



The St. Martin's Voice

The Newsletter of St. Martin's Chamber Choir

The Seven Last Words

By Timothy J. Krueger, Artistic Director

The Biblical accounts of Jesus' crucifixion give us seven sentences that he spoke from the cross. These have been traditionally called "Words," and a setting of these sentences became very popular in the late-18th and 19th centuries, under the title "The Seven Last Words of Christ."

Haydn's setting of the same name began its life as a purely instrumental work written to be performed in the cathedral of Cadiz, Spain, on Good Friday, 1786. Its subsequent popularity resulted in no fewer than four different arrangements for a variety of forces, and the addition of a text. St. Martin's performs a version for string quartet (played by the Confluence Quartet of Denver), vocal soloists, and chorus. It is a monumental work consisting of eight movements -- one for each "word" plus a final chorus that represents the

earthquake at the moment of Jesus' death -- lasting approximately 45 minutes.

The remainder of the concert will consist of a *cappella* works with texts relating to Jesus' crucifixion, including the world premiere of a new work by Terry Schlenker, "In Monte Oliveti."

I invite you to enter into the solemnities of Holy Week through this concert, presented during the weekend of Palm Sunday; and if you are not a participant in Holy Week rituals, I invite you to experience St. Martin's performing some of the world's most poignant and solemn music, simply for the enjoyment of it.

The Seven Last Words

*Concert sponsors: Robert and Juanita Kniss,
and Bronwyn and Michael Alleman*

Friday, March 30, 2007 **Sunday, April 1, 2007**
St. John's Episcopal Cathedral St. Elizabeth's Church
1350 Washington St., Denver Speer & Arapahoe,
Auraria Campus, Denver

Both concerts 7:30 p.m.

Adults \$20; Seniors \$17; Students \$5

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

What's Inside?

The Seven Last Words	1
Just a few Feasts of St. Martin remain for 2006-07	2
SMCC at the BPO	2
The Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund	2
Summer garden party at Ellie's	3
Recordings from SMCC	3
Board of Directors	3

Only a few Feasts remain for the 2006-07 season – Make your reservations now!

The Feasts of St. Martin are beginning to wind down for 2006-07, but you can still catch the three events below. Plans are already underway for next season's offerings, but still to come on this year's menu are:

- Musical transitions** – A fascinating discussion of those pivotal moments throughout music history where the avant-garde led to whole new musical languages. [Sat. Apr. 14, 2007]
- Jazz overlooking the park** – Enjoy cool jazz from Donna Wickham in an elegant Cheesman Park penthouse [Sat. May 12, 2007]
- Hike the high ridges** – Summit three 13ers and a 14er in this spectacular summer day in the high country. [Fri. Aug. 17, 2007]

To make your reservations, or for more information call 303-298-1970 or email info@StMartinsChamberChoir.org.



Host Ginni Ishimatsu shows guests the finer points of potstickers and dim sum at a recent Feast of St. Martin.

SMCC a hit with BPO audience

St. Martin's performance on the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra's February 24th concert was greeted with a rapturous response from the BPO crowd. Plans are in the works for a concert collaboration next season. Stay tuned for details!

The Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund

In December 2003 the St. Martin's Board of Directors established the Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund. St. Martin's singer and former assistant conductor, and Colorado Public Radio host Mark Sheldon lost his long fight with cancer at age 42 on December 9, 2003, and at his request this fund was set up in his memory. Many generous contributions from Mark's friends and supporters formed the core of the fund. The St. Martin's Board then decided that in order to honor Mark's commitment to recorded music and radio, and to music education, St. Martin's would use the fund to underwrite the choir's recordings, and to fund an annual conducting internship.

All revenues from CD sales are returned to the fund, so it is perpetually replenished and is a tangible tribute to Mark. Three St. Martin's CDs have now been completely underwritten by the fund, and it remains an important and visible reminder of his commitment to preserving and sharing choral music with a wider audience.

The Mark Sheldon Fund Conducting Internship is an annual position offered to a graduate conducting student from a local college or university. The internship offers rehearsal and concert conducting experience, along with

Continued on next page

**St. Martin's 2006-07 Season
concludes on**

June 1st & 3rd, 2007

with

A Colorado Connection

**A program of works by Colorado
composers and arrangers. The concert
will feature an encore performance of
Terry Schlenker's stunning
*Mass for Double Choir***

More details at

www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

Circle June 23rd on your calendar!

Songs of a Summer Night
comes to Ellie's gardens

This year our "Songs of a Summer Night" gala garden party will be held on Saturday, June 23rd in the beautiful gardens of SMCC friend and supporter **Ellie Caulkins**. You won't want to miss this elegant evening of refreshment and entertainment celebrating the long-awaited arrival of summer.

To receive more information about this special event contact the St. Martin's office at 303-298-1970 or info@StMartinsChamberChoir.org.



"Mark Sheldon Fund", continued from previous page

exposure to the administrative and Board governance of a professional choral ensemble. The Mark Sheldon Conducting Intern for 2006-07 is Gabrielle Dietrich.

Mark's was a truly gracious and courageous soul, and his passion for music and life profoundly affected everyone who knew him. We are honored to have been associated with such a man, and are honored to have the opportunity to further his legacy through the Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund.

For more information about the Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund please contact the St. Martin's office.

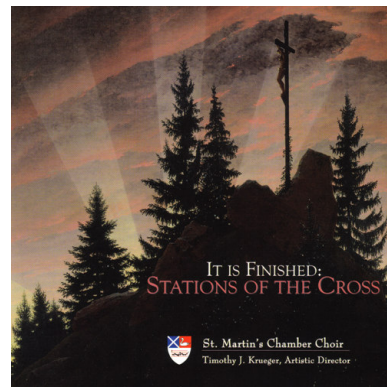
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Recordings from St. Martin's



It is Finished: Stations of the Cross

St. Martin's newest release traces Christ's Holy Week journey to the Cross. We follow the fourteen stations of the Via Crucis with works from the 16th to 21st centuries by di Lasso, Byrd, Tallis, Schütz, Mendelssohn, Gasparini, Bruckner and others. Also included are world premiere recordings of M. Susan Brown's "Adoramus te" and Terry Schlenker's "Alleluia".

-- also from St. Martin's Chamber Choir --

Monastic Echoes

The Unknown Masterpiece

O Taste and See

The American Spirit

A Glimpse of Heaven

Dreams All Too Brief

A Marian Christmas

303-298-1970 or
www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org/discogra.htm
to order

The Seven Last Words

- Josef Haydn's masterpiece for chorus, soloists, and string quartet
- Special guests: The Confluence String Quartet
- *A cappella* works by Tomás Luis de Victoria, Healy Willan, King John IV of Portugal, and others
- World premiere of "In monte Oliveti" by Denver composer Terry Schlenker

Where & When:

Friday, March 30, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Cathedral
1350 Washington St., Denver

Sunday, April 1, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

St. Elizabeth's Church
Speer & Arapahoe, Auraria Campus, Denver

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

St. Martin's Chamber Choir gratefully acknowledges the generous support of:

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St. Martin's Chamber Choir
2015 Glenarm Place, Denver, CO 80205
Thirteenth Concert Season, 2006-07

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