

Rogue Valley Chorale

Presents

Vivat, Regina! Vivat, Rex!

A CONCERT OF HYMNS
WITH ANTHEMS FROM ENGLISH CORONATIONS



Lynn E. Sjolund
Conductor

Linda Borecki
Organist

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Eighth at Holly
Medford, Oregon

Saturday, March 4, 1995
8:00 p. m.

Sunday, March 5, 1995
3:00 p. m.

The Program

William Boyce (1710-1797)

Choral Salute



Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Processional Hymn: Hail Thee, Festival Day #120

(The audience is invited to join in the refrain after each verse)

Festival Te Deum (Founded on Traditional Themes)



George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Celebration Hymn: Thine is the Glory (Judas Maccabeus)

Coronation Anthem #1: *Zadok the Priest*

Coronation Anthem #2: *The King Shall Rejoice*

Intermission

(ten minutes)



Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Hymn to Music: When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Te Deum Laudamus



Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Choral Dances from GLORIANA

1. *Time*
2. *Concord*
3. *Time and Concord*
4. *Country Girls*
5. *Rustics and Fishermen*
6. *Final Dance of Homage*



C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

Hymn of Praise (from Psalm 145:1-13): O Lord, You Are My God and King

I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me

Program Notes

Few events can match the pomp and pageantry of the English coronation service. Derived from ancient tribal and Christian sources, the liturgy provides for the expression of historical continuity between the nation's past and the present. Prominent composers of every era have set traditional anthem texts to their finest music.

Processing into Westminster Abbey, the chosen monarch is greeted with the anthem "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me" (Psalm 122: 1-3,6,7). Formally recognized by representatives of the people, the sovereign vows to respect the law of the land and uphold the faith and church in an oath administered by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The archbishop then anoints the monarch with oil, thus symbolizing God's blessing. Ever since the 10th century, this act is followed by the anthem "Zadok the Priest" (1 Kings 1:38-40), which recounts the anointing of ancient King Solomon.

After this comes the investiture of the monarch with the royal robes and insignia (scepters, orb, sword, and bracelets). During the crowning is sung "The King Shall Rejoice" (Psalm 21:1,5,3; with "Alleluia"). Then the monarch is assisted from the coronation chair into the throne by high clergy and peers. The "Te Deum Laudamus" peals forth in joyous praise to God for a new Christian sovereign, and chief prelates and nobility offer homage to the new sovereign. The principal coronation may be followed by a much abbreviated one for a queen consort.



Chorale music for this concert was selected from the coronation festivities of four British Monarchs.

George II (1683-1760) was born in Germany, the son of George, Elector of Hanover. Father and son came to England upon the death of Queen Anne (George I was a great-grandson of English King James I, and was selected over other possible heirs because he was Protestant). George I died in 1727, and George II became king.

George F. Handel (1685-1759) wrote four anthems for George II's coronation. Also German by birth, Handel had left his post as Kapellmeister under Elector George of Hanover and settled in England. Fortunately, George I appreciated Handel's music sufficiently to forgive his ex-Kapellmeister, and Handel was soon providing music for the new English king. Handel wrote opera, oratorios (e.g., "The Messiah"), and various instrumental works.

William Boyce (1710-1797) was one of the foremost church composers of his era. He composed the "Salute", and was also a teacher of both Charles and Samuel Wesley.

Edward VII (1841-1910) became king late in life due to his mother Victoria's long reign. Poor health required some abbreviation of his coronation ceremonies. Although Queen Victoria had voiced disapproval of her son's behavior, Edward proved to be popular with the majority of the English people.

Sir Charles Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918) arranged "I Was Glad" for Edward VII's coronation in 1902. The middle section's contains the words, "Vivat, Regina Elizabetha!" (long live Queen Elizabeth), a reference to Queen Elizabeth I. The boys known as the "Queen's Scholars" of Westminster School (part of the Abbey complex) have the traditional privilege of leading the acclamation of the new monarch, but they do so with the name of the Queen who strongly supported their school.

Irish born composer **Sir Charles Villiers Stanford** (1852-1924) composed a setting of the "Te Deum" for Edward VII's coronation service. The "Te Deum" itself has its origins in the 3rd and 4th centuries, and reached its complete form by the beginning of the 5th century. As a hymn of praise and petition encompassing the highlights of the classic Christian faith, it has for centuries been a regular part of the Western liturgy.

When Edward VIII abdicated in order to marry his American sweetheart, younger George VI was unexpectedly brought to the throne in 1936. A personal friend of President Franklin Roosevelt, **George VI** (1895-1952) was known for his courage, sacrifice, and devotion to the British people during World War II.

English composer **Ralph Vaughan Williams** (1872-1958) composed the "Festival Te Deum" for the 1937 coronation of George VI. A WWI veteran, he studied medieval, Tudor, and folk music as a basis for developing his own unique contemporary English style.

Elizabeth II (b. 1926) became queen at the age of 25 upon her father's death. Her coronation in Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953 was the first British coronation televised around the world. Although Victoria has been criticized for not abdicating in her old age in favor of her son, we haven't been hearing much from England in favor of Charles III!

