

Woodstock Fanshawe Singers

March 2009
Volume 1, Issue 2

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WOODSTOCK
fanshawe
SINGERS

WFS Beat!

“Feast Your Ears On Us”

What makes them sing?

Every Tuesday night, they come from in town, the surrounding countryside and nearby centres. They come to socialize, and to eat. But mostly they come to sing. They are the members of the Woodstock Fanshawe Singers and they love to sing.

What makes them give up at least one evening weekly – some of them for 25 years? “Choir has always been a part of my life,” said Meaghan Alyea, a 26-year-old French Immersion teacher who lives on a farm outside Woodstock. She saw an ad for the choir in a local newspaper, checked out the website and decided to attend. “When I moved to Woodstock, I felt a pull to find a group of people who enjoy singing as much as I do. After one rehearsal, I realized I was surrounded by a supportive, enthusiastic, talented community of wonderful people, and I was hooked.”

That enthusiasm is a common ingredient in the diverse mix of local people who make up the choir. “I think everyone should be a member of such a group!” said Alyea. “This is an important place for me to spend time with people of all ages, in all professions. It’s a chance for personal growth and the development of musical skills.” Skills and experience are as varied as the members. D’Arcy Irvine is a music grad who works as a senior IT analyst with a large agri-business. “A member of our church choir was also a member of Woodstock Fanshawe Singers and my wife and I attended a choral workshop last May and really enjoyed it,” he said. “I am a classically trained baritone, but I didn’t sing that often, and I felt I needed more singing to keep my voice in shape (especially as I age). The director,

Jennifer Moir, really seemed to understand the voice well.”

The choir is not just musically enriching. Members find it is good for them. “Rehearsals are rejuvenating,” said Alyea. “No matter what happens all week, we come together, share laughs, make music and leave full of energy. Our music is challenging, and nothing beats the pride and excitement of performing a piece of stunning music as part of a group after months of hard work.”

Audiences can hear the results of that hard work April 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. at St. David’s Church, Woodstock. Woodstock Fanshawe Singers invites everyone to help them celebrate 25 years of choral artistry. Jennifer Moir conducts, with Janet Robb at the piano. Founding director, Darryl Edwards will conduct a piece with combined current members and alumni. “This is a great opportunity for youth, seniors and families to attend an accessible concert in a comfortable setting,” said Alyea.

The continuity of a 25-year-old choir benefits new and long-time members. “I sit beside a guy who is a retired engineer, who has been a member for over 20 years,” said Irvine, who joined this year. “I really like the idea of people from all walks of life singing for the love of it. Another member is a person who actually doesn’t live that far from me, who took voice lessons from the same teacher as I did in Stratford about 40 years ago.”

As well as concerts, the choir presents workshops and Kaleid Choral Festival. “Woodstock Fanshawe Singers hosted a choral workshop that was about the physics and mechanics of the voice,” said Irvine.

“This could have been helpful to anyone who uses their voice --- even non-

singers. Jennifer held the audience spellbound for two hours revealing secrets and answering questions about the voice. There were a number of attendees there of all ages from other choirs."

"I also found out that there is a new term for "choir" in the context of church. One young lady I was talking with came from a church in Woodstock, and she informed me that no, she wasn't in the choir – she was on the "Praise Team!"

Praise team might also be what the audience cheers at the end of the anniversary concert. "The first half of the program will feature Lux Aeterna, a

stunning contemporary work by American Composer Morten Lauridsen," said conductor Jennifer Moir. "Following intermission, the choir will take listeners on a musical retrospective journey that features musical highlights for the WFS. The choir will premiere the latest work by young Canadian composer Sarah Quartel."

Special recognition of choristers, directors, accompanists and board members will be given, and alumni will be invited to join the choir to sing Healy Willan's Rise Up My Love. "A sense of community has been such an integral part of this organization from its beginning," said Moir. "This is the kind of event that

inspires and motivates us all to look back with deep pride and forward with fresh energy!"

