

The St. Martin's Voice

The Newsletter of St. Martin's Chamber Choir

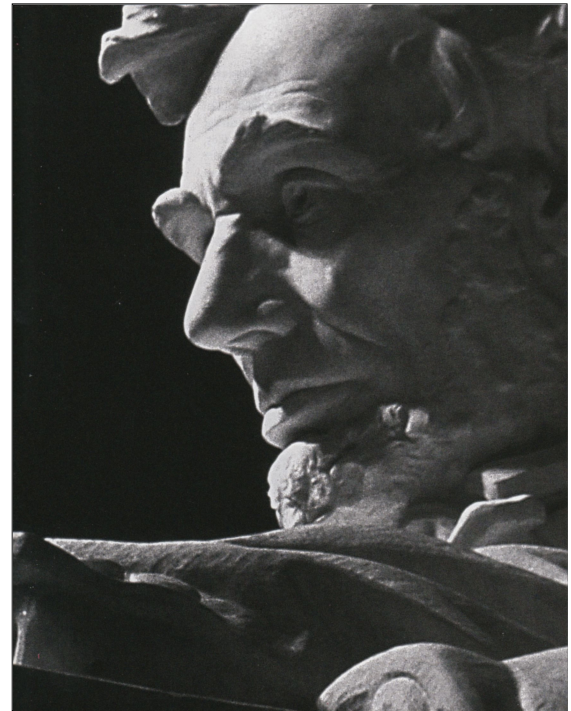
“February 1809”

(A Cameo Concert)

By Timothy J. Krueger, Artistic Director

At first blush it would seem that Abraham Lincoln, Charles Darwin and Felix Mendelssohn have nothing to do with each other; and they don't, except that they were all born within nine days of each other in February, 1809 (Mendelssohn on the 3rd, Darwin and Lincoln on the 12th). This odd coincidence inspired me to do a concert about these three persons, without whom it is difficult to imagine our world being like it is.

Now, while it might be feasible to do a lecture on these three men, tying them together in terms of their influence on world events, how does this make for a choral concert? Programming for the Mendelssohn portion of the concert is easy, as there is so much material to choose from; but what about Lincoln, and



even more tenuously, what about finding music that has anything to do with Charles Darwin?!

Well, suffice it to say here that, although it was a challenge, I found more than enough material for both of the latter. Wishing to entice you to

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“February 1809”

(A Cameo Concert)

**Friday, February 13th, 7:30 p.m.,
Baha'i Center of Metro Denver**

**Sunday, February 15th, 3:00 p.m.,
Christ's Episcopal Church, Castle Rock**

Tickets: General Admission \$15, Student \$5

(303) 298-1970 or www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

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come, but not give too much away, I will only say here that the composers represented in this concert are William Croft, Ralph Vaughan Williams, John White, and, of course, Felix Mendelssohn.

As St. Martin's second "Cameo Concert," there will be a slightly more informal atmosphere than at our larger concerts, more audience interaction with the artists (including a comparison of two halves of the choir in terms of tone quality and timbre), and no intermission, with the entire concert lasting a little over an hour. Oh, and did I mention the lower price? The full choir will be on hand to deliver this new concept in choral programming, and I encourage you to experience it!

Purchase your SMCC concert tickets online

Concert tickets can now be purchased through the St. Martin's website! Just log on to www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org, go to the 2008-09 Concert Season page, and securely purchase your tickets for any upcoming SMCC performance.

What's the easiest way...

...to make a contribution to St. Martin's Chamber Choir? **EFT!** Electronic Funds Transfer lets you set up a donation to be deposited directly from your bank to St. Martin's every month, or twice a month, or at several other frequencies. You can find a sign-up form on our website. Just go to www.stmartinchamberchoir.org and click "Support", and you'll find a link to the form. You may also call the SMCC office at 303-298-1970. Our "EFT-ers" love the convenience, and we appreciate your support!

15th Anniversary Season

Still to come from St. Martin's Chamber Choir

Passio Christi This program of moving Lenten works features the *Lamentations of Jeremiah* by Thomas Tallis and John Ferguson's *Christus* for choir and viola.

Fri., Apr. 3, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Denver

Sat., Apr. 4, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Boulder

Enlightenment A Cappella – A fascinating program of glorious unaccompanied choral music of the 18th century

Fri., Jun. 5, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Denver

Sun., Jun. 7, 2009, 3:00 p.m., Denver

Find concert details and purchase tickets at www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org or 303-298-1970

Educational Outreach Residencies at Wheat Ridge and Denver East High Schools

St. Martin's continues its program of residency workshops at area high schools with sessions at Denver's East High School and to Wheat Ridge High School. Artistic Director Tim Krueger and St. Martin's singers work with the top choir from each school on advanced choral techniques like sight-singing, achieving choral blend, and producing a beautiful sound. Tim also leads an in-depth discussion with the students about lifelong music-making, speaking about opportunities after graduation to sing in academic, community, professional and church choirs. SMCC will work with each choir twice this year, and the choirs will appear on St. Martin's April concerts.

