



North Island Choral Society

Paul Colthorpe, Artistic Director
Elvera Penner, Accompanist

W.A. Mozart
Requiem

With NICS chorus, orchestra, and soloists

St. George's United Church

Friday March 31, 2023

Saturday April 1, 2023



A welcome from our director

Mozart Requiem. What do those two words mean to you? Especially if one has had an opportunity to view or listen to any of the background stories behind this work, it can evoke a myriad of thoughts, images, and feelings? With so many differing books, editorials, and opinions on the subject, it can become very easy to blur the line between fact and fiction. I believe this only adds to its overall aura and mystique.

When you, as a chorister, soloist, or instrumentalist (or lowly conductor!) are presented with only the “black and white” notation in front of you, you begin to realize the magic that can occur when playing and singing it. Work is never a chore. Time flies by. Rehearsals are always a captivating, joyous experience. I am filled with a sense of wonder whenever I have the honour of conducting this “bucket list” piece. It is our goal to share with you the magic that we have discovered, or re-discovered with this iconic classic. The North Island Choral Society, Orchestra, and Soloists are proud to present it to you, and hope that you come away with the same sense of beauty in the music as we have.



Paul Colthorpe – Artistic Director

A third-generation Victorian, Paul has resided in our Valley since 1991. A trombonist, conductor, and music educator, his 37-year career has seen him teach thousands of musicians from preschool to adult. He has worked with session musicians and classical artists from across Canada including many local soloists and even Frank Mills, a Canadian icon of piano. He is currently the music teacher at Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary where he instructs over 500 students in classroom music and beginning band.

In his "spare" time, he also is the Director of Music Ministries at Comox United Church, and has been the Artistic Director of NICS for almost 30 years. His mantra of "music for all, and by all" has served him well, and recently he has had the great honour of being nominated as an Arts Ambassador for the Comox Valley.

Elvera Penner – Accompanist

Elvera, an accomplished musician, has been working with soloists, choirs and instrumentalists since leaving high school. She earned her Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music (ARTC) and teaches piano as well as accompanying church, community, and school choirs. Elvera has been with NICS since 1992. NICS would very much like to thank her for THIRTY years of service to the choir.

Jennifer Rasor – Soprano

Jennifer began her training here in the Comox Valley with the late Joyce Court. As Fiona in the G. P. Vanier production of *Brigadoon* she found her love of performing and life love, James Rasor. She received her Bachelor in Voice Performance from McGill University and a Master's from University of Toronto. Her formation continued with the Studio of the Montreal Opera.

Jennifer is known both for her lovely soprano voice and for her remarkable acting abilities. She is a flexible crossover performer comfortable in many different genres. Concert works stretch from Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater Dolorosa* to Beethoven's 9th Symphony, Mozart's *Exsultate, Jubilate* to Orff's *Carmina Burana*. The song recital is another genre that interests Jennifer, having performed various concerts across Canada, Mexico and Germany.

Returning to the Valley for family commitments, Jennifer now works as a Communicative Disorders Assistant and Activity Aide. Besides her on-going love of performing, she sees music as an important means for self-expression and communication.

Lisa Stephens-Deith – Contralto

The daughter of a pastor and an operatic soprano, a love of music and life of faith shaped, and continues to shape, her musical path. Lisa studied at Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario. After graduating in 1991 with an Honours Bachelor of Music degree in voice, Lisa spent the next years focusing on being a wife and mother of two. After living in Toronto and London with her family, she moved to Courtenay from the U.K. in 2003 and is now happily and firmly rooted here in the Valley, volunteering with L'Arche and Habitat for Humanity, and leading worship at Living Hope Church.

Adam Dyjach - Tenor

A native of Waterloo Ontario, Adam commenced his musical education at Wilfrid Laurier University in Voice Performance under the direction of Kimberly Barber. He now resides in Victoria, BC where he completed his Masters in Voice Performance with Benjamin Butterfield at the University of Victoria.

