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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Elmira Symphony and Choral Society; the Wardens, Vestry, and Choir Guild of Grace Episcopal Church, Kent Hill, Organist and Choirmaster; Microtrend Computers Ltd.

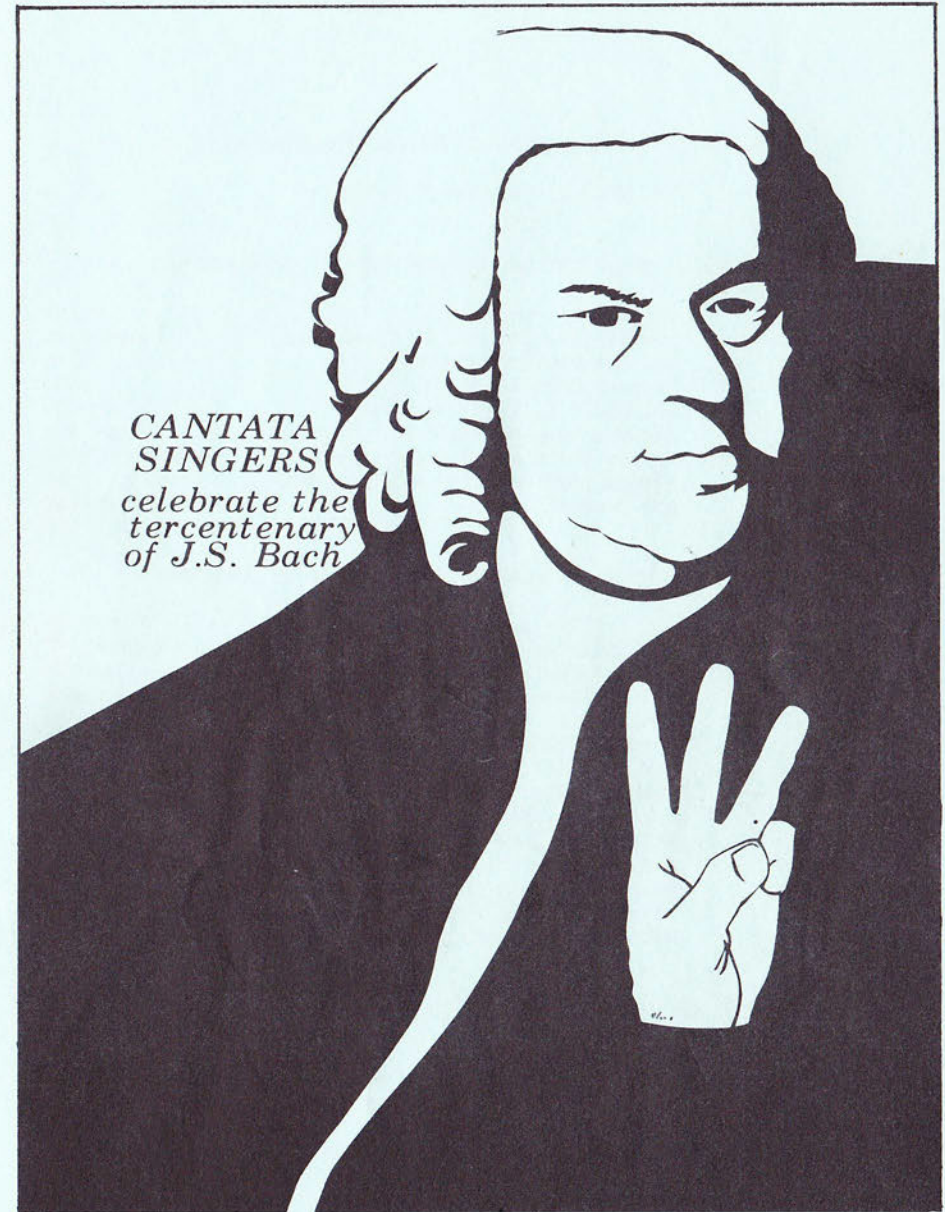
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THE CHRISTMAS ORATORIO, BY JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Sunday, December 9, 1984

PART ONE: ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

Chorus	Christians, be joyful	chorus
Recitative	Now it came to pass in those days	evangelist
Recitative	See now the bridegroom	alto
Aria	Prepare thyself, Zion	alto
Chorale	How shall I fitly meet thee	chorus
Recitative	And she brought forth her firstborn son	evangelist
Chorale/Recitative	For us to earth he cometh poor	soprano/bass
Aria	Mighty Lord and King all-glorious	bass
Chorale	Ah! Dearest Jesus	chorus

PART TWO: ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

Symphony		orchestra
Recitative	And there were shepherds abiding	evangelist
Chorale	Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light	chorus
Recitative	And the angel said to them	evangelist/soprano
Recitative	What God to Abraham revealed	bass
Aria	Haste, ye shepherds	tenor
Recitative	And this is the sign to you	evangelist
Chorale	Within yon gloomy manger	chorus
Recitative	O haste ye, then	bass
Aria	Slumber, beloved	alto
Recitative	And suddenly there was with the angel	evangelist
Chorus	Glory to God in the highest	chorus
Recitative	'Tis right that angels thus should sing	bass
Chorale	With all thy hosts	chorus

