Tribulation to Hope

Dr. Janet McCumber, director

Rhys-Maxwell Barnes, graduate conductor Ethan Hayward, Minsoo Kim, collaborative pianists

> Dvorak Concert Hall Sunday, April 23, 2023 4:00 PM

PROGRAM

Christ lag in Todesbanden (from Das Orgel-büchlein, BWV 625)
Rhys-Maxwell Barnes, organ
Christ lag in Todesbanden (BWV 4)Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
 Sinfonia Coro. Versus I Duett (Soprani, Alti). Versus II Aria (Tenori). Versus III Coro. Versus IV Duett (Soprano, Tenore). Versus VI Rebecca von Kamp, soprano Timothy McGowan, tenor Choral. Versus VII Karrin Estes, undergraduate conductor
Ave verum corpus
Soon-Ah Will Be Done
Camerata Singers
The Bluebird
Charlotte Hedberg, soloist
Earth SongFrank Ticheli (b. 1958)

Bass Ensemble

PROGRAM

How Can I Keep from Singing?.....Rev. Robert Lowry (1826-1899) arr. Robert I Hugh

Amelia Williams, Kaitlyn Ross, Sammi Parker, soloists **University Chorus**

Still I Rise......Rosephayne Powell (b. 1962)

Monica Alifantis, Karrin Estes, Emily Ritter, soloists
Jemma Allen, Sammi Parker,
Lia Rigdon, Madeline Steiner, Cierra Terry, soli group **Treble Ensemble**

CONCERT CHOIR

SOPRANOS

Monica Alifantis
Jemma Allen
Hailey Chappell
Emerson Gausmann
Rebecca Geffs
Charlotte Hedberg
Sommer Jones
Brittany Kelley
Chronicle Nagel
Mykayla Schilt
Madeline Steiner
Ciera Terry

<u>TENORS</u>

Christopher Andrus
Thomas Karunas
Mason Kurtz
Gage Matthews
Benjamin Woolery

ALTOS

Honor Baker
Rhys-Maxwell Barnes
Madison Colby
Holly Dumstorff
Olivia Enlow
Karrin Estes
Emerson Gausmann
Chloe Hempel
Lia Rigdon
Faith Worthington

BASSES

Hunter Holloway Aden Mathis Blaine Niebrugge Joaquin Ramirez Tyler Row

CAMERATA

SOPRANOS

Rhys-Maxwell Barnes Emerson Gausmann Rebecca Geffs Brittany Kelley Chronicle Nagel

TENORS

Christopher Andrus Harrison Hahn Thomas Karunas Benjamin Woolery

ALTOS

Honor Baker Holly Dumstorff Mason Kurtz

BASSES

Hunter Holloway Connor Mellott Joaquin Ramirez Tyler Row

UNIVERSITY CHORUS

SOPRANOS

Rylee Beckel
Ashley Bunting
Riley Jansen
Sammi Parker
Emily Ritter
Kaitlyn Ross
Olivia Theirl
Amelia Williams

ALTOS

Rhys-Maxwell Barnes Bre Heisner Kyla Johnson Emily Ritter

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

Christ lag in Todesbanden

Versus 1
Christ lay in death's bonds
Handed over for our sins,
He is risen again
And has brought us life
For this we should be joyful,
Praise God and be thankful to him
And sing Alleluia, Alleluia!

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

Versus 2

Nobody could overcome death among all the children of mankind.

Our sin was the cause of all this,

No innocence was to be found.

Therefore death came so quickly and seized power over us,

Held us captive in his kingdom.

Alleluia!

Versus 3

Jesus Christ, God's son, has come to this place
And has put aside our sins
And in this way from death has taken all his rights and his power,
Here remains nothing but death's outward form,
It has lost its sting.
Alleluia

Versus 4

It was a strange battle where death and life struggled.
Life won the victory, it has swallowed up death
Scripture has proclaimed how one death ate the other,
Death has become a mockery.
Alleluia!

Versus 6

Thus we celebrate the high feast with joy in our hearts and delight

That the Lord lets shine for us,

He is himself the sun who through the brilliance of his grace

Enlightens our hearts completely,

The night of sin has disappeared.

Alleluia!

Versus 7

We eat and live well on the right Easter cakes,
The old sourdough should not be with the word grace,
Christ will be our food and alone feed the soul,
Faith will live no other way.
Alleluia!

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

Ave verum corpus

Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary.
Truly [he] has suffered on the cross for mankind.
Whose side was pierced, whence flowed streams of blood.
Be for us a foretaste [of heaven] during our final examining.
O sweetest, O most holy,
O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

DIRECTORS NOTE

The past few years have given us many examples of tribulation and suffering; sometimes, however, we also see hope. Music is a way to express many feelings- grief, despair, hope and joy- and all of these are reflected in our selections today.

Christ lag in Todesbanden (Christ lay in death's bonds), written in 1706 as an audition piece for an organist post he was seeking at the Blasius Church in Mühlhausen [Germany] and performed on Easter, 24 April 1707, is a Passion cantata. Bach was a devout Lutheran, and based many of his choral works on the texts and hymns of Martin Luther, who dared oppose the abuses of the Roman church and in doing so ignited the Protestant Reformation.

In contrast, William Byrd, a lifelong Catholic who held to his faith during the turbulent religious political environment of the 16th century in England, wrote several motets that made strong political statements challenging the ban on Catholic beliefs by monarchs such as Elizabeth I; Ave verum corpus is one of these.

Persecution of a people can happen for many reasons, not just religious ones- often only because a certain group represents the Other, who look or live differently than we do. Soon-Ah Will Be Done and Still I Rise are examples of the spiritual and gospel genres of the Black American community, and offer a message of hope to those who are seeking relief from persecution, whether it be due to skin color, gender, or simply being "different."

DIRECTORS NOTE

Earth Song speaks to what war and the quest for power have done to our planet. Here, music is referred to as a refuge and light that will hold us through difficult times. The Bluebird is simply a restful and lovely depiction of a peaceful afternoon, where hope lies in the beauty surrounding a lake of blue.

We hope that our music today brings recognition of tribulation but also offers hope. As one lyric from *How Can I Keep from Singing* reads, "Above the tumult and the strife, I hear its music ringing. It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?"

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