# THE CANTATA SINGERS

## 1968-1969 Season

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# THE CANTATA SINGERS

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LESS, O Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple; Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Cantata Singers

Robert Finster, conductor

# PROGRAM II, 1968-1969 Season

Fourth Sunday in Advent December 22, 8:00 P.M.

> A JOYOUS CONCERT TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

# Grace Episcopal Church

WEST CHURCH AND DAVIS STREETS ELMIRA, NEW YORK

The Reverend Samuel W. Hale, Jr., Rector The Reverend Francis A. Park, Priest Assisting The Reverend William R. Emblidge, Jr., Director of Christian Education

Robert M. Finster, Organist and Choirmaster

# Program

Harmonization by Robert Finster

Drop down, ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

V. 1. Be not anary with us, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever. Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation, our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

V. 2. We have sinned and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have taken us away. Thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us because of our iniquities.

V. 3. Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servants whom I have chosen, that ve may know me and believe me. I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour, and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

V. 4. Comfort ye comfort ye my people; my salvation shall not tarry. I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions. Fear not, for I will save thee, for I am the Lord, thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

PASTORES, DICITE Cristobal de Morales 1500-1553

Pastores, dicite, guidnam vidistis? et annuntiate Christi nativitatem. Noe.

Infantem vidimus, pannis involutum, et choros Angelorum laudantes Salvatorem. Noe.

Shepherds, tell us, what did you see there? Give us the news of Christ's birth. Noel.

We saw the Infant, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and choirs of Angels singing to the Saviour. Noel.

T

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM ... Tomas Luis de Victoria ca. 1540-1611

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentem in praesepio. O beata virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

O great mystery and ineffable covenant, that simple beasts behold the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! O blessed Virgin, whose hallowed womb did bear the Lord Jesus Christ! Alleluia.

# FREUT EUCH UND JUBILIERT ......Sethus Calvisius 1556-1615

Freut euch und jubiliert; zu Bethlehem gefunden wird das herzeliebe Jesulein, das soll eu'r Freud und Wonne sein.

Rejoice exultantly; in Bethlehem shall ye find the dear Lord Jesus, who shall your joy and wonder be.

## CANTATA, IN DULCI JUBILO ... Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1707

Christopher Bonds, violin Julie Along, violin Carolyn Finster, cello Janet Ty, organ

In dulci jubilo Now sing with hearts aglow! Our delight and pleasure Lies in praesepio Shining is our treasure Matris et gremio. Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule, For thee I long alway; Comfort my heart's blindness, O puer optime. In thy loving kindness, O princeps gloriae, Trahe me post te! O Patris caritas! O Nati lenitas! Deeply were we stained Per nostra crimina; Thou for us hast gained Caelorum gaudia. O that we were there!

Ubi sund gaudia In any place but there? There the angels singing Nova cantica, And the bells are ringing In regis curia. O that we were there!

A

# HOLY RADIANT LIGHT ..... Alexander Gretchaninov 1864-1956

Holy radiant Light, thou holy radiance of the Father, glorious and mighty, thou only-begotten Son of God eternal, holy Jesus! Come we now to the hour of setting sun; the lights of evening 'round us shine. O holy One, holy Trinity eternal, we sing thy praise evermore: with undefiled lips evermore art thou worthy to be praised, holy Son of God, source of every life, thou radiant Light, all the world doth praise thee now and evermore.

# THIS DAY A CHILD IS BORN

......Heinz Werner Zimmermann b. 1930

William Vaughan, contrabass

This day a child is born here, To us a son is born here! And the government is on his shoulders; He is called Wonderful! God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace! Hallelujah!

Cantus firmus in tenor part:

Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men, Before his highest throne! Today he opens heaven again And gives us his own Son!

