

The St. Martin's Voice

The Newsletter of St. Martin's Chamber Choir

Masterpieces of the German Baroque: Buxtehude Tercentenary

By Timothy J. Krueger, Artistic Director

Probably the single greatest influence on the work of J. S. Bach was that of Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707), organist of the Marienkirche of Lübeck. In 1705, the 20-year old J. S. Bach walked 200 miles to hear the aging master perform, and was reportedly offered the job as Buxtehude's successor if he consented to marry the latter's spinster daughter. Bach refused, but the indelible imprint of Buxtehude's organ and choral music is unmistakable.

While every organist has heard of Buxtehude, practically nobody else has. His compositional output was almost entirely limited to organ music and Lutheran sacred choral music (mostly cantatas). But there is one Latin *Missa Brevis* that was written in an *a cappella* Palestrinian style that



Interior of the Marienkirche, Lübeck, 1839

has gained a bit of a wider audience, and St. Martin's will perform this at our season opening concerts this Fall.

Surrounding the relatively brief *Missa Brevis* will be works by those who influenced Buxtehude, as well as those whom he influenced. Heinrich Schütz and Christoph Demantius -- both early Baroque composers

See "German Baroque", page 3

Masterpieces of the German Baroque: Buxtehude Tercentenary

Friday, Oct. 5 and Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007
St. Elizabeth's Church
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?

Masterpieces of the German Baroque . . .	1
From the Executive Director	2
New CD: "A Marian Christmas II"	2
New conducting intern Ace Edwards . .	3
What we did on our summer "vacations"	3

Straight from the Executive Director's desk

Welcome to our 14th season! The 2007-08 concert season looks to be our best yet, with exciting, unexpected musical treats around every corner.

The journey begins on October 5th and 7th with dynamic works from the German Baroque by Demantius, Schütz, Buxtehude, Pachelbel, and Bach. In December St. Martin's presents Denver's most distinctive holiday concerts, including a performance of Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*. February sees the choir collaborate with the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, a top-flight original-instruments ensemble, in a concert featuring the regional premiere of Johann Joseph Fux's *Kaiserrequiem* ("Emperor's Requiem"). In April we explore the joyous music from the Christian season of Eastertide, and conclude the season in June with some of the greatest works ever written for double choir, including Ralph Vaughan Williams' powerful *Mass in G minor*.

Whether you purchase a flexible season subscription, or just buy individual tickets for concerts throughout the season, I hope we'll see you many times this year enjoying St. Martin's Chamber Choir and the finest choral music in the region.

Postal and email lists

As we continue to trim our postal mailing list and update our email list, be sure to let us know that you still wish to receive timely information about St. Martin's concerts, special events, and other opportunities.

Please let us know...

- *When your email or postal address changes*
- *If you still want information delivered right to your door*
- *If you want to receive The St. Martin's Voice newsletter by email only (saving SMCC a stamp!)*

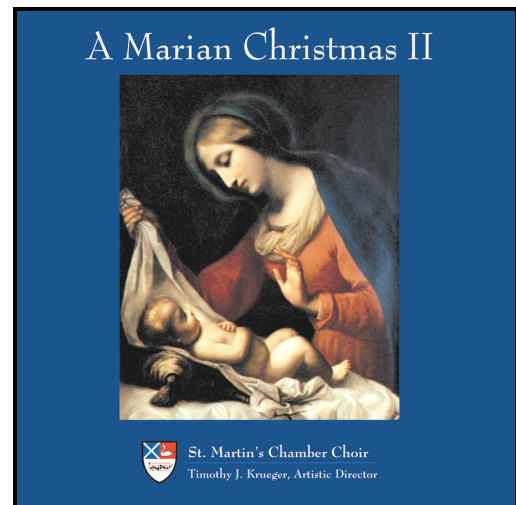
Send an email to info@stmartinschamberchoir.org, mail a note to SMCC, 2015 Glenarm Place, Denver, CO 80205, or call us at 303-298-1970. Thanks for helping us serve you better!

New CD release in October:

A Marian Christmas II

Just in time for your early holiday shopping, St. Martin's is pleased to announce the release of "A Marian Christmas II", sequel to its bestselling 1998 CD "A Marian Christmas". Featuring many favorites from last December's concerts of the same name, "A Marian Christmas II" contains a delightful collection of carol arrangements and sparkling seasonal works, including five world premiere recordings.

Place your advance order today by calling 303-298-1970 or by visiting SMCC's website.



