

PROGRAM

Life's Connections

Sunday 26 April 2015, 2 pm

O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing James Denton

Prayer from the Opera, Rienzi Richard Wagner

Selections from The Phantom Of The Opera.....Andrew Lloyd Webber

Think Of Me

Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again

All I Ask Of You

Angel Of Music

The Phantom Of The Opera

Songs from The Lord Of The Rings Howard Stone

In Dreams

May It Be

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Laudation Gilbert Martin

Program Notes

O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

James Denton did this arrangement for the Lorenz Publishing Company of Dayton, Ohio and copyrighted by them in 1971. He paints an image of an emerging throng of people processing towards us, heralded by a trumpet call joined together in a mission of glory unified as one body.

The hymn tune that is the basis for this arrangement is entitled Azmon, originally composed by Carl G. Glaser in 1828 and then re-arranged by Lowell Mason in 1839.

The text utilized was written by Charles Wesley in 1739 following his recovery from pleurisy. He was moved by the brotherhood of believers that ministered to him during this time of illness which also was coupled with issues related to his search for faith, his doubts, trials and struggles. The hymn was placed in John Wesley's *A Collection of Hymns for the People Called Methodists* published in 1780.

O For a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise!
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

Hear him, ye deaf, his praise, ye dumb,
Your loosen'd tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

My gracious Master and m God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the world abroad
The honors of Thy name.

Look unto him, ye nations; own
Your God, ye fallen race;
Look, and be saved through faith alone,
Be justified by grace.

Jesus! The Name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain;
His soul was once an offering made
For every soul of man.

He breaks the power of cancell'd sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood avail'd for me.

Awake from guilty nature's sleep,
And Christ shall give you light,
Cast all your sins into the deep,
And wash the Æthiop white.

He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.

With me, your chief, ye then shall know,
Shall feel your sins forgiven,
Anticipate your heaven below,
And own that love is heaven

Program Notes

Prayer from the Opera, Rienzi

Wilhelm Richard Wagner (German composer, 1813-1883) had his first success with this his third opera on a libretto written by him based on the novel by Edward Bulwer-Lytton. The opera is set in Rome and based on the life of Cola di Rienzi (1313-1354), a late medieval political figure who after championing the people is then betrayed by those he campaigned and fought for, themes that are to be expanded throughout the remainder of this composer's works.

This prayer occurs in the final act in the hall of the Capitol of Rome. Rienzi has been excommunicated for leading a force of Roman citizens against the treacherous nobles prompting everyone to abandon their support of him. On the brink of disaster, Rienzi prays to God that he might be given strength to weather the crisis. He feels that he is doing God's work by empowering the common citizen.

Almighty Father, look down!
Hear me, in the dust, pray to you!
The strength that your authority gave to me,
Let it not yet perish!
You strengthened me, You gave me great power
You lent me noble character:
To make bright that which was thought inferior,
To elevate what sank into the dust.
You changed the humiliation of the people
Into nobility, splendor, and majesty!
O God, do not destroy the work
That stands to you at the price established!

Ah, dissolve, Lord, the dark night,
That still covers the souls of men!
Grant us the reflection of your authority,
That extends itself into eternity!
My Lord and Father, look down!
Lower your eyes from your height!
The power that your authority gave to me,
Let it not yet perish!
Almighty Father, look down!
Hear me, in the dust, pray to you!
My God, who gave to me great power,
Grant my profoundly ardent prayer!

Selections from The Phantom Of The Opera

Andrew Lloyd Webber (English composer, 1948-) was the son of English organist and composer, William Lloyd Webber (1914-1982). Several of his musicals have run for more than a decade both in the West End and on Broadway.

The Phantom Of The Opera opened in 1986 and is based on the 1909 serialized novel of Gaston Leroux, inspired by historical events at the Paris Opera during the 19th century. It is currently still running on Broadway from its 1988 production. Lyrics by Charles Hart with additions from Richard Stilgoe. By 2011, it had been viewed by over 130 million people in 145 cities in 27 countries with productions in 2015 opening in Puerto Rico, Helsinki and Hong Kong.