That energy vibrates from each choir member and into the audience. Be warned - it's contagious. "I have been singing in choirs since I was five years old," said Alyea, "And I don't plan to stop!"

If You Go....

What:
Woodstock Fanshawe Singers 25th Anniversary concert
"How Can I Keep From Singing?"

When: **April 3 and 4, 8 p.m.**

Where: **St. David's Church, Woodstock**

Tickets: **Adults \$20,
Seniors \$15
Students \$10.**

Available at :

**Merrifield Book Shop
Mostly Roses
Rochdale Credit Union**

For more information, call Martha at 519-539-9411.

For media interviews, contact Jennifer Moir at jenmoir@gmail.com.

Lux Aeterna

By John Bawden

*Musical Director (1994 – 2006)
Fareham Philharmonic Choir*

In his preface to the published choral score, Morten Lauridsen wrote, "*Lux Aeterna* was composed for and is dedicated to the Los Angeles Master Chorale and its superb conductor, Paul Salamunovich, who gave the world premiere in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Los Angeles Music Center on April 13, 1997.

Conductor's Pick On Voice Development and Health:

Looking for some informative summer reading? This new release by UWO Associate Dean Dr. Victoria Meredith is a great choice for those wanting to learn more about their voice. A google search of the books title will take you to an online order form, or you can use the ISBN number listed below to order through your bookstore of choice!

Happy reading!

Sing Better As You Age: A Comprehensive Guide for Adult Choral Singers

by Dr. Victoria Meredith

ISBN 0-9648071-6-5

The Association of Canadian Choral Conductors has named *Sing Better As You Age* the recipient of the 2008 National Choral Award for Outstanding Choral Publication.

For singers, this interactive book is designed to understand voice function, and to gain insight into what is taking place as you experience vocal changes. Most importantly, it presents ideas as to what you can do to improve the condition of your voice so you can enjoy singing to the fullest. For the conductor, the book provides tools in the form of guidelines and practical exercises for enhancing vocal vitality and longevity for adult singers of all ages.

Continued from Page 3

seem to be suspended in time, even as the music is propelled by its inner pulse.

The power, relevance and finesse of *Lux Aeterna* speaks to us each in our own language. This with our full attention and assent does it transport us over gossamer paths to a state of enlightenment and grace.

About the Composer: Morten Lauridsen

Music by Morten Lauridsen occupies a permanent place in the standard vocal repertoire of the Twentieth-Century. His seven major vocal cycles--*Les Chansons des Roses* (Rilke), *Mid-Winter Songs* (Graves), *Cuatro Canciones* (Lorca), *A Winter Come* (Moss), *Madrigali: Six "Firesongs" on Renaissance Italian Poems*, *Nocturnes* (Rilke, Neruda and Agee) and *Lux Aeterna*--and his series of sacred a cappella motets (*O Magnum Mysterium*, *Ave Maria*, *O Nata Lux* and *Ubi Caritas et Amor*) are featured regularly in concert by distinguished ensembles throughout the world. *O Magnum Mysterium*, *O Nata Lux* (from *Lux Aeterna*) and *Dirait-on* (from *Les Chansons des Roses*) have become the all-time best selling choral octavos distributed by Theodore Presser, in business since 1783.

The recent book, *Choral Music in the Twentieth Century* by Nick Strimple, describes Lauridsen as "the only American composer in history who can be called a mystic (whose) probing, serene work contains an elusive and indefinable ingredient which leaves the impression that all the questions have been answered...From 1993 Lauridsen's music rapidly increased in international popularity, and by century's end he had eclipsed Randall Thompson as the most frequently performed American choral composer." His works have been recorded on over a hundred CDs, three

of which have received Grammy nominations, including *O Magnum Mysterium* by the New York-based ensemble, Tiffany Consort, led by Nicholas White, and two all-Lauridsen discs entitled *Lux Aeterna* by the Los Angeles Master Chorale conducted by Paul Salamunovich (RCM) and *Polyphony* with the Brtitten Sinfonia conducted by Stephen Layton (Hyperion).

