

9/29/93

FOR ROGUE VALLEY CHORALEERS who went to Europe and others interested.

The woman (Eva Seli) who kindly translated our program into Hungarian has translated one of the Hungarian newspaper reviews for us into English! Plus notes on the other "clippings" from Hungary. (thru Peter E. Yeager, baritone).

The clippings were very positive. Some text was taken from the description in the program, others just announced the concert to come. One article said the R.V.C. moved the audience with an unusual interpretation of Bardos, Halmos and Kodaly...we certainly can learn from them...

...The Himnusz-without a mistake with good pronunciation was a soul wrenching moment at the start of the performance...a concert that will stay long in our memory...

The last article is as follows.

THE SONG HAS ENDED

Tonight the lead roll belongs to the folk festival. Art is taking the language of dance in Veszprem. On Friday the action will be taken over by song. Borderless and national differences were washed away, fate, national and private, forgotten and mankind is the center of history.

In the great hall of the university there should have been more visitors. It would have been worth their while. Veszprem's mixed choir opened the choral days with a gala concert. The 85 year old Laszlo Halmos sat in the front row seat of honor. He could listen to his own composition, the prayer of Moses, lyrics written T. Tallos, and to other composers works. Although he had difficulty walking he said heartfelt thanks to the choir director Agnes Erdelyi.

Our american guests have produced their lives' best concert. They became amazingly "europeanized" in a few days time. They fell in love with our singing culture. They did everything to learn it and as the two concerts proved it, they did a good job at it.

The backbone of the concert day was Kodaly's TeDeum. The choirs and festival attendees were very familiar with this work. Sean Deibner who was a last minute substitute only had to call upon the revered composer's spirit. He received an orchestra especially joined for this special occasion from youth and members of the philharmonic of Veszprem. They were organized by Peter Kovats who made the TeDeum possible.

The soprano solo was sung by Susan Olson, who did everything possible as not to have to return to the U.S.. What she experienced here, is worth living for she claimed. Others singing with her were K. Jasz alto, A Griesbacher, tenor from Germany and J. Toth, bass.

The concerts had over hundred performers, among others the American Hungarian choirs with their own beauty, soul and feeling produced the spell bound atmosphere both on stage and among the audience, a seldom experience in our lifetime. Hours after the gala concert delight vibrated among the participants. Even in the farewell dance house tears of joy were seen in the eyes of the guests. But the bus left with them without pity, bound for Prague, the last four day stop on their European tour.

We wish them that they parttake in as many joys as they have taken with them from Veszprem.

This article is written in a victorian style, very flowery and such long sentences that one gets lost in them. Sounds like the writer might be a per-w.war II academic.