

The Muskegon Chamber Choir
David Wikman – Music Director and Conductor
Ann Rogalla Portenga – Accompanist

Pamela Balcom
Shari Baar
Heather Benson
Bonnie Borgeson
Ardythe Bulthouse
Sheila Daniels
Barbara Dulyea
Candace Fox
Diane Goodman
Doris Helmus
Lucille Jager
Paula Johnson

Gail Kurdziel
Betty Kurtz
Ruth Ann Matthews
Linda Mysen
Genevra Naill
Christine Neis
Diane Nye
Gail Smith
Janet Smith
Jennifer Smith
Cynthia Bates Twining
Diane VanWesep

David Arnouts
Kenneth Brown
Chris Cutting
David Epplett
G. Thomas Johnson
Scott Lachniet
Erlund Larson
Jeffrey Leder
Jerry Lewallen
Roger Patton

David Peden
Kevin Prince
Daniel Spitters
David Stegink
Bradley Taylor
Don Timmer
Richard Veltman
Brian Waltersdorf
James Webb
Wesley Wiethoff

Roy Winegar

Tickets and Ushers
Paul Bulthouse, Charles Matthews, Elmer Wahl

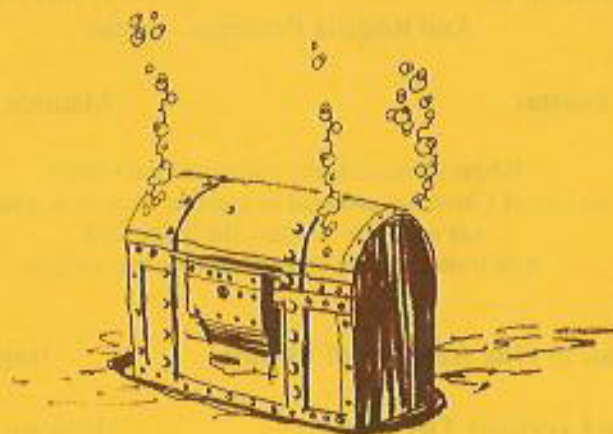
THE MUSKEGON CHAMBER CHOIR

David Wikman – Conductor

presents

BURIED TREASURES

Music composed long ago but only recently discovered
Music long neglected
Music newly composed



Saturday, November 9, 2002
Eight O'Clock P.M.
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

PROGRAM

I

In virtute tua, Domine Grzegorz Gorczycki
Francine Harris and Jennifer Alman – violin

In Thy strength, O Lord, the just shall rejoice:
And in Thy salvation they shall rejoice exceedingly.
Thou hast given them their heart's desire.

Freunde Jesus, weinet indessen Johann Ernst Bach

Friends of Jesus, shed tears of sorrow, thanks and penitence.
Weep, the wrath ne'er to forget that He through his dying drank.
Walk the paved and lovely pathway that your burden is a blessing,
every sight a light of joy, and His death is but a sleep.

Toccata in G Hieronymus Pachelbel
Ann Rogalla Portenga – organ

Ubi Caritas Maurice Duruflé

Where there is charity and love, God is there.
The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us be glad in it.
Let us revere and love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

Speak to One Another of Psalms Jean Berger

How Excellent Thy Name Howard Hanson

Praise to the Lord arr. F. Melius Christiansen

INTERMISSION
fifteen minutes

II

Sonatae II für Orgel Paul Hindemith
1. Lebhaft
Ann Rogalla Portenga – organ

Un Cygne (A Swan) Paul Hindemith

A swan is breasting the flow all in himself enfolded,
A slow-moving tableau
And so, at some time or place a loved one will be molded
To seem like a migrating space:
Will near us, floating redoubled as a swan on the river
Upon our soul so troubled, Which swells it by the addition of a wraith a-quiver
with delight and suspicion
Rainer Maria Rilke

Rest Ralph Vaughn Williams

Do Not Go, My Love Richard Hagemann
Pamela Balcom – soprano
text by Rabindranath Tagore

Here is Thy Footstool Paul Creston
text by Tagore

Dirait-on Morten Lauridsen

Abandon, surrounding, abandon tenderness, touching tenderness...
Your oneness touches itself, so they say,
Self-caressing through its own clear reflection,
Thus you invent the theme of Narcissus fulfilled
Rainer Maria Rilke

Songs Eternity David L. Brunner

Anthem for Spring Pietro Mascagni
from *Cavalleria Rusticana*
translation by Sigmund Spaeth

+

Chamber choir treats near-capacity crowd to 'Buried Treasures'

By Bill Seeback
CHRONICLE SPECIAL WRITER

The Muskegon Chamber Choir conductor David Wikman pulled together an eclectic array of choral pieces for a program called "Buried Treasures."

Buried treasures refers to music that may have been popular at one time but has generally fallen from popularity. The Saturday night concert was performed at Our Savior's Lutheran Church to a near-capacity crowd.

The choir has a changeable venue for each of its programs appearing at many of the churches in the community particularly those with exceptional acoustics. That format seems to work well.

The opening two Baroque selections were particularly strong performances. The energetic "In virtute tua, Domine" by Górczycki displayed a rich polyphonic texture with a contrasting darker middle.

The Johann Ernst Bach (godson of the famous Johann Sebastian) setting of "Freunde Jesus, weinet indessen" was a pleasant foil to Górczycki. Phrase endings were beautifully turned and the joy of singing was particularly apparent in these works.

It was especially appropriate to program the "Ubi Caritas" by Maurice Durufle — this being the 100th anniversary of his birth.

MUSIC REVIEW

Muskegon Chamber Choir

The chant-based melodic lines undulate over ever shifting harmonies challenging even the finest choirs. Reticent entries and ambiguous pitches in the inner voices marred the overall performance.

Morten Lauridsen's "Dirait-on," with its folksong qualities was a particular lovely piece. Accompanist Ann Rogalla Portenga's contribution here was finely wrought.

Her performance of the first movement of Paul Hindemith's organ "Sonatae II" was crisp and clean with nice contrasts in registration.

David Brunner's "Songs Eternity" was a particular favorite of the audience. Mascagni's warhorse "Anthem for Spring" from the opera "Cavalleria Rusticana" seemed especially appropriate and gave meaning to the buried treasure theme and why some of the selections were buried.

The idea for the selections made gave the program a wide gamut of interesting possibilities. Worth doing again.

The Chamber Choir performs an important function in our community offering opportunities to singers and audiences alike — an essential part of the cultural fabric.