Mr. Lauridsen (b. 1943) served as Composer-in-Residence of the Los Angeles Master Chorale from 1995-2001 and has been Professor of Composition at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music since 1972. A native of the Pacific Northwest, he worked as a Forest Service fire-fighter and lookout (on an isolated tower near Mt. St. Helens) before traveling south to study composition with Halsey Stevens and Ingolf Dahl. Mr. Lauridsen now divides his time between Los Angeles and his summer cabin on a remote island off the northern coast of Washington State. Further information regarding Mr. Lauridsen may be found at mortenlauridsen.com.

A Few Jokes.....

CONDUCTOR: a musician who is adept at following many people at the same time.

CLEF: What you try to never fall off of.

BASS CLEF: Where you wind up if you do fall off.

Upcoming Events

Feast Your Ears on Us!
WFS September Corn Roast....
Stay Tuned

December 4 8:00 PM
St. David United Church
Christmas Tidings!

Featuring highlights of Handel's Messiah and more!

December 5 2:00 PM
St. David United Church
Sleigh Bells Ring! A Family Christmas Matinee

Featuring WFS singing holiday favourites, audience sing a-longs and visit from a special red-suited guest!

December 5 8:00 PM
St. David United Church
Christmas Tidings!

Featuring highlights of Handel's Messiah and more!

March 26, 27, 2010 7:00PM
Craigowan, Oxford Golf & Country Club
BIG YELLOW TAXI

Join WFS at Craigowan, Oxford Golf & Country Club singing music of some of the greatest singer/songwriters of our time! Our silent auction, and café seating will make for an intimate evening in a new setting!

Doors open at 7:00 PM ~ Concert begins at 7:30 PM

Sleigh Bells Ring: A Family Choral Matinee

December 5 ~ 2:00 PM

The Saturday afternoon, family-friendly Christmas Concert was a great addition to our concert series, a delight to all: the choir members, the whole audience and especially the 40 plus children who were part of the experience. As parents who strove to expose our own children to the world of choral music, we were happy to have this opportunity to assist our children in exposing their children – our grandchildren - to that wonderful and creative world. One of our granddaughters who sat mesmerized through the concert said that she liked being there and especially “loved singing with the choir”. She also said that she “wished the choir had sung more”! She, however, has been at our concerts before; the length and amount of choir singing was probably enough for many of the children present. We were also gratified to note that there were a number of seniors, including one 99 year-old, who attended this family friendly afternoon concert because they wanted to hear the choir but preferred to be out in the daytime rather than after dark. This was an imaginative experiment that deserves to become a tradition!

John and Judy Furry

Recipe Card: Tortiere

(Traditional French Canadian Christmas Dish)

Supplies :

9 pie plate, and preheated 425 oven

- 1 lb minced ground pork
- ¼ c chopped onion
- ½ tsp savory or sage
- Dash pepper
- ¼ tsp celery salt
- 1 garlic clove – crushed
- Pinch ground cloves
- 1 bay leaf
- ¼ c boiling water

Mix pork , onion and seasonings. Add bay leaf and water. Simmer 20 minutes.

Remove bay leaf. Cool meat and skim off fat.

Line 9” pie plate with pastry and fill with meat mixture. Bake at 425 degrees for 30 minutes.

Recipe Card: Raspberry Spinach Salad

Almond Topping

- ½ cup silvered almonds
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 2 tsp. water

Combine topping ingredients in a large frying pan. Cover over medium heat, stirring constantly until sugar melts to a golden brown and coats almonds, about 5 minutes. Turn out onto a square of greased foil. Cool then break up into small pieces.

Dressing

- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 ½ tsp poppy seeds
- ¼ tsp paprika
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- ¼ raspberry vinegar
- 2 tsp onion (chopped finely)
- ¼ tsp Worcestershire sauce

Combine all dressing ingredients and shake well to blend.

Salad

- 1 lb fresh spinach
- 2 cups fresh raspberries

Wash, dry spinach , all raspberries . Toss with dressing . Add almonds and serve immediately.



