
Rogue Valley Chorale



The 24th Season

The Rogue Valley Chorale

For twenty-four years the Rogue Valley Chorale has brought fine choral music to the valley. Again this year a memorable program has been planned and an important event in the cultural life of Southern Oregon will take place.

On March 1 and 2 the Chorale will present *The Passion According to St. John* by J. S. Bach. This work is seldom performed outside of large metropolitan areas and is one of a handful of truly outstanding choral masterpieces. The Lenten drama is presented by fine soloists, an excellent orchestra, and strong choruses. Coming from New York to sing the role of the Evangelist will be James Brown. Mr. Brown was heard in leading roles for Rogue Opera and as the tenor soloist in the Chorale's production of *Judas Maccabeus*. Also appearing is Clayton Brainerd of Seattle. Mr. Brainerd's career has blossomed in the last two years with Carnegie Hall performances and Wagnerian opera roles in Arizona and Argentina.

Of equal interest will be the opportunity to be a member of the first audience to experience the newly-renovated Craterian Ginger Rogers Theatre. The five-million-dollar project is scheduled to be finished just in time for the Chorale's production.

*How sweet the
moonlight sleeps
upon this bank!
Here we will sit, and
let the sounds of music*

*Creep in our ears;
soft stillness and the night
Become the touches of
sweet harmony.*

—Shakespeare,
The Merchant of Venice

The third concert of the year includes favorites of Schubert such as his *Serenade* and *To Music*, and Brahms's *Liebeslieder Waltzer* Opus 52 with four-hand piano accompaniment played by Jodi Ware and Andrea Hall.

About the RVC

The Chorale has made two successful European trips: one trip to Austria, Hungary, and the Czech Republic, and a second trip to Scandinavia. The Chorale's mission is to bring fine and unusual choral music to audiences and to fulfill a musical opportunity for local singers to be involved in music-making at the highest level. Many major works have been performed by the Chorale during its history.

The founding director of the Chorale is Lynn Sjolund. He has conducted the group for twenty-one of its twenty-four years. During his absence from the valley he served as Director of Choral Activities at Loyola University of the South. He has also been active as conductor for the Rogue Opera, directing *La Traviata*, *Tosca*, *Don Pasquale*, *The Barber of Seville*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*.

1996 - 1997

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Christmas with the Chorale

Saturday, December 14, 1996 ... 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 15, 1996 ... 3:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Medford

"What sweeter musik can we bring than a carol to sing."

Robert Herrick knew the joys of music at Christmas, and you will too as the Chorale sings new carols by Libby Larson and Emma Lou Diemer.

Several of the lovely carols by Alfred Burt will complete the program. Fine women composers are featured through much of the program.



The Passion According to St. John

Saturday, March 1, 1997
8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 2, 1997
3:00 p.m.

Craterian
Ginger Rogers Theatre

The first Southern Oregon performance of Bach's great Lenten drama is scheduled to be the first public concert in the completely renovated Craterian Ginger Rogers Theatre. Outstanding soloists, orchestra and chorus will make this an unforgettable event.



With Love From the Chorale

Saturday, May 10, 1997 ... 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 11, 1997 ... 3:00 p.m.

Craterian Ginger Rogers Theatre

Haunting melodies and glorious harmonies will fill the theatre as the Chorale features music of Brahms and Schubert. Celebrating Schubert's 200th birthday and the 100th year since Brahms' death is a fine reason to hear these masters at their most romantic. Again, season ticket holders will have the privilege of bringing a guest ~ FREE OF CHARGE!



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