

The Messiah

Presented by

A Chorus of Church Choirs

assembled by

The Portland Council of Churches

and

The Portland Symphony Orchestra

WILLEM VAN HOOGSTRATEN

Conductor

+ + +

PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

Arleta Baptist, Joseph A. Finley, director; First Baptist, P. A. Ten Haaf, director; Hinson Memorial Baptist, Lauren B. Sykes, director; Second German Baptist, Harold Petke, director.

First Congregational, Eugene Gilbert, director; First German Congregational, Rev. F. J. Renz, director; Staub Memorial Congregational, Albert E. Jones, director; Waverly Heights Congregational, Barbara Thorne, director; Congregational Chorus composed of choirs from the following churches: Hillsboro, Beaverton, Highland, Alameda, and Oregon City, Mrs. T. Arthur Dungan, director.

All Saints Episcopal of Hillsboro, Mrs. Ruth Harbison Gardner, director.

Augustana Lutheran, Stanley Glarum, director; Bethlehem Lutheran, Gina Finseth, director; Central Lutheran, Mrs. G. A. Charlston, director; Immanuel Lutheran, Waldemar E. Pearson, director; Peninsula Peace, Marie Hicken, director; Portsmouth Trinity, Rev. A. J. Towe, director.

First Methodist, L. F. Barnett, director; Mt. Tabor Methodist, J. H. Medler, director; Woodstock Methodist, H. D. Frazer, director.

First Presbyterian, C. L. Faris, director; Mizpah Presbyterian, Mrs. C. C. Henderson, director; Mt. Tabor Presbyterian, Amy Welch, director; Rose City Park Presbyterian, Raymond E. Osborne, director.

First United Presbyterian, Wava Rothlisberg, director; Kenton Community United Presbyterian, Rev. J. George Cunningham, director.

**MUNICIPAL
AUDITORIUM**

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THE TROMBONE

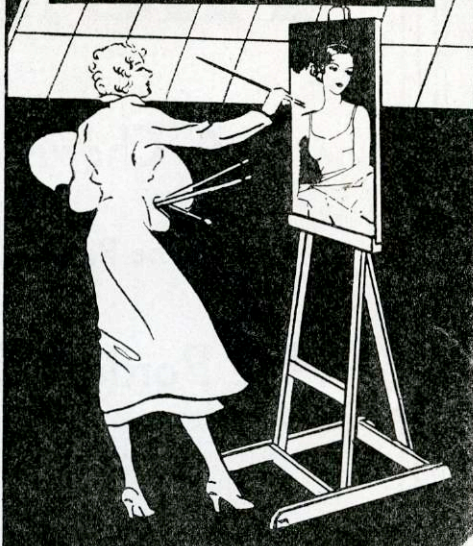
In the earlier instruments the different tones were produced by the use of three valves. The modern trombone has no valves but the tones are produced by the lengthening or shortening of the tubing by the use of a slide.

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CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday Afternoon, December 30, at 3:00 P. M.

HANDEL.....Oratorio, "The Messiah"
For Solo Voices, Chorus and Orchestra

SOLOISTS

SOPRANOS

Lorraine Lee Francis
(Mount Tabor M. E. Church)

Doris Ogden Roth
(Staub Memorial Congregational Church)

CONTRALTOS

Mary Arnold
(First Baptist Church)

Lydia Marks
(Central Lutheran Church)

TENOR

Virgil Day
(Rose City Park M. E. Church)

BASSES

Gene Cusick
(First Presbyterian Church)

Richard Meyer
(Staub Memorial Congregational Church)

CHORUS OF CHOIRS

PORTLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Willém van Hoogstraten, Conductor



This "chorus of choirs" of 500 voices is assembled by the Music Committee of the Portland Council of Churches. The soloists are regular members of participating choirs.

Music Committee: Robert E. Millard, chairman, Mrs. E. V. Creed, Dr. Raymond B. Walker, Dr. Wm. W. Youngson, C. L. Faris, Lauren B. Sykes, Albert E. Jones, Mrs. Carrie B. Adams.

*Fifth Evening Concert, Monday evening, January 7, 8:30 P. M.
Beethoven's Ninth Symphony*

*Fourth Matinee Concert, Sunday afternoon, January 13, 3:00 P. M.
Frances Brockman, Violinist*

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PROGRAM NOTES

By FREDERICK W. GOODRICH

Handel [George Frederick]

Born in Halle, February 23, 1685
Died in London, April 14, 1759

"The Messiah"; Oratorio for Solo
Voices, Chorus and Orchestra

"The Messiah" is without doubt the most representative of all works of its class. Not in opera, in symphony or in any form of music does one work stand up head and shoulders above its fellows as does this. The work contains many gems of both solo and choral music. Owing to the length of the composition, it has become traditional to omit certain numbers that have not the appeal and attractiveness of other portions of this great classic. These traditional omissions have resulted in a more compact and connected composition, and the work is being presented today in accordance with the traditions handed down for many years.

PART THE FIRST

OVERTURE

RECIT. *Accompanied* (Tenor) Virgil Day.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

AIR (Tenor) Virgil Day.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low; the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

CHORUS

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

RECIT. *Accompanied* (Bass) Gene Cusick.

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, the sea, and the dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come.

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; Behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

AIR (Bass) Gene Cusick.

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appear-eth?

For He is like a refiner's fire.

RECIT. (Contralto) Mary Arnold.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call his name EMMANUEL, God with us.

AIR (Contralto) Mary Arnold.

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountains; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

RECIT. *Accompanied* (Bass) Richard Meyer.

For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

AIR (Bass) Richard Meyer.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

CHORUS

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

PASTORAL SYMPHONY

RECIT. (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis. There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

RECIT. (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis.

And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them and the Glory of the Lord shown round about them and they were sore afraid.

RECIT. (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.

RECIT. *Accompanied* (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

CHORUS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

PART THE SECOND

AIR (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy king cometh unto thee.

He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

RECIT. (Contralto) Lydia Marks.

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then

PROGRAM NOTES—Continued

shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

AIR (Contralto) Lydia Marks.

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

AIR (Soprano) Doris Ogden Roth.

Come unto Him, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and He shall give you rest.

Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

CHORUS

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world.

AIR (Contralto) Lydia Marks.

He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

CHORUS

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgression; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

AIR (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis.

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.

AIR (Bass) Gene Cusick.

Why do the nations so furiously rage together? (and) why do the people imagine a vain thing?

The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord, and against his anointed.

CHORUS

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is the King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is the King of glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of glory.

AIR (Soprano) Lorraine Lee Francis.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep.

RECIT. *Accompanied* (Bass) Gene Cusick.

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in



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PROGRAM NOTES—Continued

a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

AIR (Bass) Gene Cusick.

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

CHORUS

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

CHORUS

Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

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