

3-4-2001

## Concert: Ithaca College Choir Tour 2001

Ithaca College Choir

Lawrence Doebler

Jessica Lavway

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ITHACA COLLEGE CHOIR  
Lawrence Doebler, conductor  
Jessica Lavway, graduate conductor

2001 Tour Program  
*The American Dream*

I.

Psalm 47  
Lark  
Jacob Handl/ed. Doebler  
Aaron Copland  
text by Genevieve Taggard  
Paul Fowler, Brian Herzt or Lucas Hibbard, soloist

Psalm LI  
1. *Schaffe in mir, Gott*  
2. *Vervirf mich nicht von deinen Angesicht*  
3. *Tröste mich wieder mit deiner Hülfe*  
Johannes Brahms

Quatre Motets  
1. *Ubi caritas*  
2. *Tota pulchra es*  
3. *Tu es Petrus*  
4. *Tantum ergo*  
Maurice Durufle

Whispers of heavenly death  
René Clausen  
text by Walt Whitman  
Kerry Watkins, pianist

INTERMISSION

II.

Trilogy  
1. *War is kind (Stephen Crane)*  
2. *Shiloh: A Requiem (Herman Melville)*  
3. *Biglow Papers (James Russell Lowell)*  
Robert Beadell  
Brian Herzt, pianist

Shenandoah  
I have a dream  
Speech by Martin Luther King, Jr., 1963  
Ride on  
arr. James Erb  
Dana Wilson  
arr. by Moses Hogan

### Psalm 47

All ye people, clap your hands, shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible, he is a great king over all the earth. He shall subdue the people under us and the nations under our feet. He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises unto our king. Alleluia.

### Psalm LI

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

### Quatre Motets

Gathered together in the love of Christ

Let us rejoice in Him, exultantly.

Let us adore and fear the living God,

Loving each other in our love of Him,

Where there is true love, there is God.

Thou art all fair, O Mary, and the stain of original sin is not in thee. Your vestments shine white as snow, and your face is like the sun. Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, the joy of Israel, and the honor of our people.

"And I myself say to you that you are Peter and upon this rock I will build my church."

Down in adoration falling, Lo! The sacred Host we hail,  
Lo! Oe'r ancient forms departing newer rites of grace prevail;  
Faith for all defects supplying, where the feeble senses fail.  
To the everlasting Father, and the Son who reigns on high  
With the Holy Spirit proceeding forth from each eternally,  
Be salvation, honor blessing, might and endless majesty.

### Whispers of Heavenly Death (Walt Whitman)

Whispers of heavenly death, murmur'd I hear

Labial gossip of night, sibilant chorals,

Footsteps gently ascending, mystical breezes wafted soft and low.

Ripples of unseen rivers, tides of a current flowing, forever flowing

(Or is it the plashing of tears? The measureless water of human tears?)

Darest thou now O soul.

Walk out with me toward the unknown region,

Where neither ground is for the feet nor any path to follow?

No map there, nor guide,  
Nor voice sounding, nor touch of human hand,  
Nor face with blooming flesh, nor lips, nor eyes, are in that land.  
I know it not O soul,  
Nor dost thou, all is blank before us,  
All awaits undreamed of in that region, that inaccessible land.  
Till when the ties loosen,  
All but the ties eternal, Time and Space,  
Nor darkness, gravitation, sense, nor any bounds bounding us.  
Then we burst forth, we float  
In Time and Space O soul, prepared for them,  
Equal, equipt at last, (O joy, O fruit of all!) them to fulfill O soul

#### War is Kind (Stephen Crane)

Do not weep, maiden, for war is kind,  
Because your lover threw wild hands toward the sky,  
And the affrighted steed ran on alone.  
Do not weep for war is kind.

Hoarse, booming drums of the regiment, little souls who thirst for a  
fight,  
These men were born to drill and die, the unexplained glory lies above  
them.  
Great is the battle god and his kingdom a field where a thousand  
corpses lie.

Do not weep, babe, for war is kind,  
Because your father tumbled in yellow trenches,  
Raged at his breast, gulped and died,  
Do not weep, for war is kind.