Adam has performed as a tenor soloist with various groups, including the Vancouver Island Symphony, Victoria Baroque Players, the Handel Society of Music, Capriccio Vocal Ensemble, Bach on the Rock, Via Choralis, Sooke Philharmonic Choir, Victoria Baroque Festival, Civic Orchestra of Victoria, La Modestine, Victoria Choral Society, North Island Choral Society, Malaspina Choir, Victoria Philharmonic Choir, Oceanside Concert Choir and the Cowichan Consort.

Adam currently sings at the Fairfield United and St. John Henry Newman churches, with the Linden Singers and Capriccio choirs. In addition to performing, Adam teaches music lessons out of his home studio AD Music and at the Taber Music School. He is also a lead instructor for the online teaching platform Singdaptive. To find out more about Adam go to adamdyjach.com

Dr. Chris Bellamy - Baritone

While at medical school, Chris was a voice student at the Guildhall School of Music, London, England. His first major soloist performance was at St. Paul's Cathedral in Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*. His operatic debut, in 1967, was singing in Beethoven's *Leonora* in London. He was a principal baritone in the English National Opera. Chris came to B. C. in 1974. Four years later, he was the winner of the Western Canadian Metropolitan Opera auditions while studying with Dr. Jacob Ham in Vancouver. In 1979, he won in the vocal section of the Vancouver Kiwanis Music Festival, being runner-up to Richard Margison. He was soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the Vancouver Symphony and the Vancouver Bach Choir.

Chris moved to the Comox Valley in 1989. He has been a specialist physician in the Comox Valley for over 30 years and continues to be actively engaged with Providence Health.

Special thanks to:

- Our donors – Christopher Bellamy, Caroline Lenardon, Crandell Overton, Jo-Anne Preston, Cathie Talbot
- Our ticket outlets – Blue Heron Books & Benjamin Moore House of Colour
- St. George's United, Comox United, and Comox Valley Presbyterian Churches

NORTH ISLAND CHORAL SOCIETY

Soprano:

Louise Argyle, Sheila Borman, Bea Dolphin, Claudia Hartman, Ruth Hibberson,
Angela Hope, Rosalind Innes, Caroline Lenardon, Debra McLean, Gail Mercredi,
Jo-Anne Preston, Deirdre Rennie, Dulcie Smith,
Miranda Sorenson, Sigrid Stark, Susan Wellard

Alto:

Tara Bonham, Joyce Falkowski, Marianne Fiendell, Kelly Finlayson, Bernice Friesen,
Mary Gray, Margaret Harris, Sherry Lang, Tenna McCaffrey, Jocelyn Praine,
Kate Ramsey, Barbel Raynolds, Marianne Slomp, Sandy Toms, Judy Vanboven,
Gillian Venter

Tenor:

Margaret Gauthier, Peter Cartwright, John Churchley, Joy Dawson,
Keith Fawcett, Roger Goodman, Jane Gower, Marcia Haley, James Lee, Mo May,
Jennifer McQuade, Rosalind Pattison, Rich Revel, Rebecca Richards, Linda Stewart

Bass:

Tom Bennett, Alec Deas, Tony Devai, Stuart Hartman, Matthew Nicoll,
Crandell Overton, Ian Oldaker, Aidan Pitt-Brooke, Doug Preston, Robert Smith,
John Sterk

NICS ORCHESTRA

1st Violin: Naoke McKee (concert master), Theresa Hartwig, Ardene Larison

2nd Violin: Heather Gatland, Gwyneth Pickering, Kristin Valka

Viola: Heather Sinclair

Cello: Jordie Robinson, Marcia Haley, Maureen Bedford

Clarinet: Peter Wenzek, Howard Robertson

Bassoon: Dan Lehton

Trumpet: Stevan Paranosic*, Steve Donegan**

Trombone: Paul Colthorpe

Timpani: Ram Sudama

* *Principal trumpet, Vancouver Island Symphony* ** *Naden Band, Victoria*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Requiem

Mass in D Minor for Soloists, Choir and Orchestra, K. 626

1. Introitus: Requiem

Grant them Eternal rest (choir, soprano)

Kyrie

Lord have Mercy

2. Dies Irae

The judge shall Come

3. Tuba Mirum

A trumpet shall spread a wondrous sound

4. Rex Tremendae

King of Tremendous Majesty

5. Recordare

Remember me, O blessed Jesus (soloists)