Meet Artist and SMCC Supporter Ron Zito

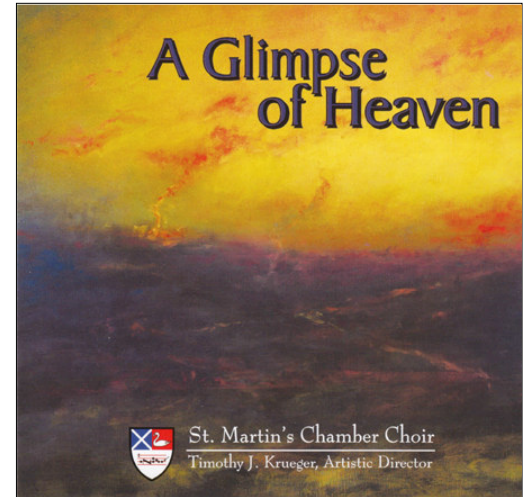
By Brock Erickson, Executive Director

I recently sat down with longtime St. Martin's supporter and local artist Ron Zito at his Capitol Hill studio. Ron has been attending St. Martin's concerts for more than ten years, and is a frequent participant in the choir's "Feasts of St. Martin" fundraising events. More recently, one of Ron's paintings, "Crossing", was chosen by SMCC Artistic Director Tim Krueger for use on the cover of our re-printing of "A Glimpse of Heaven", originally released in 1999.

"Crossing" is a wonderfully evocative work, with a dark, complex field in the foreground dominated by ominous grays, purples and blues, and a brilliant yellow and red horizon. Weaving through the painting from dark to light are faint, pathways. Reproducing the cover here does not do it justice, but you can see the full-color cover on the SMCC website.

Ron studied art early of his undergraduate days, where he received a degree in English Literature from Northern Arizona University, but he didn't start painting in earnest until some 15 years later. After working in pencil and pastels, he then began painting with oils, the medium that he continues to work in today. His light-filled studio, located in a c.1900 former boarding house, is full of many wonderful works, both completed and still in progress. You can find out much more about Ron's work on his website, www.ronzito.com.

When asked why he supports St. Martin's year after year, Ron replied that he values the fact that the choir is "different", and performs works that you simply won't hear anywhere else. The group's stability and persistence also keep him coming back to concerts and other events, recognizing that St. Martin's is an organization with staying power. As the choir celebrates its 15th anniversary season, it honors musical tradition with its



Feasts of St. Martin for 2008-09

Coming soon: **Fête-ing the Muse - A St. Martin's CD Debut, A Composer Is Celebrated!**

Join us for this celebration of the release of SMCC's 10th CD which features the music of composer & audience favorite Terry Schlenker.

Sat. Feb. 28th, 7:30 p.m. - \$35 per person, \$50 couple

St. Martin's offers eleven exciting Feasts events throughout the season, including an "open" SMCC rehearsal, a "Spanish Guitarra" house recital, a Capitol Hill garden tour, a trek up a 14er, and much more.

For more information visit
www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

Make your reservations today by calling 303-298-1970
or by emailing info@StMartinsChamberChoir.org.



exploration of choral music from the last 500 years, but also premieres new works, looking forward into the 21st century. In keeping with Ron's credo that artists should "speak to their own times", he loves hearing both the challenging sounds of today, and connecting with history through the performance of great music from a previous age.

“February 1809”

(A Cameo Concert)

- 🏰 Bicentennial of the February 1809 births of Lincoln, Mendelssohn and Darwin
- 🏰 Music by Mendelssohn, White, Croft and Vaughan Williams
- 🏰 Cameo Concert: Lower ticket price, unconventional venue, one hour in length, audience interaction

Where & When:

Friday, February 13th, 7:30 p.m.,
Baha'i Center of Metro Denver
225 E. Bayaud Ave., Denver

Sunday, February 15th, 3:00 p.m.,
Christ's Episcopal Church
615 4th St., Castle Rock

For tickets call (303) 298-1970 or visit
www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

St. Martin's Chamber Choir' 15th Season is sponsored in part by:

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St. Martin's Chamber Choir
2015 Glenarm Place, Denver, CO 80205
Fifteenth Concert Season, 2008-09

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