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The Cantata Singers

proudly present the fourth annual

FESTIVAL OF  
Women  
IN THE ARTS

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH  
MARCH 2011

Events and venues throughout the Twin Tiers  
and Southern Finger Lakes Region

## The Power of Women...

The power women hold as musicians, artists and performers is that of promoting feminine expression. In spite of great societal pressure mounted against them, women in western culture have found expression of that power through the arts for centuries. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries more women were working creatively, but only recently has society begun to truly encourage the feminine gender to seek creative outlet through artistic pursuits as career choice rather than just as an intriguing hobby.

This Festival of Women in the Arts is a celebration of the many forms of female creation and the artistic foundation laid by a multitude of women through hundreds of years of contributions to the lively and creative arts. In this Festival month there are concerts, theatrical events, workshops, exhibitions, recitals, lectures and readings all celebrating the creative power of all women.

In celebrating women's art, performers and audiences alike move closer to more complete awareness of our own identities as creators as well as human beings.



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## A Brief History of the Festival

The first Festival of Women in the Arts came about as the result of a programming choice by the Cantata Singers. A weekend of music and theater with a handful of paintings and photographs by women to be displayed at the performances was thought to be a pretty good idea.

That idea quickly grew into a dozen events and gallery showings held through two weeks in March, 2008 and with that a pretty good idea became an annual event. In 2009 the Festival expanded to include 24 events in Corning and Elmira featuring artists and performers from four area counties. Our 2010 festival featured 39 performances, lectures, recitals, concerts, readings, theatrical events and more by three-dozen collaborating organizations, presentation venues and individual artists and performers.

One year later, our 2011 Festival finds 5 dozen listings on the calendar. These 34 unique events represent the collective creative energy and performance talent of literally hundreds of women who work in the arts as writers and musicians, painters and sculptors, dancers, singers, photographers, and so much more.

No matter what brings you to reading this program, it is our hope that you will come away from this and all these events with a new appreciation of the feminine point of view. The creativity and strength of these women, who humbly but powerfully speak for all women when they share with us their experiences and insights of the world and universe in which we all live.

for more information visit:  
**WWW.VALLEYFOLK.ORG**



## Upcoming Concerts

All concerts start at 7:30 pm in  
the Drake House Studio Theater at  
171 Cedar Arts Center  
155 Cedar Street, Corning, NY

March 5

### Long Time Courting

All-female Celtic American group with gorgeous four-part harmonies.

April 2

### Lee Murdock

Songs of the people of the Great Lakes.

May 7

### Sarah McQuaid

Lovely-voiced Trans-Atlantic singer, songwriter and teacher of Irish DADGAD-tuned guitar.

June 4

### Four Shillings Short

Unexpected musical twists as California meets Ireland, India and Medieval England.

October 1

### North Sea Gas

One of Scotland's most popular and rousing folk bands.

November 5

### Wictor, Jencks & Greenway

Three super songwriters in harmony create the folk collaboration of the decade.

These concerts are made possible, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts  
Decentralization program, administered locally by the Arts Council of the Southern Fingerlakes.

## Cosmopolitan Women's Club, Inc.

2010 Winners of the "WAY" Award

We honor Vicie Rolling and the many  
Women like her who share a diligence, a  
passion, and a commitment to enhancing  
the community through the Arts.

The 2011 Festival of Women in the Arts: See how it grows...

A stated goal of the Festival is to enhance the quality of life in the community through arts by, about and for women while promoting and raising the awareness of the successful work of women in the arts. In the fourth year of this community-wide collaboration, I share with you what behind-the-scenes efforts are being made to achieve this goal.

The Cantata Singers, as Festival sponsors and coordinators, continue to provide in-kind administrative time and materials. A Festival web presence is maintained on their website. They provide professionally created promotional posters, postcards and Festival programs (6,000) to all collaborators; free of charge. Media promotion and advertising, social media presence, banners, signs and table tents are also being utilized.

This year's marketing has seen the addition of a Glenora Wine Cellars Festival Riesling, increased signage in the community, a doubling in quantity of printed materials, and the institution of a raffle. In other areas of growth we have seen an increased number of events, new collaborators and a Gala collaborative closing concert. Working with us under Directed Study, a female Elmira College student is gaining experience in event planning.

