

Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice

with the
Academy Chamber Orchestra
and the
Madrigal Singers

May 1991
Edmonton, Camrose, Edson, Alberta

Program



Programme

The Ensemble Polyphonique will perform a selection of a cappella French songs in addition to the following works for choir and orchestra.

Piu Non Travano, K.549 WA Mozart
Luci Care, KV.346 (1756-1791)

Coronation Anthem: GF Handel
"Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened" (1685-1759)

Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened
Let Justice and Judgement
Alleluja!

Concerto in D minor JS Bach
for Oboe and Violin, BWV 1060 (1685-1750)

1. *Allegro*
2. *Adagio*
3. *Allegro*

Gilbert Bessone, oboe
Norman Nelson, violin

INTERMISSION

"Gloria" in D major, RV 589 Antonio Vivaldi
Carol Dyck, Debra Ollikkala, soprano soloists (1678-1741)

1. *Gloria in excelsis Deo*
2. *Et in terra pax*
3. *Laudamus te*
4. *Gratias agimus tibi*
5. *Propter magnam gloriam*
6. *Domine Deus*
7. *Domine Fili unigenite*
8. *Domine Deus, Agnus Dei*
9. *Que tollis peccata mundi*
10. *Qui sedes*
11. *Quoniam tu solus Sanctus*
12. *Cum Sancto Spiritu*

Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice

Based in Nice, France the Ensemble Polyphonique is composed of 60 members under the direction of Mr Gilbert Bessone. The choir performs "a capella", choir and organ, or as choir and orchestra. It has participated in several recitals in the Nice area, particularly with l'Ensemble choral des Alpes Maritimes. Their performances have included Purcell's "Queen Mary's Funerals", and works for choir and organ by Monteverdi and Mendelssohn, including concerts with the Nice Philharmonic Chamber Music Orchestra. In the summer of 1990, the Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice performed Vivaldi's "Gloria" with the Academy Strings Chamber Orchestra in several cities in France.

At the present time, Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice is rehearsing Mozart's "Mass in C", which will be performed with The Provence Cote d'Azur Orchestra next summer. Future projects include performances of Verdi's "Stabat Mater" with the European Orchestra, and recitals with a Danish choir in Copenhagen. This tour to Alberta is the first time the choir has performed so far away from home, and unfortunately, due to other obligations, only a portion of the choir was able to make the trip to Canada.

Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice

Gilbert Bessone, Director

Soprano

Liliane Jules

Lise Pioch

Renee Bes

Catherine Ichès

Violaine Bourgeois

Yvette Leroy

Marie Paule Maniquaire

Mezzo Soprano

Michele Martini

Marie Huyn

Francoise Drouin

Alto

Monique Milon

Josette Hamiot

Genevieve Trentesaux

Aimee Cleri

Tenor

Andre Trentesaux

Alain Rolland

Bass

Pascal Ferrer

Jacques Faisan

Benjamin Damilano

Gilbert Bessone

Gilbert Bessone has conducted l'Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice since 1988. M. Bessone is an oboist who studied at the National Conservatory of Nice and at the Academy of Music of Monaco. Awarded the prize for oboe in Nice, he has been a pedagogical assistant of Music since 1983. In 1988 he was successful in passing the state diploma as an oboe teacher, and is now teaching at the Music Conservatory in Menton, France. As an oboist, M. Bessone is collaborating with the Philharmonic Orchestras in Monte-Carlo, Nice and Cannes.

Norman Nelson

Norman Nelson was born in Dublin, Ireland and educated in England with studies at the Royal College of Music, London. At the age of 24, he held the position of assistant concert master with the London Symphony, subsequently holding the same position with the Royal Philharmonic, and the BBC Symphony. He has appeared as violin soloist with many orchestras, including the London Symphony, the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the BBC Symphony, and the Vancouver Symphony. As a chamber musician, Mr Nelson has performed in every major city in Canada and the United States, in Europe, Russia, Japan, and the People's Republic of China. He has recorded numerous discs for the International Service of the CBC, and at present performs frequent coast-to-coast broadcasts in Canada. Mr Nelson holds the position of Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at the University of Alberta.

Leonard Ratzlaff

Leonard Ratzlaff is Associate Professor of Choral Music at the University of Alberta where he directs the Department of Music's graduate program in choral conducting. In addition to his work at the U of A, Dr Ratzlaff also conducts the Richard Eaton Singers and is active as a clinician and guest conductor, with recent performances with the Edmonton Symphony and with ProCoro Canada. Dr Ratzlaff also performs regularly as a baritone soloist. Recent solo engagements include appearances with the Lethbridge Symphony, the Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria, and the Robert Shaw Institute of Music in Southwest France. A graduate of the University of Iowa, his dissertation on Bruckner's "Te Deum" was awarded the ACDA Julius Hereford Dissertation Prize in 1987.

Academy Chamber Orchestra

Norman Nelson, Director

Violin I

Norman Nelson
Heather Neufeld-Bergen
Eva Butler
Barb Ruff

Violin II

Jim Cockell
Betty Chen
Cherry Kawamoto
Sue Innes
Laura Grantham

Viola

Moni Mathew
Marnie Ozipko
Laurel Howard

Cello

Paul Radosh
Adelle Bosse
Jose Quintanilla
Lisa Wagner

Bass

Pat Laska

Trumpet

Duane Paulson
Len Busse

Oboe

Sharie Rathwell

Harpichord

Roger Admiral

Madrigal Singers

Leonard Ratzlaff, Director

Soprano

Ingrid Bartz
Marion McFall

Alto

Leanne Mulesa

Tenor

Michael Cantin
Tim Hankewich
Joe Levesque (*U of C*)
George Irwin
Robert Reed

Bass

Bruce Cable
Chris Wright

Academy Chamber Orchestra

The Academy Chamber Orchestra is composed of students enrolled in the Department of Music at the University of Alberta, as well as musicians majoring in other disciplines. The group makes frequent concert tours throughout Western Canada and the Northwestern United States, including youth concerts and university appearances. It was during the orchestra's concert tour of Spain, France and England in the summer of 1990 that they were fortunate to have the opportunity to perform Vivaldi's "Gloria" with l'Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice.

Madrigal Singers

Originally begun as a small ensemble devoted to performing madrigals, the U of A Madrigal Singers have gradually grown into a chamber choir which performs repertoire of all periods and styles. Membership is by audition, and is open to all University of Alberta students. In addition to their concerts on campus, the Madrigal Singers perform frequently in Edmonton and across the province. They performed at the 1989 Alberta Music Conference, and are heard regularly on regional music programs of the CBC. The Madrigal Singers were national finalists in the 1990 CBC Choral Competition. They have premiered works by Canadian composers Violet Archer, Malcolm Forsyth, Alfred Fisher and Gerhard Krapf.

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Messiah Lutheran Church, Camrose, Alberta
Camrose Community Choir
Hosts for members of l'Ensemble Polyphonique de Nice
Edmonton Convention and Tourism Authority