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) was a leading British composer of vocal and instrumental music, whose diverse works display distinctive originality. Britten composed the music for the opera "Gloriana" (words by William Plomer) for the post-coronation festivities in honor of Elizabeth II. It was first performed at Covent Garden on June 8, 1953.

Program notes by Greg Miller with the assistance of Paul Richardson

Final Concert – "It's Show Time"
May 13 and 14

The final concerts of the season will be held at North Medford High School in the Lynn Sjolund auditorium. You can hear many of you favorite solos and choruses in a giant review of music from the American stage. Victor Herbert, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, and Frederick Loewe are a few of the composers represented. Remember, **season ticket holders** are encouraged to bring their friends **free of charge** to this gala performance.

Biographies

The Rogue Valley Chorale

Founded twenty-two years ago, the Chorale is one of Oregon's outstanding community groups. It has been featured on Britt Festival programs and has performed with the Britt Orchestra and Rogue Valley Symphony. Two years ago the group toured in Austria, Hungary and the Czech Republic where it was enthusiastically received. The repertoire of the groups extends from the great masters of choral music to folk literature and contemporary choruses. Membership in the group is by audition and any singer interested in joining should talk to a member of the group or the director.

The group will be traveling to Scandinavia this summer. Patrons interested in going with the group should contact Phyllis Skinner, Charleen Fike or Mary Jo Bergstrom.

Linda Borecki, Organist

Linda Borecki has been the regular accompanist for the Chorale for the last five years. She is a graduate of Concordia College, Portland, where she majored in church music and studied organ with Nancy LeRoi-Nickel. In 1982 she completed a degree in organ literature under the tutelage of Jörg-Neithardt Keller at the West-falen Church Music School in Herford, West Germany. In addition to her work with the Chorale, Ms. Borecki serves as organist at Grace Lutheran Church in Ashland, and is a homemaker and mother.

Lynn Sjolund, Music Director/Conductor

Mr. Sjolund has been associated with the Chorale for nineteen of its twenty-two years. As the founding director he has conducted the group in such major works as the Bach Mass in b minor, Verdi Requiem, Brahms Requiem, Bloch Sacred Service, and Mozart Requiem and Solemn Vespers. In addition to his work with the Chorale he serves as Artistic Director and Conductor for the Rogue Opera. Well-known throughout the Northwest, he has acted as guest director for the All-State Community Choir for two years, and conducted the 100-voice All-Northwest Men's Choir. He also is a frequent conductor, adjudicator and clinician for contests and festivals.

Acknowledgements

The Chorale wishes to thank the First Presbyterian Church for making the sanctuary and outstanding Schoenstein organ available for this concert series.

We also are grateful to those who have assisted with publicity including, The Medford Mail Tribune, The Ashland Daily Tidings, The Grants Pass Daily Courier and KSOR – Jefferson Public Radio.

Chorale Personnel

Winter 1995

Soprano:

Pam Barlow
Vivian Baures
Virginia Carol Dickie
Janet Dolan
Laura Dunn
Connie Fisher
Linda Fountain
Beth Gilman
Kathy Gordon
Leslie Hall
Mary Kay Harmon
Thea Hicks
Debra McFadden
Nancy Carol Nelson
Shirley Nelson
Alice Nykreim
Susan Olson
Maryann Overland
Phyllis Skinner
Jennifer Spang
Esther Tack
Darlene VanDenBerg
Linda Wegner
Idris White

Alto:

Barbara Beers
Mary Jo Bergstrom
Joani Bristol
Anita Caster
Donna Daniels
Kathleen Davis
Kay Dix
Laurie Henning
Barbara Hewitt
Barbara Johnson
Nancy Mason
Cathy Morrison
Mary Jane Morrison
Diane Newland
Myrna Pedersen
Nancy Purdy
Jeannie Saint Germain
Doris Sjolund
Marjorie Swanson

Bass/Baritone:

Keith Campbell
Jerry Darby
Gary Lovre
David McFadden
Greg Miller

Bass/Baritone (Cont.):

Jerry Miller
Gary Nelson
Jim Post
Eric Smith
Richard Styles
Dick Swanson
Don Turner
Blake Weller
Doug Wisely
Peter Yeager

Tenor:

John Blackhurst
Eric Chaffey
Ross Davis
Ken Deveney
Don Dolan
John Gilsdorf
Ed Houck
Ted Lawson
Phil Lind
Bill Matthews
Brian Nelson
Milton Nelson
Paul Richardson
Deane Tack

Rogue Valley Chorale Board of Directors

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Mary Jo Bergstrom, secretary

Faye Hutchings, vice-president

Bill Haberlach, treasurer

Lynn Sjolund, music director/conductor

Board Members:

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Nancy Carol Nelson
Phyllis Skinner
Margaret Brown
Dorothy Brawner

Charleen Fike
Phil Lind
Greg Miller
Paul Richardson
Don Turner
Helenann Ziegler

Idris White
Peter Yeager
Eileen Ashpole
Anita Caster
Mary Jane Morrison