How is all this possible? In addition to much in-kind time and hard work, the Festival is funded through donations, grants, business sponsorship and by selling reasonably priced advertising in the Festival program. Would you like to invest in enriching your community? Please consider backing the Festival financially. Is that not possible? Here's another way. You can help us meet our grant requirements by taking the time to give us your valuable feedback. Email or write us with your thoughts or comments at [cantatasingers@ymail.com](mailto:cantatasingers@ymail.com) or PO Box 952, Elmira, NY, 14902. Or, become part of the Festival planning team; there are many possibilities waiting for you, scaled exactly to what you have to offer. Whatever you decide to do, it will leave you feeling wonderfully rewarded!

Your have the ability to give everyone, artist and community, a chance to participate in and experience fine art. Keep the doors open that allow women to promote themselves, create new ideas and perhaps take chances on artistic endeavors they may never have explored before. Thank you.

Susan Nagle  
Festival of Women in the Arts Chairwoman

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## 2011 Festival of Women in the Arts Events

### Concerts

**February 27**, 3 pm, Free - **The Cantata Singers Gala Festival Opening Concert: A Decade of American Women in Song: 2000-2009**, First United Methodist Church, Broad Street, Horseheads, [www.cantatasingers.com](http://www.cantatasingers.com).

**March 5**, 7:30 pm, \$ - **Valley Folk Music: Long Time Courting**, 171 Cedar Arts Center, Drake House Theater, Corning, Valley Folk welcomes the amazing female voices of "Long Time Courting". Sarah Blair, Liz Simmons Shannon Heaton and Ariel Friedman combine a love of traditional Irish and American music and contemporary material. Wheelchairs and under 14 free with adult, 607-962-4461.

**March 6**, 4 pm, \$ - **Toshiyuki Shimada and the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes: The French Connection**, Clemens Center, Powers Theater Elmira, Toshiyuki Shimada and the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes celebrate Women in the Arts. Featuring The Chorus of the Southern Finger Lakes, Guest Soloists, The Hertzog Competition Winner and the Youth Orchestra. Tickets available at the Clemens Center box office.

**March 12**, Public Concert - 7:30 pm, Jam Session - 9:30 pm, \$ - **Simple Gifts**, Clemens Center, Mandeville Hall, Elmira, Three women playing 12 instruments performing Romanian, Klezmer, Greek, Irish, Scottish Appalachian music and more! There will be a jam session after the program beginning about 9:30 pm. Tickets at the Clemens Center box office or by calling 607-734-8191 or 800-724-0159.

**March 17**, 5:30-7:30 pm, Free - **2300°: Majority Rules with The Grady Girls**, Corning Museum of Glass, At 2300°F, hot glass gets interesting—and so do things at The Corning Museum of Glass. This series of free, themed events features live glassmaking demonstrations by guest artists, live music and great regional fare.

**March 25**, 8 pm, \$ - **Christine Baze: Paint It Yellow**, 171 Cedar Arts Center, Drake House Theater, Corning, Concert in the Drake House theater with Christine Baze, 10 year cervical cancer survivor and nationally known singer/songwriter and cancer activist. \$5/cancer survivors/\$10 members/\$15 general admission.

**March 27**, 3 pm, Free - **Festival Closing Concert** with the Cantata Singers Crystal Chords, Women's Chorale at 171 Cedar, and others, Clemens Center Powers Theater, Elmira, Join the Cantata Singers, the 171 Cedar Women's Chorale, the Crystal Chords, members of the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes with Mary Lu Walker and more in a wondrous celebration of women's contribution to the musical performing arts.

### Presentations and Workshops

**March 10**, 6:30 pm, Free - Chemung Valley Fiber Arts Guild: Finger Weaving Workshop, Steele Memorial Library, Church Street, Elmira.

**March 19**, 10 am-noon, \$ - Off Loom Bead Weaving with Heidi Kester Franklin Street Gallery, Franklin Street, Watkins Glen.

### Galleries and Exhibitions

**March 12-April 30**, Regular Business Hours, Free - **Exhibition: Women in the Arts**, Franklin Street Gallery, Watkins Glen.

