

December 9, 2001

Messiah

Part 1

George Frideric Handel

When George Frideric Handel put down his pen on September 14, 1741, he had just finished composing the most popular choral work ever written, a work of such inspiration that audiences and professional musicians alike have placed it almost in a category by itself.

George Frideric Handel was born in 1685 in Halle, Germany. He graduated from the University of Halle in 1702 and went to Hamburg to take up a career in music. He settled in London in 1712, and enjoyed a long and prosperous career composing Italian opera. But during the 1730's the public's taste grew tired of the type of opera he was composing, so Handel turned to a new kind of composition, the oratorio. He chose for his libretti Old Testament stories in English. Messiah was composed by Handel in 1741 to a libretto of Charles Jennens. It was to be unique among Handel's oratorios in two respects: first, it is the only New Testament oratorio he composed, and second, it is the only oratorio that is really not a story-telling work, but a series of contemplations on the Christian idea of redemption.

Messiah is in three parts. The first part, as presented here, begins with a troubled world anxiously awaiting the coming of the Messiah, the expected, anointed one, who will redeem the people of the world. The Old Testament texts prophesy the coming of Christ and the call for repentance. Finally, the child is born and the world is called to follow him.

April 28, 2002

Requiem

John Rutter

John Rutter's Requiem has quickly risen to popularity with choirs and audiences alike, due to its beautiful melodies and rich harmonies. Comprised of seven movements including five texts from the original Latin burial mass "*Missa pro defunctis*", and two Psalm texts, Requiem seeks to celebrate the journey of life and faith.

We dedicate this Requiem performance to all of our loved ones who have passed, as well as those who so willingly gave their lives that we might live and prosper in freedom. May God grant them eternal peace.

Hark, I Hear The Harps Eternal Arr. Alice Parker

Sacred Harp singing, or "shaped-note singing", is a tradition that began in the early roots of American history. Groups of singers gathered together for an afternoon of entertainment, singing through the "Sacred Harp", a published compilation of traditional hymns. Sacred Harp tunes were usually composed in four-part texture: soprano, alto, tenor and bass, with each part sitting in their individual section. Sacred Harp singing is still alive and well in parts of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

"Hark, I Hear The Harps Eternal" is perhaps Alice Parkers most famed arrangement. Based on the tune, "*Consolation*", Parker uses rhythmic intricacies to mimic the heavenly "band" in their worship to God. The texture of this anthem is quite complex, and its echoes are reminiscent of St. Johns revelation of the angels, Cherubim and Seraphim, as they continuously cry, "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Please detach and mail to:

Name _____

Dutch Fork Choral Society

Address _____

P.O. Box 8

City _____

State _____

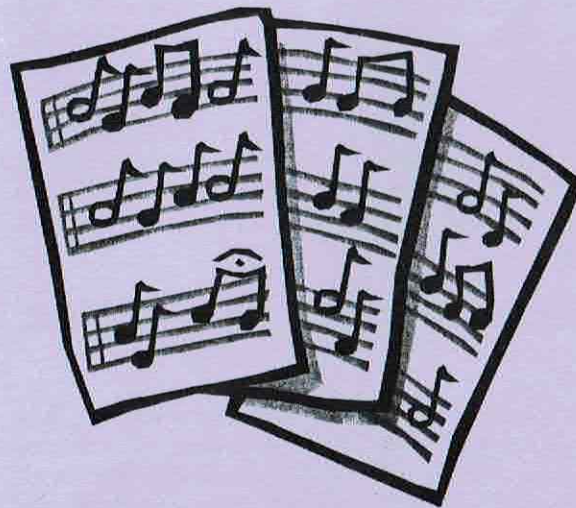
Zip _____

Chapin, SC 29036

Enclosed is my contribution for the amount of \$ _____

The Dutch Fork Choral Society was founded to provide an outlet for the presentation of serious choral music in the Dutch Fork region. Choral works are at times accompanied by orchestra. Programs are financed by choir members' dues, donations from local business and civic organizations, and government grants. With the support of the community, Dutch Fork Choral Society will strive to continue a tradition of fine choral music.

The Dutch Fork Choral Society



2001 - 2002
Season

Chapin, South Carolina

The
2001 - 2002
Season

The Dutch Fork Choral Society begins its first season with George Frideric Handel's beloved choral masterpiece, "Messiah". Our spring concert will consist of John Rutter's "Requiem" and other choral masterworks. It is hoped that through diverse programming, Dutch Fork Choral Society will enable people of all ages, backgrounds, and religious faiths to experience the joy of choral music.

Dutch Fork Choral Society, a mixed choir of approximately 40 voices, was organized in June of 2001 to provide an outlet for the presentation of serious choral music for the Dutch Fork region of South Carolina. Dutch Fork Choral Society will endeavor to actively prepare and perform varied and challenging repertoire representative of our diverse global communities for the purpose of enriching the lives of others and promoting cultural heritage.

Founder and Musical Director Jerrold D. Tidwell is a graduate of the University of Montevallo, Birmingham, Alabama. He has served as Organist and Choirmaster for United Methodist, Episcopal and Lutheran Churches for over 16 years. Jerrold currently serves as Director of Music and Christian Education for Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church, Chapin. Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church has graciously granted the use of its facilities for the Dutch Fork Choral Society.

The Dutch Fork Choral Society
P.O. Box 8
Chapin, South Carolina 29036