2009 - 2010 ORDER FORM

Please fill out the number of tickets or subscriptions in the spaces below. Mail this form along with payment to:

Woodstock Fanshawe Singers
c/o P.O. Box 1573, Woodstock, Ontario N4S 0A7
Please make cheques payable to Woodstock Fanshawe Singers

2 Concert Series Subscription **Subscribe to BOTH concerts and save!**

Indicate the number of subscriptions in the appropriate spaces below.

Adults \$35.00 pp	Dec. 4 _____ or Dec.5 _____	AND Mar 26 _____ or Mar 27 _____
Seniors \$25.00 pp	Dec. 4 _____ or Dec.5 _____	AND Mar 26 _____ or Mar 27 _____
Students \$20.00 pp	Dec. 4 _____ or Dec.5 _____	AND Mar 26 _____ or Mar 27 _____

Individual Tickets

Indicate the number of tickets in the appropriate space(s) below.

Adults \$ 20.00/ticket	Dec. 4 _____ Dec.5 _____	Mar 26 _____ or Mar 27 _____
Seniors \$15.00/ticket	Dec. 4 _____ Dec.5 _____	Mar 26 _____ or Mar 27 _____
Students \$10.00/ticket	Dec. 4 _____ Dec.5 _____	Mar 26 _____ or Mar 27 _____

Sleigh Bells Ring! Dec.5 at 2:00 p.m.

Indicate the number of tickets in the appropriate space(s) below.

Adults \$10.00 _____	Students 13-18 \$5.00 _____	Children 0-12 free _____
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Please consider making a charitable donation to the choir. We truly appreciate your support. Charitable donation receipts will be issued.

Amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Prov _____

Postal Code _____ Tel _____

E-mail _____



Dear participants and supporters of Kaleid,

After 4 hugely successful events, we at the Kaleid Choral Festival have made a difficult decision to take a one-year break in order to be able to continue to offer our trademark high-quality, educational and enriching festival in the future. In 2005, the wonderful idea that is the Kaleid Choral Festival was born. It grew and improved each year in 2006, 2007 and 2008. And now we are going to use those experiences and your evaluations and comments to create a vision for the future. As everyone in the arts is aware, securing funding is an ever-present challenge, so in addition to determining what form we want the festival to take in the future, we need to create a solid funding model to ensure sustainability and longevity.

If you have suggestions for changes and/or improvements or ideas/contacts for possible funding sources, please contact us. We will be embarking on our visioning process in the coming months and would value input from everyone who has been a part of Kaleid.

We thank you all so much for your support and enthusiasm and plan to keep you informed about our visioning process in the months ahead. Stay tuned! We are confident that Spring 2010 will see the launch of a refreshed, revitalized Kaleid 2010! Yours,

Jennifer Moir (Kaleid Artistic Director)
Anne Macdonald (Kaleid Festival Chair)

A LITTLE MORE HUMOUR

Commandments for Concert Goers:

I
Thou shalt hearken unto the music with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and all thy mind, to aid thee in thine endeavor. Study thou thy program notes and hereby be sore fully prepared to garner the blessings of the inspired melodies which are about to be sounded.

II
Thou shalt not arrive late, for the stir of thy coming disturbeth those who did come in due season; neither shalt thou rush forth as a great wind at intermission time or before the end of the program; nor shalt thou trample to thy left nor thy right the ushers or the doormen or the multitudes that are about thee.

III
Thou shalt keep in check thy coughings and thy sneezings for they are an abomination, and they shall bring forth evil execrations upon thee and thy household, even unto the third and fourth generations.

IV
Thou shalt not rustle thy program for the noise thereof is not as the murmur of the leaves of the forest but brash and raucous and soothest not.

V
Thou shalt not "yahoo" unto thy relatives, nor to thy friends, nor to any member of thy lodge or of thy household, nor to any of thy neighbors.

VI
Thou shalt not whisper, for thy mouthings, howsoever hushed they may be, bring discord to the ear of those who sit about thee.