**March 1-31**, Regular Business Hours, \$ - **Quilt Exhibit**, Chemung Valley History Museum, East Water Street, Elmira.

**March 19**, 11 am-4 pm, Free - **Elmira Regional Art Society: Circle of Artists**, Labyrinth at Trinity Episcopal Church, Elmira.

**March 1-31**, Regular Business Hours, Free - **Chemung Valley Fiber Arts Guild: From a Warped Perspective**, Steele Memorial Library, Elmira.

**March 1-31**, Regular Business Hours, Free - **Rita Rhodes Jewelry & Pastoral Patchworks Exhibition**, Steele Memorial Library, Elmira.

**March 1-31**, Daily 9 am-9 pm, Free - **Mavin Ambrose: A One Woman Show**, Gannett-Tripp Library, Elmira College.

**March 1-31**, by appointment 734-5703, Free - **Rita Rhodes Studio: Art in Progress**, Big Flats, call for directions.

**March 1-31**, Regular Business Hours, Free - **Women Artists in the Rockwell Museum of Western Art Collection**, Drop-in Self-Guided Tour, Rockwell Museum of Western Art, Corning.

**March 1-31**, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 10 am-2 pm, Free - **The People's Choice Art Show**, Community Arts of Elmira, Langdon-Pratt Mansion, Elmira, "The Peoples Choice Art Show" will be at Community Arts of Elmira, with "Women in the Arts" as the March theme. Vote for your favorite!

**March 1-31**, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 10 am-2 pm, Free - **The Shutter Gals Show**, Community Arts of Elmira, Langdon-Pratt Mansion, Elmira, "The Shutter Gals Show" features women photographers of the area.

**March 1-31**, Regular Business Hours, Free - **Everyday Opulence - Jewelry by Caroline Poppendeck**, Steele Memorial Library, Elmira.

### Literary Arts: Poetry, Lectures, & Readings

**March 1**, 6-9 pm, Free - **The Chemung County Council of Women (CCCW): Salute Your Favorite Woman In History**, Chemung Valley History Museum, Elmira, The Chemung County Council of Women present your chance to meet historical women live at the Chemung Valley History Museum.

**March 3**, 6-8 pm, Free - **Arnot Art Museum: Sage Daughters of the Muses III**, sponsored by Friends of the Steele Memorial Library and AAUW, Arnot Art Museum, Elmira, Poetry reading and music of 'Southwind' all hosted by the Arnot Art Museum. Sponsored by The Friends of the Steele Memorial Library and the AAUW.

**March 4** at 11:30 am, 2:30 pm and 4:15 pm and **March 11, 14, 18, 21, 25** at 11:30 am and 4:15 pm, Free - **Vicie Rolling: Airport Elocutions: Early American Poetry as Spoken Word**, Elmira Corning Regional Airport, Big Flats, Vicie Rolling, actress, poet and storyteller presents poetry readings.

## Literary Arts: Poetry, Lectures, & Readings (continued)

**March 10**, 7 pm, Free - **Chemung Valley History Museum:**

**Lecture - Local artist Talitha Botsford**, Chemung Valley History Museum Elmira, The Chemung Valley History Museum presents a lecture about local artist Talitha Botsford.

**March 23**, 7 pm, Free - **Zonta Club of Elmira: Readings by Women Who Write**, Zonta House, West 1st Street, Elmira.

**March 24**, 7 pm, Free - **Chemung Valley History Museum:**

**Lecture - Scribblers: Women Writers of Chemung County**, Chemung Valley History Museum Elmira, The Chemung Valley History Museum presents a lecture featuring information about women writers of Chemung County.

## Theater & Dance

**March 8-9**, 7:30 pm, \$ - **The Color Purple**, Clemens Center, Powers Theater, Elmira, The Color Purple is a musical based on the classic novel by Alice Walker and film by Steven Spielberg. It is the inspiring story of a woman named Celie, who triumphs over tremendous odds to find joy and true inner beauty. Tickets 607-734-8191 or 800-724-0159.