#### OFFERING AND INTERMISSION

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1908-1942

(Die Weihnachtsgeschichte, Op. 10)

Edmund Dana, tenor — Evangelist Robert Harder, tenor — Angel Phyllis Bonds, soprano — Elizabeth Kay Wack, mezzo soprano — Mary Sidney Reed, bass — Herod Richard Wack, baritone — Simeon

- I. Chorus: "The people that walked in darkness"
- II. The Christmas Story
  - 1. Chorale: "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming" The Annunciation
  - 2. Chorale: "Isaiah 'twas foretold it" The Magnificat
  - 3. Chorale: "O Saviour, hear our pleading" The Birth of Christ
  - 4. Chorale: "This flower whose fragrance tender"
    - The Shepherds and Angels Chorus: "Glory to God in the highest" Chorus: "Let us go now"
  - 5. Chorale: "At once the shepherds answered"
    - Herod and the Wise Men Chorus: "Where is the new-born King" Chorus: "In Bethlehem"
  - 6. Chorale: "All thanks to God the Father" Simeon
  - 7. Chorale: "Now sing we all, so be it!"
- III. Chorus: "For God so loved the world"

## LATER THIS SEASON

March 9, Sunday, 8:00 P.M. Francis Poulenc — Tenebrae factae sunt Heinz Werner Zimmermann — Psalmkonzert Leonard Bernstein — Chichester Psalms

# May 25, Sunday, 8:00 P.M.

Johann Sebastian Bach — Mass in B Minor

# THE CANTATA SINGERS

#### SOPRANO

MRS. PETER ARBACH MRS. CHRISTOPHER BONDS MRS. THOMAS BURT MRS. KEITH CALKINS MRS. MARILYN DeFALCO MISS DIANNE DOWNER MISS MARY-ELLEN EARL MRS. SAMUEL HALE MISS MELISSA HOBLER MRS. DONALD HOLTZ MRS. JOHN HOOS MISS THERESA HUGHES MRS. MATTHEW PERRY MISS GAIL PRETTYMAN MRS. ROBERT SAXTON SISTER M. JULIANA, SSJ MRS. FLOYD STANTON MISS GLENDA WILSON MRS. HENRY WING

#### TENOR

KEITH CALKINS LEON CONSTANZER EDMUND DANA RICHARD DeGEUS ROBERT HARDER KEITH REAS RICHARD SHEASLEY FREDERICK THAYER

#### ALTO

MRS. ALBERT CLARK MISS HELEN CLARK MISS MARJORIE COLE MRS. CHARLES DAVIS MISS LONNIE DENSBERGER MRS. ROBERT FINSTER MISS BETSY HALE MRS. ROBERT HARDER MRS. DONALD HARPER MISS PATTI HOOS MRS. TERRELL KIRK MISS JEANETTE LAWRENCE MISS MAUREEN McCARTHY MRS. SAMUEL MINIER MRS. DAVID MOCHEL MRS. ERNEST PALMER MRS. ROBERT SCHARF SISTER MARGARET DE SALES, SSJ SISTER PATRICIA SPELMAN, RSM MRS. JOHN TETZ MRS. JAMES TY MRS. RICHARD WACK

#### BASS

FRANK BARLETT THOMAS COSTELLO LEONARD CRIMINALE REV. SAMUEL HALE PHILIP HAYDEN REV. DONALD HOFF DAVID LUCE REV. FRANCIS PARK FREDERICK PETRIE SIDNEY REED MICHAEL SUSICK RICHARD WACK

### **REHEARSAL ACCOMPANISTS**

Mrs. Charles Davis

Mrs. James Ty

**OUR THANKS** to Mrs. David Teeter for her services as chairman of the Reception Committee, and to those who have helped her.

**THE CANTATA SINGERS** is a concert choir founded in 1964 by Robert Finster and dedicated to the performance of sacred choral literature. The amateur chorus is unique in its function and in the composition of its personnel. Its members represent nearly every major Christian body, thus bringing to the group a breadth not found in individual parish choirs and other choruses, and giving to the community a concrete expression of ecumenical cooperation and understanding. Membership is open to all those who have a deep interest in singing great sacred music, an adequate singing voice, the ability to read music, and the sincere intention of attending all rehearsals and participating in all concerts during a given season.

**THE PROGRAMS** given by The Cantata Singers are given without admission charge, but are dependent largely upon your contributions at each program.