Swift, blazing flag of the regiment, eagle with crest of red and gold,  
These men were born to drill and die, the point for them the virtue of  
slaughter.  
Show them the excellence of killing, and a field where a thousand  
corpses lie.

Mother, whose heart hung humble as a button  
On the bright splendid shroud of your son,  
Do not weep, for war is kind.

# ITHACA COLLEGE CHOIR

2000-2001

Lawrence Doebler, conductor

Jessica Lavway, graduate conductor

## Soprano I

Sarah Bartolome  
New Bedford, MA  
Sharon Costianes  
Rome, NY  
Meagan Johnson\*  
Haslett, MI  
Shannon McElroy  
Wappingers Falls, NY  
Ragan Renteria  
Rogers, AK  
Haviland Stillwell  
Atlanta, GA

## Alto I

Nicole Asel  
Richmond, VA  
Jessica Holl  
Bridgewater, VA  
Jessica Julin  
Danville, CA  
Elissa Levitt  
Potsdam, NY  
Nikki Schwarz  
Sterling, MA  
Joan Stafford  
Mastic Beach, NY

## Tenor I

Andrew Chugg\*  
Rochester, NY  
Christopher Desjardins  
Andover, MA  
Bill DeMetsenaere  
Rochester, NY  
Anthony Maiese  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
Edwin Vega  
Florence, KY

## Baritone

Miles Johnson  
New Windsor, NY  
Michael Kilcoyne  
Skaneateles, NY  
Christopher Martin  
Lindenhurst, NY  
Scott Seltzer\*  
Yorktown Heights, NY  
Daniel Tillapaugh  
Sprakers, NY  
Caleb Wheldon  
Nantucket, MA

## Soprano II

Sonia Rodriguez Bermejo  
Las Palmas, Spain  
Amanda Capone\*  
Cresco, PA  
Jessica Lavway  
Damariscotta, ME  
Laural Martin  
Oneida, NY  
Maria Rondinaro  
New Milford, NJ  
Mary-Lynn Sindoni  
Rochester, NY

## Alto II

Andrea Kraynak\*  
Allentown, PA  
Emily Mangino  
Endicott, NY  
Rebecca Sach  
Brookhaven, PA  
Elisa Sciscioli  
Syracuse, N  
Kerry Watkins  
Ithaca, NY  
Hilarie Wilshire  
Clarion, PA

## Tenor II

Scott England  
Johnstown, NY  
Paul Fowler\*  
Milwaukee, WI  
Brian Hertz  
Syosset, NY  
Jamie Paisely  
Lititz, PA  
Thomas Morris  
Standish, ME

## Bass

Josh Bouchard  
Eastford, CT  
Lucas Hibbard\*  
Lansing, NY  
Jermaine Hill  
Springfield Gardens, NY  
Eric Toyama  
Churchville, NY  
Michael Vaughan  
Philadelphia, PA  
Marc Webster  
Rochester, NY

\* Solo ensemble for Wilson Piece, *I have a dream*

**Shiloh: A Requiem (Herman Melville)**

Skimming lightly, the swallows fly low

Over the field in clouded days, the forest fields of Shiloh.

Over the field when April rain solaced the parched one stretched in pain,  
Through the pause of night, that followed the Sunday fight  
around the church at Shiloh.

The church so lone, the log-built one,

That echoed to many a parting groan and nat'ral prayer

Of dying foemen mangled there.

Foemen by morning but friends by eve, fame or country least their care,  
What like a bullet can undeceive.

But now they lie low while over them the swallows skim  
and all is hushed at Shiloh.

**Biglow Papers (James Russell Lowell)**

Thrash away, you'll have to rattle those kettle-drums of yourn.

'Tain't a knowin' kinda cattle that is catched with moldy corn.

Put in stiff, you fifer feller, let folks see how spry you be,

Guess you'll toot 'til you are yellin', 'Fore you get aholt o' me.

As for war, I call it murder, there you have it plain and flat,

I don' want to go no further than my testament for that.

God has sez so plump and fairly, it's as long as it is broad,

And you got to get up early ef you want to take in God.

Ain't your epaulettes and feathers makes a thing a grain more right,

'Tain't a follerin' your bell-wethers will excuse you in His sight.

If you take a sword and draw it and you stick a feller through,

Guverment ain't to answer for it, God 'il send the bill to you.

