

Thoughts from Artistic Director Lynn Sjolund following the September, 2011 Mozart Requiem concert in remembrance of 9/11 on the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

*Dear Friends who are Singers,*

*All day long I have been basking in calls and e mails about our Requiem performances. Strangers stop and tell me how meaningful the day's concert was for them. From the opening remarks of Mayor Wheeler to the last magnificent chord of the Requiem people were entranced.*

*Special thanks to Kurt Katzmar who has the gift to say exactly the right thing. And in four and half minutes! He gave us the little added inspiration that made the whole piece better.*

*For me it was a real pleasure to have so many singers come from the different choruses in the Rogue Valley. Each of us has our own peculiar way of doing things and our own audiences. We all have our own loyalties and our own histories. But for this occasion we were of one voice working to find the mysterious essence of a great piece of music that has spoken to generations of music lovers. Mozart did a wonderful thing and for that we are grateful. But, Mozart had to be brought to life, and for that I am grateful to all who participated.*

*The universal feeling of goodwill engendered was worth those hot rehearsals. When our audiences are moved to tears we know they have shared a special time with us.*

*As one who has always looked at music, and especially choral/vocal music as an extension of the best of our world I am humbled by the chance to make music with all of you.*

*With all best wishes for many more musical highs!*

*Lynn*