



The St. Martin's Voice

The Newsletter of St. Martin's Chamber Choir

“England Expects...” Inaugurates 12th Season

*By Timothy J. Krueger,
St. Martin's Chamber Choir Artistic Director*

As an 11-year old I became acquainted with novelist C. S. Forrester's nautical series based on the fictitious British hero Horatio Hornblower and his exploits during the Napoleonic Wars. It began a life-long love-affair with the sailing ships of the 18th century, and the remarkable men who worked them. Foremost among the latter – in the popular eye, at any rate – is Admiral Horatio Nelson, victor of such battles as Trafalgar, Cape St. Vincent, Copenhagen, and the Nile, to name the most celebrated examples.

This October marks the 200th anniversary of the last and greatest of Nelson's victories – and that which took his life, as well – the Battle of Trafalgar. The title of the concert refers to the now-famous signal that Nelson sent to the ships of his fleet, that began "England expects that every man will do his duty..." The battle is still commemorated annually in Great Britain with a national holiday. And, of course, the central London square bearing its name, with a statue of Lord Nelson atop the towering column that dominates it, bears daily testimony to the importance of the battle in the hearts and minds of the British people, much as the very words

'Bunker Hill' or 'Gettysburg' still resonate with Americans today.

This concert is an attempt to pay homage to this avocational passion of mine – the call of the waves, the lure of adventure on the high seas, the history of the Royal Navy. The main works featured in the concert are two by Anglo-Irish composer Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. The first is *Songs of the Sea*, for men's chorus, piano, and baritone soloist. It is a five movement work, and the baritone solos in each movement will be divided up between myself, St. Martin's newcomer Chris Maunu, and Glen McGrath. The second work by Stanford is *The Battle of the Baltic*, which tells the story of Nelson's victory against the Danish fleet in 1803. This is one of those works that, regardless of its musical qualities, simply is not performed because there is rarely an occasion to do so; this is the perfect time for it, and is the only performance of the work that I have ever heard of. In both of these pieces, the choir is joined by the incomparable Tamara Goldstein, pianist.

The smaller works in the concert include Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Four Folk Songs*, part songs by H. Balfour Gardiner, Charles Wood, R. O. Morris, and Robert Lucas Pearsall. Last but not least, there are arrangements of Nelson-era sea songs by myself and Brock Erickson. Brock took the unofficial anthem of the Royal Navy, "Hearts of Oak," and set it in a very rollicking, high-spirited way, which is sure to bring a smile. I took three songs about Nelson (the

Continued on page 3

Announcing the 2005-06 *Feasts of St. Martin*

Last season's Feasts of St. Martin were a great success, Make sure that you're on the St. Martin's mailing list so you'll receive your invitation to the **Feasts of St.**

Martin. Here's a sneak-preview:

- **Überfest Oktober** - An upscale, low-brau celebration featuring the very finest imported beers and food guaranteed to please the gourmand.
- **"Monastic Echoes": CD release celebration** – Be the first to hear St. Martin's newest recording at this gala event, and receive a complimentary CD signed by Tim Krueger.
- **Capriccio Italien** – Enjoy a gracious evening with an Italian flair at an elegant home, and be entertained by a personal tour of unique Italian gardens via images on the silver screen.
- **Glass treasures** – Learn from the experts about vintage glass, and find out about your own glass heirlooms. Dessert and cordials will be served on authentic Depression-era glassware.
- **Interview with a muse** – Spend a fascinating evening with composer Terry Schlenker as he shares a glimpse into the creative process and previews some of his works in progress.
- **Some "in-chanted" evening** – Explore the monastic influences of John Tavener and Arvo Pärt, with cuisine to complement the Byzantine theme.
- **Plum dandy...** – Relax with Colorado wine from Plum Creek Cellars and gourmet cheese from Truffle, in a setting filled with southwestern native art.
- **Bag a fourteener** – Stand atop the 14,060 foot peak of Mt. Bierstadt during this unforgettable hike.
- **Lofty choir and organ lofts** – Learn about the differences between the impressive organs at St. John's Cathedral and Hamilton Recital Hall, sit in on a choir rehearsal, and attend an elegant dessert reception following the final June concert.

Complete information can be found in your Feast invitation and on the St. Martin's website. We'll see you at a Feast!