Program Notes

Think of me fondly, when
We've said good bye
Remember me
Once in a while, please
Promise me you'll try

When you find,
That once again you long
To take your heart back,
And be free
If you ever find a moment,
Spare a thought for me

We never said
Our love was evergreen
Or as unchanging as the sea...
But if you can still remember,
Stop and think of me

Think of all the things
We've shared and seen,
Don't think about the things
Which might have been

Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again

Little Lottie thought of everything and nothing
Her father promised her that he
Would send her The Angel Of Music
Her father promised her
Her father promised her

You were once my one companion
You were all that mattered
You were once a friend and father
Then my world was shattered

Wishing you were somehow here again
Wishing you were somehow near
Sometimes it seemed if I just dreamed
Somehow you would be here

Wishing I could hear your voice again
Knowing that I never would
Dreaming of you won't help me to do
All that you dreamed I could

Think Of Me

Think of me
Think of me waking, silent
And resigned...
Imagine me,
Trying to hard to
Put you from my mind...

Recall those days,
Look back on all those time,
Think of the things
We'll never do...
There will never be a day when
I won't think of you

We never said
Our love was ever green
Or as unchanging as the sea...
But please promise me,
That sometimes
You will think of me.

Passing bells and sculptured angels
Cold and monumental
Seemed for you the wrong companions
You were warm and gentle

Too many years fighting back tears
Why can't the past just die?

Wishing you were somehow here again
Knowing we must say good bye
Try to forgive teach me to live
Give me the strength to try

No more memories no more silent tears
No more gazing across the wasted years
Help me say good bye
Help me to say good bye

Program Notes

No more talk of darkness,
forget these wide eyed fears,
I'm here, nothing can harm you
my words will warm and calm you
Let me be your freedom,
let daylight dry your tears
I'm here with you, beside you
to guard you and to guide you

Say you love me every waking moment
Turn my head with talk of summertime
Say you need me with you, now and always
Promise me that all you say is true
That's all I ask of you

Let me be your shelter, let me be your light
You're safe, no one will find you,
your fears are far behind you
All I want is freedom,
a world with no more night
And you always beside me,
to hold me and to hide me

Bravi, bravi, bravissimi

Where in the world have you been hiding?
Really, you were perfect
I only wish I knew your secret
Who is this new tutor?

Father once spoke of an Angel
I used to dream he'd appear
Now as I sing I can sense him
And I know he's here

Here in this room, he calls me softly
Somewhere inside, hiding
Somehow I know he's always with me
He, the unseen genius

All I Ask Of You

Then say you'll share with me
one love, one lifetime
Let me lead you from your solitude
Say you need me with you, here beside you
Anywhere you go, let me go too
Christine, that's all I ask of you

Say you'll share with me one love, one lifetime
Say the word and I will follow you
Share each day with me,
each night, each morning
Say you love me, you know I do
Love me, that's all I ask of you

Anywhere you go, let me go too
Love me, that's all I ask of you

Angel Of Music

Christine, you must have been draming
Stories like this can't come true
Christine, you're talking in riddles
And it's not like you

Angel of music, guide and guardian
Grant to me your glory
Angel of music, hide no longer
Secret and strange Angel

He's with me even now
Your hands are cold
All around me
Your face, Christine, it's white
It frightens me, don't be frightened

Program Notes

In sleep he sang to me,
In dreams he came...
That voice which calls to me
And speaks my name...

And do I dream again?
For now I find
The Phantom of the Opera
Is there inside my mind

Sing once again with me
Our strange duet...
My power over you
Grows stronger yet...

And though you turn from me,
To glance behind,
The Phantom of the Opera
Is there inside your mind...

Those who have seen your face
Draw back in fear...
I am the mask you wear....

It's me they hear...

Songs from The Lord Of The Rings

Howard Leslie Shore (Canadian composer, 1946-) is noted for his film scores. In addition to The Lord of the Rings and the Hobbit trilogies he has completed over 80 films.

