

Rogue Valley Chorale



FALL CONCERT SERIES

LYNN SJOLUND

Director

HELEN RIFAS

Harpist

Lawrence Stubson, Anthony Hess, Violins; Judith Bjorlie, Cello;
Virginia Peterson, Organ; Jan Boardman, Piano

November 18, 1978
First Presbyterian Church
Medford
8:00 PM

November 19, 1978
First Presbyterian Church
Medford
3:00 PM

PROGRAM

I

Missa Brevis, K. 192

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Lawrence Stubson, Anthony Hess, Violins,
Judith Bjorlie, Cello; Virginia Peterson, Organ
Kathryn Gordon, Soprano; Jacqueline Dougherty, Alto
Nick Tennant, Tenor; Carroll Graber, Bass

The **Missa Brevis** (Short Mass) in F was written in June, 1774, for ordinary liturgical use. One of the means Mozart used to shorten this mass was the omission of instrumental preludes in all sections except the **Kyrie** and **Agnus Dei**. Other means are the conciseness of all the motives, the rapid choral declamation, and the division of lengthy sections of the text among the soloists, who almost interrupt each other, but without falling into the expedient of polytexture. (It was sometimes the practice to employ a different portion of the text for each voice part, simultaneously. Using four sets of words at once was a great help in shortening the Mass).

— INTERMISSION —

II

Shepherds Rejoice

Arthur Frackenpohl

Jan Boardman, Piano
Steve Simmons, Tenor

III

Chanson dans la Nuit
(Song in the Night)

Carlos Salvedo 1885-1961

Helen Rifas, Harp

Carlos Salvedo was a French born composer who moved to the United States in 1909. He invented new techniques of harp playing and used special effects to expand the effectiveness of the instrument.

This piece, written in 1927 uses some of these effects such as tapping on the sound board, harmonic glissandi and playing with the finger nails.

IV

A Ceremony of Carols

Benjamin Britten

Roberta McKay, Soprano Janet Ivie, Alto, Harp

A CEREMONY OF CAROLS

Composed in 1942, Benjamin Britten's picturesque suite of pieces for treble voices and harp reveals the ingeniousness of his pen, moving in shades of rare and delicate beauty. The words, mostly Middle English, are largely anonymous. The Ceremony begins with a procession up the church isle, the choir singing the unaccompanied Latin plain chant that tells of the birth of Christ. Later, as the choir retires from the church at the end of the Ceremony, we hear the chant repeated, now used as a Recessional. The work has eleven sections, including soprano and alto solos. The simplicity and charm of Middle English poetry as well as festive Christmas verse complete Britten's celebration of the Christchild and His season.

V

Christmas Day, Choral Fantasy on Carols

Gustav Holst

LYNN SJOLUND

Lynn Sjolund has been the musical director and conductor of the Rogue Valley Chorale since its organization in 1973. He has received music degrees from the University of Oregon and has spent a year studying in Germany. Mr. Sjolund is president elect of the Oregon Music Educators Association and past president of the Jackson County Community Concert Association. He is well-known throughout the northwest as a clinician and adjudicator. As director of the Medford Senior High School Choir, Mr. Sjolund has led his groups to performances on NBC Radio and for many local, state and northwest area conventions.

VIRGINIA PETERSON

Virginia Peterson, is a graduate of Lewis and Clark College, where she studied with Dr. L. Stanley Glarum. Mrs. Peterson served as church organist at First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, Washington before coming to Medford, where she is organist at First Presbyterian Church.

HELEN RIFAS

Helen Rifas, guest soloist for today's concert, is from Eugene. She is a student of Sally Maxwell, professor of harp at the University of Oregon. Ms. Rifas has completed her Masters degree in harp performance and has been a regular soloist on her instrument. She has performed the "Ceremony of Carols" on several different occasions with Oregon choruses.

A BRIEF HISTORY

The Rogue Valley Chorale is now in its sixth season. Formed in 1973 with about fifty singers, the group gave its premiere performance November 15th of that year. The Chorale was organized as a medium for musical enrichment and performance opportunities for trained and semi-professional vocalists.

Lynn Sjolund has been the music director of the chorale since its beginning in 1973. As director, Mr. Sjolund selects the music and plans the program each concert season. He devotes many hours to the group in preparation, rehearsals with instrumentalists, the chorale and in performance.

Many of those who participated in that first season remain in the chorale but membership has grown to nearly eighty. Singers are chosen on the basis of audition and give their time and talents as well as financial support to a group which not only benefits its members but all residents of the Rogue Valley.

ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE

Barr, Brent - Medford
Bergstrom, Mary Jo - Medford
Blackhall, Jim - Medford
Boardman, Jan - Medford
Braaten, Bruce - Medford
Breckenridge, Laurie - Medford
Campbell, Keith - Phoenix
Capsey, Diane - Medford
Davis, Kathleen - Medford
Dougherty, Jacqueline - Medford
Dyer, Sally - Medford
Dyrud, Jean - Medford
Fike, Charlene - Medford
Fletcher, Liz - Medford
Foster, Karen - Medford
Gang, Todd - Medford
Gangstee, Roland - Medford
Gilman, Beth - Ashland
Gilsdorf, Esther - Medford
Glasgow, Gina - Jacksonville
Gleaves, Jim - Medford
Gordon, Kathy - Medford
Graber, Carroll - Medford
Haden, Melanie - Medford
Hall, Leslie - Medford
Hedges, Paul - Ashland
Heman, Marge - Medford
Hewitt, Barbara - Medford
Hollensted, Ron - Grants Pass
Horton, Kenne - Medford
Houck, Ed - Medford
Hutchings, Faye - Medford
Ivie, Janet - Ashland
Johnson, Barbara - Medford
Johnson, Dan - Eagle Point
Jones, Roger - Medford
Larson, Peggy - Medford
Lawrence, Marvelle - Medford
Leavens, Carolyn - Ashland
Leavens, John - Ashland
Mason, Nancy - Phoenix
Mathews, Bill - Medford
McFadden, Debra - Ashland
McKay, Roberta - Medford
McUne, Deborah - Medford
McUne, Ron - Medford
Nelson, Milton - Medford
Nelson, Shirley - Medford
Nitcher, Doug - Medford
Palmerton-Jones, Larry - Ruch
Paschke, Karen - Medford
Pearson, Bunny - Medford
Post, Jim - Medford
Rennick, Melvin - Medford
Rothe, Ron - Grants Pass
Rowan, John - Ashland
Rumer, Barbara - Ashland
Score, Dorothy - Rogue River
Scudder, Dory - Medford
Scudder, Marilyn - Medford
Simmons, Cindy - Medford
Simmons, Steve - Medford
Sjolund, Doris - Medford
Spece, Rae - Central Point
Stafford, Elaine - Medford
Stoney, Christopher - Ashland
Straus, Sherry - Medford
Sullivan, Kaye - Medford
Swanson, Dick - Medford
Swanson, Marge - Medford
Tack, Deane - Medford
Tennant, Barbara - Medford
Tennant, Nick - Medford
Tribble, Mamie - Medford
Tuman, Charlene - Medford
Underwood, Dave - Medford
Updegrove, David - Medford
Walden, Wm. - Central Point
Wilkinson, June - Medford
Willard, Nancy - Medford
Williams, Fran - Medford

Assistant Director - Ronald Hollenstad

Assistant Director - Carroll Graber

Librarian - Jan Boardman

Chorale Secretary - Mrs. Mary Jo Bergstrom

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