**March 11, 12, 18, 19, 21, 25, 26** at 7 pm and **March 20 & 27** at 3 pm, \$ **House Divided**, Waverly Storefront Theatre, Waverly, The Waverly Storefront Theatre presents a Civil War play by local playwright Cathleen Koons Wiggs.

**March 18** at 7:30 pm and **March 19** at 3 pm and 7:30 pm, Free - **Camilla Schade: Performing Therapy**, Elmira Psychiatric Center Theater, Elmira A 'depressively experienced' actress turned therapist (Camilla Schade) leads group therapy in an attempt to provide helpful advice and therapeutic modalities to other 'stressfully afflicted' in "Performing Therapy". Art Therapy with Balloon Animals, Affirmations on Post-it notes and Primal Humming are some of the hopeful remedies. But in her attempt to proffer relief, she gets wildly off-track relating her own poignant story of the meaning of life-after-loss in Schuyler County. "Performing Therapy" confronts the value of memory through an engaging recognition of the art of letting go. Written by Camilla Schade and Kira Lallas, directed by Kira Lallas.

**March 26**, 7 pm, \$ - **Mirage Belly Dancers of Ithaca**, 171 Cedar Arts Center, Drake House Theater, Corning.

## And More

**March 5**, 10 am-1 pm, \$, member discount - **171's Culinary Arts Program: Culinary Japan with Michiko Yamaguchi**, 171 Cedar Arts Center, Drake House Studio Theater, Corning, preregistration encouraged.

**March 18**, 7 pm, Free will donation - **Inner Peace Labyrinth Walk: Water 'YOUR' Spirit through the Labyrinth**, Trinity Episcopal Church Labyrinth Elmira, Find your inner sacred feminine as you meditate through the Labyrinth, downstairs in the Trinity Episcopal Church parish hall.

## And More (continued)

**March 26**, 10 am-1 pm, \$, member discount - **171's Culinary Arts Program: Latin Fever with Chef Pat Ernst Dugan**, 171 Cedar Arts Center Drake House Theater, Corning, preregistration encouraged.

**March 31**, 5:30-9:30 pm, \$ - **Chemung County Council of Women: Women of Achievement Dinner**, Crystal House, Horseheads, Celebrating the achievements of the women of the Twin Tiers. Dinner and presentation at the Crystal House in Fisherville.

### New to the Festival this year! "And the Word is..."

At every event you can find a "secret" word. Collect those words throughout the month of March and enter all correct entries for a chance to win fabulous prizes at the March 27 Gala Closing Concert and Reception at the Clemens Center.

More information and a list of prizes can be found on the web at [www.cantatasingers.com](http://www.cantatasingers.com). Must be present on March 27th to win!

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**May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**World Wide Labyrinth Day**

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The Cantata Singers rely on community support to continue to provide our concerts without admission. You can make a tax-deductible gift to the Cantata Singers on the web at [cantatasingers.com](http://cantatasingers.com) and click on the Support link. Or you can mail a check to us at PO Box 952, Elmira, NY 14902. Program ad information can also be found at [cantatasingers.com](http://cantatasingers.com).



This project is made possible, in part, with funding from The New York State Council on the Arts' Decentralization Program administered locally by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes.

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Without the dedication of many, the Festival wouldn't be possible. In addition to the commitment of Cantata Singers director Will Wickham and president Susan Nagle, many hours of dedicated labor are donated by treasurer Felix Kapron, along with great planning ideas and input from Rita Rhodes, Jackie Knitter, Bobbi Curran, Gary Chollet, Maureen Pugliese, Michelle Berliss, Vicie Rolling, Barbara Luther, Karen Gunther, Kerry Lippincott, Bill McKay, Gloria Gene, Jean Ryan and all others who've lent their thoughts and ideas. We would also like to thank our collaborating organizations, artists and staff along with the Cantata Singers secretary Kathy Lovell.

We thank the following businesses for lending their support to the Festival. Barb's Soups On, Bernie Murray's, Charlie's Café, Declemente's Deli, Express Café and Bakery, Hanover's Grill, Horigans, Maple Lawn Dairy Family Restaurant, Market Street Brewing Company & Restaurant, Patrick's, Pietro & Son Pizzeria & Restaurant, Simon's, Soul Full Cup Café, Soul Full Cup Coffeehouse, Sugar and Spice, Tanino Ristorante Italian, The Gaffer Grille & Tap Room.