What's the use o' meetin' goin' every Sabbath wet and dry,

If it's right to go on mowin' feller men like oats and rye.

I dunno but what it's dooty trainin' round in bobtail coats,

But it's curious Christian dooty this 'ere cuttin' folkses throats.

I'll return your good for evil, much as we frail mortals can,

But I won't go help the devil makin' man the curse of man.

Call me coward, call me traitor, jes ez suit yer mean idees,

Here I stand a tyrant hater and a friend of God and peace!

## PROGRAM NOTES

The premise of the 'American Dream' is that democracy as a form of governing be allowed to work. Democracy has had many definitions-but the one thread that endures is "Political power is in the hands of many rather than the few or one". (Mill)

In Congress, July 4, 1776 the unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America stated that:

*"When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."*

*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."*

Handl's setting of Psalm 47 gives thanks for making safe passage to this new land. Freedom of religious expression is allowed. In this motet each choir is equal and able to deliver its text without fear of reprisal.

This new land was vast, unexplored, full of promise and challenge. Genevieve Taggard a writer known for her fiercely liberal politics and her poetry describing social injustices, love and nature penned Lark. In the poem the lark is asked to, "Shock our ears and stun our eyes singing the dayrise!" Just as the dawn of a new day needs our attention and focus so did our fledgling democracy.

*... "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights"...unless you were Native American...*

Soon we faced the challenge of the Native American Indians. In Psalm LI King David asks to be forgiven for his adulterous affair with Bathsheba which resulted in David having to assassinate Bathsheba's husband and to cover-up the king's deeds. Similarly we befriended Indian leaders then slaughtered entire tribes, made unfair treaty with most and banished the remaining tribes to reservations that remain to this day mostly powerless, full of poverty and hopelessness.

... *that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights*"...unless you were not able to worship as you wish...

Durufié has set these four traditional texts in a style that suggests both modern and ancient writing. Each is based on Gregorian chant that is usually answered in close canon while the other voices deliver the text in a slightly out-of-sync method. The first exquisitely describes love, the second the beauty of Mary...

... *"that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights*"...unless you were a woman...

...the third an almost manic depiction of Christ's charge to Peter to build the church on solid rock (Peter was the rock). The final movement is a prayer of thanksgiving for the abundance that the love of a higher power can release.

Within this nation's first century democracy had never been tested as it would be in the Civil War.

... *"that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights*"...unless you were a slave...

Walt Whitman observed so much of what was taking place in America, from the most common person to the most powerful. Perhaps his greatest legacy is what he wrote about the Civil War. As a nurse he was the last person to comfort so many dying young men. He describes the absolute horror and destruction of war. Through it all Whitman was able to write these words of hope for a better place..."walk out with me toward that unknown region..."

Would this democracy survive such a divisive war? In Robert Beadell's setting of these three author's words about the war, we gain an appreciation of the total disrupting of the spirit of the young nation. The horrible dilemma of family members fighting on opposite sides, often then dying or being treated side-by-side in a candle-lit church turned hospital and morgue. What are we to do with the challenge of the conscientious objector's views? Is it murder or Christian 'dooty'?

Shenandoah has promise to heal not only our soul but also the land. It is a home to which we return and are replenished. Perhaps never to revisit the hatred and bigotry but to seek justice and forgiveness because...

*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."*

The incredible speech of Martin Luther King, Jr and it's delivery cadence are captured in Dana Wilson's setting of **I have a dream**. This dream is indeed alive, much progress made but 'miles to go before I (we) sleep'. (Frost)

Moses Hogan is having an impact on our understanding and celebration of the music that had its origin in one of our nations most evil times - the era of slavery. The message in spirituals is always positive in spite of the horrible situation that befell the slaves. Democracy will Ride on undeterred if we listen to it's simple words:

*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."*

**ITHACA COLLEGE CHOIR**  
Lawrence Doebler, conductor

The Ithaca College Choir, under the direction of Lawrence Doebler, is recognized through its annual tour and many campus appearances as one of the finest and most innovative ensembles at the collegiate level.

