Hinton, *soprano*
Marjorie Bunday, *mezzo-soprano*
Matthew Heil, *tenor*
KC Armstrong, *bass*
Nadia Pessoa, *harp*
David Lang, *organist*

June 1, 2008
Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

Program

Franz Liszt (1811–1886)

Inno a Maria Vergine (Hymn to the Virgin Mary) (1869)

Nadia Pessoa, *harp*
David Lang, *organist*

Ave Maria I

From *Harmonies poétiques et religieuses* (1842)

Sposalizio (Trauung) nach dem gleichsamem Bilde Raphaels
(Sposalizio [At the Marriage Ceremony], after the Eponymous
Painting by Raphael) (1883)

David Lang, *organist*
Marjorie Bunday, *mezzo-soprano*

Christus Oratorium, part II — *Nach Epiphania* (After Epiphany) (1866–1872)

Beati pauperi spiritu (Blessed are the Poor in Spirit)

From *The Beatitudes* (1855–1859)
KC Armstrong, *bass*

Pater noster (The Lord's Prayer) (1846)

INTERMISSION

Missa Choralis (1865)

Kyrie
Gloria
Credo
Sanctus
Benedictus
Agnus Dei

Leigh Ann Hinton, *soprano*
Marjorie Bunday, *mezzo-soprano*
Matthew Heil, *tenor*
KC Armstrong, *bass*
David Lang, *organist*

The Musicians

THE CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

Now entering its forty-third season, The Choral Arts Society of Washington, under the leadership of its founder and artistic director Norman Scribner, is one of the major symphonic choruses in the United States. Regularly called upon to help inaugurate presidents, honor world leaders, celebrate national holidays, and participate in televised performances, the Society presents a four-concert season subscription series at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and other DC area venues, and an annual choral tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In addition to regular performances with the National Symphony Orchestra, the Society has appeared with the orchestras of Atlanta, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Israel, and the Paris Opera, under the direction of renowned conductors John Adams, Leonard Bernstein, Loren Maazel, Mstislav Rostropovich, and Leonard Slatkin. The chorus has performed in New York City with the New York Philharmonic and has toured the northeast United States with the Cracow Philharmonic Orchestra of Poland under the direction of Krzysztof Penderecki.

Frequently invited to tour internationally, the Washington Choral Arts Society undertook an historic tour of Russia in 1993, joining forces with the National Symphony Orchestra and Rostropovich. The highlight of the tour was an outdoor performance of Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky* in Moscow's Red Square, which was attended by 100,000 people. In 1996 Scribner led the chorus on a thirteen-day, six-concert tour of France with performances at the Evian Festival, the Festival of Auvers-sur-Oise, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the Sorbonne. In 2001 the ensemble returned to Italy to perform at the Spoleto Festival, having sung Rachmaninoff's *Vespers* there in July 1993. In 2002 the chorus embarked on a ten-day tour of England to perform in four major music festivals, including the renowned Proms at Royal Albert Hall in London. In 2005 The Choral Arts Society became the first Washington-area choir to tour South America, performing Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* at the world famous Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires.

Recordings of the Washington Choral Arts Society include Johannes Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, recorded live at the Kennedy Center under the baton of Norman Scribner; John Corigliano's *Of Rage and Remembrance* with the National Symphony Orchestra led by Leonard Slatkin, which won the 1996 Grammy for Best Classical Album; and *Christmas with The Choral Arts Society of Washington*, a critically acclaimed and popular recording of carols and other Yuletide favorites, of which more than 10,000 copies have been sold.

The Choral Arts Society has received numerous awards and honors for its artistic service to the nation, including the American Society of Composers and Publishers Award for adventurous programming, the Mayor's Art Award (Washington, DC), and the Washington Post Award for Non-profit Excellence. In keeping with the Society's commitment to the community, it has implemented artsACCESS (Arts for Children Creates Educational Success in Schools), a cutting-edge arts-integrated elementary school program, now in its eighth year.

Members of the Choral Arts Society of Washington Chamber Chorus:

Soprano

Julie Gilmore
Adriana Gonzales-Lozada
Rebecca King
Heather MacDonald
Theresa Severin
Donna Simonton
Bonnie Williams

Tenor

Jeff Dauler
Jerry Haggin
Andy Henriksson
Tristan Jones
Lynn Main
Matthew Schwartz

Alto

Jan Bexhoeft
Laura Bradford
Coleen Gatehouse
Anne Hall
Anna Maripuu
Ann Stahmer

Bass

Peter Cornell
Ron Davies
Jim Evans
Tim Evans
Nathan Mitchell
Joe O'Leary

JOSEPH HOLT

Associate conductor of the Washington Choral Arts Society Joseph Holt enjoys a wide-ranging musical career as an arranger, chamber music performer, conductor, educator, and pianist. He has collaborated with many renowned soloists, among them Denyce Graves, Jessye Norman, Roberta Peters, Richard Tucker, and Alessandra Marc, with whom he performed at the National Gallery in 2001. A prizewinner in the Wolf Trap Brahms Competition, the Washington International Competition for Pianists, and the William C. Byrd Young Artists Competition, Holt was also selected to participate in the La Gesse Piano Festival in France. He holds a bachelor of music degree with distinction from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, a master of music degree from the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music in Winchester, Virginia, and a doctor of musical arts degree from The Catholic University of America.

The Program

Although many pianists have brought works of Franz Liszt to their recitals at the National Gallery, this is the first time in the sixty-six-year history of the concert series that a guest ensemble has brought selections from his choral oeuvre. Music for the human voice, both sacred and secular, was an important priority for Liszt throughout his life, as evidenced by the early date of his first choral work—a setting of *Tantum ergo*, now lost, which he wrote in 1822—and the number of such works he composed (136). Liszt's unintended sojourn in Rome (1859–1864) was brought about by a prolonged and unsuccessful attempt to annul the marriage of his lover, Princess Carolyne von Sayn-Wittgenstein, to a member of the Russian royal family. Although it was a time of frustration and confusion for him, it led to an intensification of his interest in sacred choral music. He participated enthusiastically in the musical life of Rome, paying regular visits to Saint Peter's and the Sistine Chapel, where he became fascinated by plainchant and the music of Palestrina. Among the fruits of these visits were his *Evocation à la Chapelle Sixtine* and transcriptions of the *Confutatis* and *Lacrymosa* from Mozart's *Requiem*. He began intensive research into the history of church music, developed an interest in the Cecilian movement, and became acquainted with its leader, Franz Xavier Witt (1834–1888). Liszt's drive to compose sacred music persisted until the mid-1870s, after which time his works take on a darkly mystical tone; among the late works he left unfinished are a setting of *Psalms* 25 and an oratorio based on the life of Saint Hubert (c. 656–c. 728).

Next Week at the National Gallery of Art

Anna Kijanowska, *pianist*

Music by Bacewicz, Chopin, and Szymanowski

June 8, 2008

Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm

West Building, West Garden Court