VII
Thou shalt not chew gum with great show of sound or motion. Remember that thou art not as the kind of the meadow who do chew the cud in the pastoral serenity which is vouchsafed them.

VIII
Thou shalt not direct thy index finger at persons of public note and say unto thy neighbor, "Yonder goeth so and so," but reflect that some day thou shalt perchance be a celebrity, and thou shalt be in great discomfort when thou art pointed at and thou shalt not be pleased one jot or tittle thereby.

IX
Thou shalt not slumber, for in thy stupor thou hast ears and heareth not; peradventures thou possesseth a rumbling obligato when thou sleepest, and verily, the rabble may be aroused thereby to do thee grievous harm.

X
Thou shalt not become a self-ordained music critic and with booming voice comment garrulously about the players or the playing; neither shalt thou hum, or tap thy foot; for thou hast come as a listener and a lover of music, not as a critic nor as a performer, and remember that none among the multitudes has paid admission to hear thy hummings or thy tapings or o listen unto thine opinion.

VISIONING FOR THE NEXT 25 YEARS

The Board of the Woodstock Fanshawe Singers has engaged in an extensive introspection to understand our roots, our strengths and our dreams for our future.

We have undergone this process with the guidance of Janis Wallace who patiently filtered our thoughts until we achieved an unanimous direction and synthesized then into a new mission statement and the vision to realize it.

WFS Vision Statement:

To enrich the community through choral performance.

Mission Statement:

WFS is an auditioned community choir that offers diverse, accessible programming to choristers and audience by performing traditional and contemporary choral music with a focus on Canadian content. The choir provides an enriching and enjoyable experience for its members and audience.

In order for the organization to be successful we require the continued support of all or sponsors and donors, civic leaders and all our friends and patrons who come to hear us.

These choristers are a very unique, generous and talented group of people whose legacy of passion and dedication have stood the test of time and will carry us into the future.

The Board of Directors wish to thank each and every member for their rich contribution.

Jim Harrison, President,

Woodstock Fanshawe Singers

We Want YOU! *“Feast Your Ears on Us”*

The Board of the Woodstock Fanshawe Singers is looking for community oriented people who are passionate about choral music to help our choir continue to grow over the next 25 years. No singing or musical experience required ~ just enthusiasm and an appetite for choral music and good food.

The Board meets monthly and we do GREAT potluck dinners!

Try us – you’ll like us!

If you are interested in helping us please submit your name and contact information to :

jimharrison@execulink.com

WOODSTOCK FANSHAWE SINGERS

Jennifer Moir, conductor

Janet Robb, piano

SOPRANO

Joan Garrett	Jeannine Hack
Holly Hansen	Carol Harrison
Janine Higgins	Vicky King
Cathy Luyben	Laurie McCarney
Pamela McKenzie	Ruth Mooney
Pamela Moore	Erika North
Diane Quartel-Lee	Diane Sibbick
Ruth Storey	

ALTO

Meaghan Alyea	Joyce Arts
Allison Black	Bev Coy
Valerie Easton	Judy Furry
Jane Guthrie	Marg Hutchison
Marilyn Hayward	Judy Irvine
Anna King	Lauren King
Erin Richard	Betty Scholtz
Marion Smith	Joan Tettman

TENOR

Tom Adam	Jerome Desmarais
D’Arcy Irvine	Gabor Sass
Barton Tettman	

BASS

Andy Bouma	John Furry
Matt Hillis	Bob Miller
Herb Pippel	Doug Richards
Ken Shrubsall	Daniel VanWinden
Paul Ward	

WFS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Harrison – Chairperson
 Keith Bingham – Treasurer
 Mary Mackesy – Secretary
 Martha Dennis – Marketing
 Bob Murray – Concert Manager
 Kent Garrett – Communications
 Anne Macdonald – Kaleid Chair
 Jane Guthrie – Choir Representative
 Valerie Easton – Choir Representative
 Jennifer Moir – Artistic Director