The Lord of the Rings is a epic high-fantasy novel written by English author J. R. R. Tolkien between 1937 and 1949 as a sequel to the 1937 novel The Hobbit. It was published 1954-1955 with over 150 million copies sold. There have been many film, radio, television, video game and theatrical adaptations.

The Phantom Of The Opera

Your/my sprit
And your/my voice
In one combined.
The Phantom of the Opera
Is there inside your/my mind...

(Off-stage) He's there,
The Phantom of the Opera...
Beware the Phantom of the Opera...

(Phantom) In all your fantasies,
You always knew
That man and mystery...
(Christine) ...were both in you...

(Both) And in this labyrinth
Where night is blind,
The Phantom of the Opera
Is there/here
Inside your/my mind

Sing my Angel of Music!

He's there
The Phantom of the Opera

In Dreams

When the cold of winter comes
Starless night will cover day
In the veiling of the sun
We will walk in bitter rain.

But in dreams
I can hear your name.
And in dreams
We will meet again.

When the seas and mountain fall
And we come to end of days.
In the dark I hear a call Calling me there.

We will go there
And back again.

Program Notes

May it be an evening star
Shines down upon you,
May it be when darkness falls,
Your heart will be true
You walk a lonely road,
Oh! How far you are from home.

Mornië utúlië. (*Darkness has come.*)
Believe and you will find your way.
Mornië alantië (*Darkness has fallen.*)
A promise lies within you now.

She never watched
the morning rising,
Too busy with the
days first chores
But oft she would watch
the sun's fading
As the cold of night swept
across the moors

Where once was light
Now darkness falls
Where once was love
Love is no more
Don't say goodbye
Don't say I didn't try

These tears we cry
Are falling rain
For all the lies you told us
The hurt, the blame!
And we will weep to be so alone
We are lost
We can never go home

So in the end
I'll be what I will be
No loyal friend
Was ever there for me

May It Be

May it be the shadow's call
Will fly away
May it be you journey on
To light the day.
When the night is overcome,
You may rise to find the sun.

Mornië utúlië. (*Darkness has come.*)
Believe and you will find your way.
Mornië alantië (*Darkness has fallen.*)
A promise lies within you now.

Evanstar

And in that moment
She felt the loss
Of everything that
Had been missed
So used to feeling
the spirit sink
She had not felt
her own heart's wish

Gollum's Song

Now we say goodbye
We say you didn't try

These tears you cry
Have come too late
Take back the lies
The hurt, the blame!

And you will weep
When you face the end alone
You are lost
You can never go home
You are lost
You can never go home

Program Notes

Lay down
your sweet and weary head
Night is falling,
you have come to journey's end.
Sleep now,
and dream of the ones who came before.
They are calling
from across the distant shore.

Why do you weep?
What are these tears upon your face?
Soon you will see
all of your fears will pass away,
safe in my arms
you're only sleeping.

What can you see
on the horizon?
Why do the white gulls call?
Across the sea
a pale moon rises --
The ships have come to carry you home.

Dawn will turn
to silver glass
A light on the water
All souls pass.

Laudation

Gilbert M. Martin's (American composer, 1941-) music and lyrics are well-established with America's leading publishing houses. For more than 40 years, organists, pianists, and choral ensembles in both schools and churches have performed and enjoyed his many and varied original compositions and arrangements.

A native of Southbridge, Massachusetts, Mr. Martin studied organ with Alexander McCurdy and George Lynn at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, where he was honored as a distinguished composer and alumnus.

Although he lives quietly in the Dayton area, he is often given the opportunity to teach, cajole, and conduct numerous musical ensembles throughout the country, and he remains an active composer in the choral, piano, and organ genres.

Into The West

Hope fades
into the world of night
through shadows falling
out of memory and time.
Don't say,
"We have come now to the end."
White shores are calling
you and I will meet again.

And you'll be here in my arms
Just sleeping.
What can can you see
on the horizon?
Why do the white gulls call?
Across the sea
a pale moon rises --
The ships have come to carry you home.

And all will turn
to silver glass
A light on the water
Grey ships pass
Into the west.