PART 3: ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

Chorus	Hear, King of Angels	chorus
Recitative	And when the angels had gone	evangelist
Chorus	Let us even go now unto Bethlehem	chorus
Recitative	He bids us comfort take	bass
Chorale	The Lord hath all these wonders wrought	chorus
Duet	Lord, thy mercy	soprano/bass
Recitative	And they came with haste	evangelist
Aria	Keep, O my spirit	alto
Recitative	Yes, yes! my heart	alto
Chorale	Thee with tender care I'll cherish	chorus
Recitative	And the shepherds returned	evangelist
Chorale	Rejoice and sing	chorus
Chorus	Hear, King of Angels (repeated)	chorus

THE CHRISTMAS ORATORIO, BY JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Sunday, December 16, 1984

PART 4: ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, THE FESTIVAL OF THE CIRCUMCISION

Chorus	Come and thank Him	chorus
Recitative	And when eight days were fulfilled	evangelist
Duet	Immanuel, beloved name	bass/soprano
Air, with echo	Ah! my Saviour	soprano
Duet	'Tis well! Thy name, O Lord	soprano/bass
Air	'Tis thee I would be praising ever	tenor
Chorale	Jesus, who didst ever guide me	chorus

PART 5: ON THE SUNDAY AFTER NEW YEAR'S DAY

Chorus	Glory be to God	chorus
Recitative	Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem	evangelist
Chorus/recitative	Where is the new-born king?	chorus/alto
Chorale	All darkness flies	chorus
Air	O Lord, my darkened heart enlighten	bass
Recitative	And when Herod the king heard it	evangelist/alto
Terzet	Ah! When shall we see salvation?	soprano/alto/tenor
Recitative	My Lord is King alone!	alto
Chorale	This proud heart	chorus

PART 6: ON THE FESTIVAL OF THE EPIPHANY

Chorus	Lord, when our haughty foes assail us	chorus
Recitative	Then Herod called the wise men privily	evangelist
Recitative	Thou traitor	soprano
Air	Naught against the power	soprano
Recitative	And they, when they had heard the king	evangelist
Chorale	Beside thy cradle here I stand	chorus
Recitative	And being warned by God in a dream	evangelist
Recitative/air	Depart! enough/Ye foes of man	tenor
Recitative	O'er us no more the fears of hell	soloists
Chorale	Now vengeance hath been taken	chorus

The Christmas Oratorio was originally composed as a series of six separate but related cantatas, to be performed on six days from Christmas to the Feast of the Epiphany. To restore this flavor at least partially, we have spread our performance over two successive Sundays. The three sections we present each week will be separated by brief intermissions; we hope both the performances and our appreciation of them will benefit from a few moments of reflection.

THE CANTATA SINGERS

William O. Payne III, Music Director

Constance Read, Soprano Gloria Kirk, alto
Edmund Dana, evangelist William Parke, tenor
James Hudson, bass

SOPRANO

Ruth Bruning	Kathy Lovell	Anna Rice
Debbie Courtney	Lois McCann	Judy Sheasley
Linda Harrison	Laura McGrath	Kay Kennedy Wack
Dorothy Hoos	Bonnie K. Scott (echo)	Nancy Welliver

ALTO

Eunice Bowers	Wendy Roe Hovey	Lou Sand
Joan Cunnings	Gloria Kirk	Betsy Sentigar
Gwen Egan	Cynthia Kulikauskas	Kathy Russell Shaw
Judith Feitner	Joanne Lutomski	Florence Suffern
Claudia Hamlin	Janet Mix	Bernice Wickham
Barbara Horn	Cora Range	Carol Wright

TENOR

Claude Cornwall	Paul D. Holland	Richard Sheasley
Edmund Dana	Wilmer M. Hurst	Richard E. Wack
Jonathan Guest		Will Wickham

BASS

Richard F. Bauer	Marc B. Lovell	William Root
Marvin E. Bunch	J. Scott Miller	Richard Schockner
Rolf Charlston	Sidney Reed	Moreland Thompson
Mark J. Hagan		Michael K. Wald

REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST

Judith Feitner

This program is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts. In Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chemung, Steuben, and Tioga Counties, the Decentralization Program is administered by the Chemung Valley Arts Council.

THE FESTIVAL CHAMBER PLAYERS

VIOLIN

Ken Fung
Betsy Turner
Gary Chollet
Lung Wu

VIOLA

David Vogel

VIOLONCELLO

Kim Hardy
Al Conrad

CONTRABASS

Patricia Manley

ORGAN

James Sanderson

FLUTE

Margaret Biery Payne
Sallie Matteson

OBOE/OBOE d'AMORE

Peter Hedrick
Elizabeth Hedrick

ENGLISH HORN/

OBOE da CACCIA
Laurie Bayless
Ann Adams

PASSOON

Michael Kroth

HORN/

CORNO da CACCIA
Guy Kinney
David Borsheim

TRUMPET

Kim Dunnick
Jane Dunnick
Kathy O'Kane

TYMPANI

Richard Shore

The Cantata Singers take great pleasure in presenting their concerts without admission charge. The continuation of this practice is dependent largely upon your contribution at each concert.

This concert is being recorded. For the benefit of fellow concertgoers as well as posterity, please limit coughs and other distracting noises as much as possible.

The Bach Tercentenary celebration will continue with performances of the St. John Passion on April 5 and the Mass in B Minor on May 12, as well as a series of ten organ recitals extending to November 1985. If you would like to be added to our mailing list for these events please leave your name and address in the collection plate.