Special thanks to the following for their contribution to the 2011 Festival: Judy Sheasley, Elisabeth Madden and Grapevine Distribution, Elmira College, Jean Ryan, Jennifer Herrick, Shari Paige-Rich and Elmira Downtown Development, Steele Memorial Library, Pam Yunis

## Program

### Part 1 - Contemporary American Women of Song

#### Et in terra pax - - Nancy Bloomer Duessen (San Francisco, California)

Frances McLaren, piano

Et in terra pax hominibus, *And on earth peace to all people,*  
Laudamus te, Benedicimus te. *Praise you, Lord, Bless you, Lord.*

#### The Mirror - - - - - Rebecca Sacks (Medford, Massachusetts)

Between the woods the afternoon  
Is fallen in a golden swoon,  
The sun looks down from quiet skies  
To where a quiet water lies,  
And silent trees stoop down to trees.  
And there I saw a white swan make  
Another white swan in the lake;  
And breast to breast, both motionless,  
They waited for the wind's caress....  
And all the water was at ease. - - A. A. Milne

#### Arirang - - - - - Chen Yi (Kansas City, Missouri)

- 1) Arirang, arirang, arario. *Arirang, Arirang hills,  
Arirang kogayro naumaukanda. Going over the Arirang hills,  
Nahrul baurigo kahsinen nimeun, My darling is leaving me behind;  
Shimrido motkasau palpyongnanda. Won't make it ten miles before falling ill.*
- 2) Arirang, arirang, arario. *Arirang, Arirang hills,  
Arirang kogayro naumaukanda. Going over the Arirang hills,  
Chungchun hanulyen byuldo manko, The blue sky is full of stars;  
Woorinae salrimsali maldo manta. Our lives are full of troubles.*
- 3) Arirang, arirang, arario. *Arirang, Arirang hills,  
Arirang kogayro naumaukanda. Going over the Arirang hills,  
Poongnyuni on danae, poongnyuni oya yoo, A bountiful year will come, and is coming.  
I kangsan samchunri poongnyuni oya yoo. A bountiful year is coming throughout the land.*
- 4) Arirang, arirang, arario. *Arirang, Arirang hills,  
Arirang kogayro naumaukanda. Going over the Arirang hills,  
Saesang mansarul haearini, Thought about everything in this world:  
Mulwoiea doongdoong thun gupumira. Bubbles floating on the water.*  
*translation Josephine Lee Williamson*

#### White Horses - - - - - Gwyneth Walker (Braintree, Vermont)

Frances McLaren, piano

after all white horses are in bed will you walking beside me, my very lady,  
touch lightly my eyes and send life out of me  
and the night absolutely into me *text adapted by G. Walker*

### Part 2 - Young Woman of Music

#### Concerto in G minor (Summer) (No. 1, Allegro non molto) - A. Vivaldi

Amelia Rossettie, Young Performers Competition winner, violin  
Gwenn Beckman, piano

### Part 3 - Something a bit different

#### Fiddlin' - - - - - Jennifer Higdon (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

### Intermission

### Part 4 - when musics collide...

#### The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass

Music by Carol Barnett (Minneapolis, Minnesota)  
Text by Marisha Chamberlain (Hastings, Minnesota)

The Bluegrass Band fiddle - Renee Baum • mandolin - Jeffrey Wisor  
banjo - Joe Chicone • guitar - Casey Mallow • bass - Robert Sementilli

#### 1) Ballad Refrain

They say God loved the world so dear  
He set aside His crown  
And cloaked Himself in human shape;  
They say that He came down  
And dwelt awhile among us here.  
He came on down.

#### 2) Kyrie

Mercy! Oh, Kyrie! Have mercy!  
Oh, Christe! Mercy, mercy!  
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison,  
Have mercy on creation!  
Have mercy on our souls.  
Mercy!

#### 3) Ballad, First Verse

A Child walked forth on Eden's way, a Child stretched out her hand.  
O, may I taste the apple there and take to understand  
The fruit of knowledge in my mouth, and know of God first hand?