In each of the last twenty-two years, the Ithaca College Choir has premiered works that have been published by Theodore Presser as part of the Ithaca College Choral Series. Composers who have accepted commissions are Vincent Persichetti, Samuel Adler, Karel Husa, William Schuman, Eugene Butler, Iain Hamilton, Ellen Zwilich, Richard Wernick, Peter Schickele, Thomas Pasatieri, Augusta Read Thomas, Ronald Caltabiano, two by Norman Dello Joio, Thea Musgrave, Daniel Pinkham, Daniel Asia, Chen Yi, Robert Magglio, Lowell Lieberman and George Tsontakis.

The Ithaca College Choir has toured extensively on the east coast and in the mid-west and has presented major concerts at the American Choral Directors Association in Providence, the Music Educators National Conference in Baltimore; Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Cooper Union in New York City; the Brooklyn Academy of Music in Brooklyn, the Troy Savings Bank in Troy, New York and the Strand Theatre in York, Pennsylvania. In addition to their a cappella tradition, the choir has

performed with the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, the Ithaca College Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, and other professional ensembles.

Lawrence Doebler is a professor of music at Ithaca College where he serves as director of choral activities. Currently in his twenty third year at the college, his duties include conducting the Choir, Madrigal Singers, and Choral Union and teaching conducting (both undergraduate courses and graduate majors), choral techniques, and choral literature.

Early training in keyboard, strings, voice, and brass led to degrees in conducting from Oberlin Conservatory and Washington University in St. Louis. Professor Doebler began his professional career in 1969 at Smith College. From 1971 through 1978 he taught and conducted at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Mr. Doebler has received awards for research and teaching excellence from the University of Wisconsin and Ithaca College and has appeared throughout the eastern and midwestern United States as a clinician and guest conductor. As an editor of "no barline" Renaissance music, Mr. Doebler's editions are published by the Lorenz Company in the Roger Dean catalogue. In addition to his academic appointments, he currently serves as music director of the Cayuga Vocal Ensemble and has served as director of music at churches in Cleveland, St. Louis, Madison, and Ithaca.

Professor Doebler, the Choir and Madrigal Singers are available for workshops and concerts. These groups can work with your ensembles in a variety of situations including movement (based on some of Dalcroze's principles), coaching, dealing with the emotion of the text, and learning to be independent musicians in an ensemble experience. These groups are available to work with any size ensemble from a small madrigal group to several large choirs together.

During the past twenty-three years, Mr. Doebler and the choir have worked with well over one-hundred ensembles either on tour or on the campus. On tour the Choir often performs their full concert in the evening and works with area schools the following day.

Please call Lawrence Doebler or Eric Hummel, Director of Admissions for the School of Music if you are interested in working with the Choir, Madrigals, or Professor Doebler—607/274-3366.

## ITHACA COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

President	Peggy Williams
Provost	James Malek
Dean, School of Music	Arthur E. Ostrander
Associate Dean, School of Music	William Pelto
Coordinator of Music Admissions	Eric Hummel

## VOICE FACULTY

Randie Blooding	Deborah Montgomery
Angus Godwin	David Parks
Elizabeth Koch	Patrice Pastore
Carol McAmis	Beth Ray
Richard McCullough	James Van Slyke

## CHORAL FACULTY

Lawrence Doebler	Choir, Madrigals, Choral Union
Janet Galván	Women's Chorale, Chorus
Lauri Robinson-Keegan	Vocal Jazz Ensemble

## CHORAL STAFF

Jessica Lavway	Tour Manager and Graduate Assistant
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## CHOIR TOUR SPRING 2001

May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society Syracuse, NY	March 4; 4 pm
St. John's United Church of Christ Lansdale, PA	March 9; 8 pm
Howard County Presbyterian Church Ellicott City, MD	March 10; 8 pm
Winfree Baptist Church Richmond, VA	March 11; 7 pm
Workshop/Clinic Richmond, VA	March 12; 8:30 am
University of North Carolina-Greensboro Greensboro, NC	March 12; 8 pm
Osborne Park High School Manassas, VA	March 13; 7 pm
Osborne Park High School Workshop Manassas, VA	March 14; 8 am
Ithaca College School of Music Home Concert	March 24; 8:15 pm
Cobleskill United Methodist Church Cobleskill, NY	March 25; 4 pm