St. Martin's 2007-08 Season

**Masterpieces of the German Baroque:
Buxtehude Tercentenary**
October 5 & 7, 2007

Christmas with St. Martin's
December 16, 20 & 21, 2007

**Gradus ad Parnassum: with the Baroque
Chamber Orchestra of Colorado**
February 15, 16 & 17, 2008

This Joyful Eastertide
April 4 & 6, 2008

Masterworks for Double Choir
June 6 & 8, 2008

Details at www.StMartinsChamberChoir.org

Ace Edwards: St. Martin's newest Mark Sheldon Conducting Intern

We'd like to take this opportunity to officially welcome St. Martin's third Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund Conducting Intern, Ace Edwards.

After receiving his B.M. in vocal performance from CSU at Sacramento, California, Ace returned to France where he spent two years of post graduate study at the Centre d'Etudes Superieures de Musique et Dance in the city of Toulouse. He then received a M.M. in Opera from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, in Glasgow, Scotland. Ace is now a Vocal and Choral graduate student at the Lamont School of Music.

The Mark Sheldon internship in conducting, rehearsal and concert management and arts administration is underwritten by the Mark Sheldon Memorial Fund, established to further the musical legacy of former St. Martin's assistant conductor and singer Mark Sheldon.

What we did on our summer "vacations"

Lest anyone think that St. Martin's singers are idle during their summer hiatus from SMCC, let's put that idea to rest right now. This is one busy bunch of musicians!

In June Tim Krueger and Brock Erickson attended the national convention of Chorus America in Los Angeles. They met with choral conductors and administrators from around the country, gaining new insights into the challenges faced by choral organizations, and the strategies that they employ to succeed in today's arts world.

Cindy Henning, Chris Maunu, Ace Edwards and JoAnn Gudvangen-Brown performed in Central City Opera's production of the world premiere of *Poet Li Bai*, by Guo Wenjing. There were six performances of the opera, which was written in an ancient Mandarin dialect.

At Boulder's Chautauqua Auditorium Tom Vanden Bosch, Tim, Brock, Laura Nordson, MB Krueger and Donna Wickham sang in the Colorado Music Festival's concert performance of Osvaldo Golijov's flamenco opera *Ainadamar*. Tim, MB and Micaela Larsen Brown also sang in the CMF's *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff and Gustav Mahler's 2nd Symphony.

"German Baroque", continued from page 1

affected by the cataclysmic Thirty Years War -- are represented, including Demantius' monumental *St. John Passion* -- one of the only *a cappella* Passion settings extant. A *Magnificat* by Buxtehude's friend and contemporary Johann Pachelbel (he of the famous Canon in D) will be sung; and the concert will conclude with *Jauchzet dem Herrn*, a work that gets us three composers in one. It is a motet that was long attributed to J. S. Bach because copies of it in his handwriting were used for performances during his lifetime in Leipzig; however, it has been persuasively demonstrated that it is probably not by him, but by an unknown contemporary. Still, its use by Bach is an indication of his approval, at the very least, if not admiration. The third composer comes into the picture in that the final movement is a transcription of another work by Telemann.

Bach, Telemann, Pachelbel, Schütz, Buxtehude -- a veritable treasure trove of Baroque delights, and I heartily welcome your attendance!

Donate your unwanted vehicle to SMCC!

Everyone seems to want your unwanted vehicle these days, but St. Martin's wants it the most! To donate any car, truck, motorcycle, earthmover or riding lawnmower (or any other vehicle) just call 303-308-2400 and you'll be supporting SMCC in a very creative way. (You might just get a tax write-off, too!)

Jesse O'Shell and Donna spent the summer performing with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and Tim & MB traveled to Santa Fe to join other alumni in the chorale's 25th anniversary concert.

M. Susan Brown headed to the mountains to compose several new works, including new Christmas pieces, a song cycle, and a solo marimba work.

Tim Krueger was hired this summer as the new chorus master of the Boulder Bach Festival. Tim is already serves as chorus master for the Colorado Music Festival.

Everyone had a great time and learned a lot, but it's wonderful to be "home" again with St. Martin's!

Masterpieces of the German Baroque: Buxtehude Tercentenary

- Demantius: *Deutsche Johannes-Passion*
- Schütz: Motets 4 & 5 from *Geistliche Chor-Music*
- Pachelbel: Magnificat No. 13
- Buxtehude: *Missa Brevis*
- Bach/Telemann: *Jauchzet dem Herrn, alle Welt*

Where & When:

Friday, Oct. 5, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

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

Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

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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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Fourteenth Concert Season, 2007-08

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