#### 4) Gloria

Glory be to God on high, who launched the sunlight, loosed the rain,  
Who scattered stars across the sky, who piled the mountains, rolled the plains,  
Who spilled the rivers and the seas. Oh, Glory be, oh, Glory be.

Glory be to God below, for feather, fur, for scale and fin,  
For vine up-twisting, blossom's fire, for muscle, sinew, nerve and skin  
And every feature set aglow. Oh, Glory be to God below.

Oh, Glory be for peace on earth, and prayerful be the human heart  
That has required a Savior's birth to make of earth heav'n's counterpart,  
So strife might stop and warring cease. Oh, Glory be for peace, Oh, be for peace.

Oh, Glory be the generous hand who left us to our work and care,  
Who gave us only few commands but that we help each other bear  
Life's burdens, pain and suffering ease. Oh Glory be, oh, Glory be.

#### 5) Ballad, Second Verse and Refrain

Adam, he labored, Eve, she toiled, But they say God loved the World so dear  
And many children bore, He set aside His crown  
And sometimes all was fruitfulness And cloaked Himself in human shape;  
And sometimes seasons wore They say that He came down,  
Them down to dust and emptiness And dwelt awhile among us here.  
And hunger at the door. He came on down.

#### 6) Credo

Oh, I do believe a place awaits us for across the Jordan  
And when we reach those mossy banks, we'll cast aside our oars.  
Row on, row on, we're crossing River Jordan,  
Row on, row on, and no one goes alone.

Oh I do believe a place awaits us high above the mountains  
And when we reach that highest peak, we'll spread our wings and soar.  
Climb on, climb on, we're climbing Jacob's Ladder,  
Climb on, climb on, and no one goes alone.

Oh, I do believe a resting place awaits us, cross the Jordan,  
We'll toss our coats, throw off our hats and take the seat of ease.  
And it's not the seat of riches and it's not the seat of power.  
Row on, row on, and no one goes alone.

#### 7) Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, (Holy, Holy, Holy,)  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth. (Lord God of Hosts.)  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. (Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.)  
Hosanna in excelsis. (Hosanna in highest.)

#### 8) Ballad, Third and Forth verse and Refrain

The skies exploded, towers fell; The floods came rushing down  
And many souls were burned alive And many souls were drowned  
And others set to marching, marching Far from house and home.  
Where are you now, our Savior dear, When we are all undone?



(8 continued)

They say God loved the world so dear  
He cast aside His crown  
And cloaked Himself in human shape;  
They say that He came down,  
And dwelt awhile among us here.  
He came on down.

Oh, I am here among you now tho' I must pass unseen,  
And cannot show why this must be nor how I walk between  
Your souls and greater dangers than you have ever known,  
To laugh with you and weep with you, my people, oh my own.

It's true, I love the world so dear  
I cast aside my Crown  
And cloak myself in mystery  
So I can come on down  
And dwell in and among you now.

I come on down.

**9) Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata mundi, (*Lamb of God, who take away sins of world,*)  
miserere nobis. (*have mercy on us.*)

Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata mundi, (*Lamb of God, who take away sins of world,*)  
dona nobis pacem. (*grant us peace.*)

**10) Art Thou Weary? (Instrumental)**

**11) Benediction**

Blessing be upon your heads.  
Bless the living, bless the dead.  
Blessing be upon you, my people.  
Blessing so that you may go  
Lightly through this world of woe.  
Blessing be upon you, my people.

Blessings, and may you embrace  
God in guise of human grace.  
Blessings now and forever.

**12) Conclusion**

They say God loved the World so dear  
She set aside her crown  
And cloaked herself in human shape;  
They say that she came down,  
And dwelt awhile among us here.  
She came down.