"Paint to Music" comes to Polaris at Ebert

This autumn sees the eagerly anticipated return of St. Martin's popular "Paint to Music" educational outreach program. Third-grade students at Denver's Polaris at Ebert school have produced original art inspired by listening to and learning about Charles Wood's "Full Fathom Five", a choral gem with words from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. An innovative installation of their artworks will be on display at St. Martin's "England Expects..." concerts on October 14th and 16th. Students and their parents and teachers will attend the concerts, where the choir will perform "Full Fathom Five" as part of its celebration of the sea.

Your Expertise Can Help SMCC

Do you have special expertise in marketing or fundraising? The development and marketing committees of the St. Martin's Board are looking for a few good volunteers to lend their talents to the work of supporting and promoting the choir. If you'd be interested in serving as a non-Board member of any St. Martin's committee, please contact the SMCC office.

Still to come in 2005-06

December 16, 17 and 18, 2005
"Gloria in Excelsis..."

February 10 and 12, 2006
"My Full Heart Forth...": The Men
of St. Martin's

April 7 & 9, 2006
"It is Finished...": Stations of the Cross

June 9 & 11, 2006
"There Let the Pealing Organ..."

Full season details at
www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

"England Expects..." continued from page 1

first about his Battle of the Nile, 1798; the next about one of Nelson's rare defeats, at Boulogne in 1802; and the last about Trafalgar), and freely arranged them to exploit all the many and varied capabilities of the singers of St. Martin's Chamber Choir.

Please join us for this high-spirited inauguration of our 12th concert season, which promises to be an event that will be talked of long after it is over, I truly believe!

Musical Question of the Month

Match your musical wits against other St. Martin's supporters by entering our Musical Question of the Month contest. Beginning October 1st St. Martin's will post an intriguing question about music history to our website, www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org. Check back each month for a new question, and for the answer to the previous month's puzzler. Whoever submits the most correct answers over the next year will win a special prize.

Visit the Education Resources section of our website to enter and for full details, and good luck!

Donating your unwanted vehicle to support St. Martin's

Call the SMCC office (303-298-1970) or visit www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org/VehicleDonation.htm for details.

St. Martin's Chamber Choir

2015 Glenarm Place
Denver, CO 80205

Phone:

(303) 298-1970

Fax:

(303) 296-6234

E-Mail:

smcchoir@msn.com

Visit us on the Web at:

www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

Mark Your Calendar for the Bookfair on December 1st

Barnes & Noble, Denver West

Thursday, December 1st, 5-9 p.m.

Support SMCC with your holiday book and music purchases. More information at (303) 298-1970 or www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org.

Coming in November from St. Martin's: "*Monastic Echoes*"

St. Martin's Chamber Choir is pleased to announce the November 2005 release of its seventh CD recording, "*Monastic Echoes*". Gregorian chant from the propers for the feast day of St. Martin of Tours (Nov. 11) is performed by the men of the choir, and the women sing chant from the evening service of Vespers. The centerpiece of the CD is Colorado composer John White's "*The Canonical Hours*", a work written for St. Martin's in 2005 that uses Medieval Latin texts representing the eight hours of the liturgical day.

This is sure to be one of St. Martin's most popular CDs ever, and you can reserve your copy by calling or emailing the St. Martin's office, or by visiting the choir's website. "*Monastic Echoes*": more beautiful choral music from St. Martin's for you to own and listen to again and again.

The Informed Audience

Education Resources on the St. Martin's website provide excellent tools to enhance your concertgoing experience. From composer biographies and program notes to hints on concert etiquette and links to glossaries of musical terms, we've tried to help our audiences understand choral music and its roots, and make your evening at the concert as informative and enjoyable as possible. Visit our Education Resources pages at www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org/Education/EducationResources.htm to learn more.

“England Expects...”

- ⦿ A treasure chest of stirring works celebrating the 200th anniversary of Nelson’s victory at Trafalgar
- ⦿ C. V. Stanford’s *The Battle of the Baltic* and *Songs of the Sea*
- ⦿ Works by Vaughan Williams, Balfour Gardiner, Wood, Pearsall, Krueger and Erickson



Where & When:

Friday, October 14, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

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

Sunday, October 16, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

St. Elizabeth's Church
Speer and Arapahoe, Auraria campus,
Denver

Adults, \$18; Seniors, \$15; Students, \$10
To reserve tickets call (303) 298-1970 or visit
www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

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St. Martin’s Chamber Choir

2015 Glenarm Place, Denver, CO 80205

Twelfth Concert Season, 2005-06

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