**The Cantata Singers**

**Music Director** Will Wickham  
**Rehearsal pianist** Frances McLaren

**Soprano** - Ruth Bruning • Andrea Burch • Megan Donovan • Robin Fitzgerald  
Susan B. Hartney • Cathy Hogan • Kathy Lovell • Joy McFarland • Susan Nagle  
**Alto** - Loueda Bleiler • Katie Hicks • Martha Horton • Frances McLaren  
Patricia Peters • Jane Poliseo • Cora Range • Ruellene Seymour  
**Tenor** - Bill Brodginiski • Michael Hartney • Felix Kapron  
Tom McCloskey • Richard S. Perry • Gary Tucker  
**Bass** - Hilary T. Godard • Stephen Nagle • Dave Rappleye • Dave Rosplock

**Young Performers Competition winner**

**Amelia Rossettie**, age 16, is a junior at East High School. She has been studying the violin since the age of 3 and currently takes private lessons with Augusto Diemecke at 171 Cedar Arts. Amelia is a co-concertmaster of the Youth Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes and was selected as a violinist for Area All State Orchestra. Amelia plays violin locally for church services, weddings and other events. Amelia also enjoys singing and is a member of East High School's Choristers and East Winds select vocal ensembles. She has been involved in East High's musicals for the past several years and is currently a cast member of this year's production of Sweeney Todd. Amelia lives in Corning.

**Program Notes**

Music of women composers contains something, some quality that defies easy identification or definition. Certainly one root of this mysterious quality is the kind of strength that only a woman could possess. Where a male composer might find that strength through domination of the material (think of Beethoven hammering away at that four-note motif that is the fifth symphony), the female composer has a quiet strength from which the music simply flows.

The eight or so minutes of Nancy Bloomer Deussen's "Et in terra pax" are as unstopable and beautiful as any spring swollen river. The simple and elegant tune trips and dances through the watercourse, always changing but ever the same, offering a refreshing taste of that peace to everyone who stops by to drink of, bathe in or simply enjoy the passage of those clear, flowing waters.

Another facet of the music of women composers is a kind of insight into the relationships we all create with each other. Is this a learned skill or instinct? Good question! Wherever it comes from, Gwyneth Walker's "White Horses" has it in abundance. The composer's own program notes call the work a "love song dating back to the time of the Troubadours" but that is also true of e. e. cummings' poem on which the music is based. Walker's music takes the text, the singer and the listener to a much deeper connection between the knight and the lady, a spiritual realm where chivalrous love, care and concern reside full time.

There is an insight in the physical world that makes up part of the mysterious quality of the work of women. A stellar example in this program is "The Mirror" by Rebecca Sacks. The text, a children's poem by A. A. Milne, is one of the composer's favorites. A self-proclaimed nature enthusiast, Rebecca writes that she hopes to inspire that love in others through her music. The insightful nature of the music, however, is the use of musical mirrors: a repeated melodic phrase here, harmonic repetition there. Sometimes clear and other times masked as if by ripples in the water, Sacks' technique clearly evokes the appearance of the doppelgänger swan within the water of the lake.

Societal insight is also a strong part of what women composers bring to bear on their work. In "Arirang", a traditional Korean folk song that is almost a national anthem, Chinese-born American composer Chen Yi finds her way to the very soul of Korean society. Set simply but elegantly for unaccompanied voices, Dr. Chen's choral music clearly expresses the deep feeling and Korean identity of the well known and well loved folk song.

And fun. The music of women composers is fun. And what could be more enjoyable than just "Fiddlin'" around? Jennifer Higdon gives us a chance to do just that. Using the time honored vocal tradition of Shape Note or Southern Harmony style, Higdon, with a wink, turns the voices of the choir into a quartet of southern Appalachian fiddlers improvising around what could well be a traditional tune.

Above all other facets of the compositional art, women composers bring creativity to their music. "The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass" is the perfect example. Marisha Chamberlain's wonderfully evocative texts turn both the proper and ordinary of the catholic mass upside down and shake 'em up a bit. Composer Carol Barnett welds a folk-style bluegrass accompaniment to strong contemporary choral composition to create a stunning work that is far greater than the sum of its parts.

Whatever you take from this glimpse into the creative world of women in music, we sincerely hope that in some way you will have been touched by their efforts. All music has the power to reach us at the deepest emotional levels. Perhaps in some small way this recent music of American women might make your life, or at least your outlook on that life, a bit better in some way. Soli Deo Gloria! - - will wickham

**The Cantata Singers wish to express a very special thanks to** The people of the First United Methodist Church, Kenneth Van Etten, The Zonta Club of Elmira