6. Confutatis

When the accused are doomed to flames, call me among the blessed

7. Lacrymosa

That mournful Day – grant them rest

8. Domine Jesu

Deliver the souls of all the faithful departed (choir, soloists)

9. Hostias

We offer this sacrifice of prayer and praise

10. Sanctus

Holy, holy holy, Lord God of Hosts

11. Benedictus

Blessed is he who comes

12. Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, grant them everlasting rest (choir, soprano)

Lux Aeternam

May eternal light shine upon them, merciful God

PROGRAM NOTES
Prepared by Deirdre Rennie

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791

One of the best-known baroque and classical composers of his time and indeed to this day, Mozart composed over 600 pieces of music including chamber music, operas, symphonies, marches, choral works and sacred music. Mozart began playing the harpsichord at the age of 4 along with his sister. He quickly showed amazing musical talent and began composing small pieces at the age of 5. Of the 41 symphonies Mozart wrote, 13 were written between the ages of 8 and 15. While many of us may not be familiar with much of his work, most of us will have heard of two of his more well-known operas, *The Magic Flute* and *The Marriage of Figaro*, as well as his very famous *Requiem*. Sadly, his incredible talent was ended all too soon when he died at the age of 35 leaving behind a wife and 2 children.

Mozart's Requiem

In July 1791 Mozart was asked to write a Requiem for an anonymous benefactor. He was already unwell at this time but the commission he was paid was a generous one, so he agreed to compose it. Mozart became so obsessed with getting the Requiem written that his health began to deteriorate rapidly. In fact it is said that at one point, near death, Mozart felt as if he was writing his own Requiem.

Mozart died on December 5, 1791 having only completed the Requiem as far as the Lacrymosa, as well as bits and pieces of ideas for the remaining movements. His wife Constanze knew the mysterious benefactor would demand his money back if the work was not completed so she began looking for someone who would be able to finish the work. Myths abound as to who actually finished the Requiem. After much analysis of the styles of notation and composition, the finishing of Mozart's work is most certainly attributed to Franz Sussmayer who was one of Mozart's students. Sussmayer wrote most of the remaining movements himself using the notations Mozart had written, using some passages heard earlier on in the Requiem and using some passages from other works by Mozart. The mystery benefactor who commissioned the Requiem was Count von Walsegg-Stupach, who intended it as a tribute to his wife.

**We are grateful for the sponsorship of
Don and Brendan Somers, of
Don Somers Private Wealth Management**



TEXT AND TRANSLATION

Introitus

Requiem aeternam dona est, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat est.
Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.
Exaudi orationem meam,
ad te omnis caro veniet.
Requiem aeternam dona est, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat est.

Introitus

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine on them.
Thou, O God, art praised in Sion,
and unto Thee shall the vow
be performed in Jerusalem.
Hear my prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh
come.
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine on them.

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

Sequentia

Dies irae, dies illa
Solvat saeculum in favilla,
Teste David cum Sybilla.

Quantus tremor est futurus
Quando iudex est venturus
Cuncta stricte discussurus.

Tuba mirum spargens sonum
Per sepulcra regionum
Coget omnes ante thronum.

Sequentia

Day of wrath, that day
Will dissolve the earth in ashes
As David and the Sibyl bear witness.

What dread there will be
When the Judge shall come
To judge all things strictly.

A trumpet, spreading a wondrous sound
Through the graves of all lands,
Will drive mankind before the throne.

Mors stupebit et natura
Cum resurget creatura
Judicanti responsura.

Liber scriptus proferetur
In quo totum continetur,
Unde mundus judicetur.

Judex ergo cum sedebit
Quidquid latet apparebit,
Nil inultum remanebit.

Quid sum miser tunc dicturus,
Quem patronum rogaturus,
Cum vix justus sit securus?

Rex tremendae majestatis,
Qui salvandos salvas gratis,
Salve me, fons pietatis.

Recordare, Jesu pie,
Quod sum causa tuae viae,
Ne me perdas illa die.

Quaerens me sedisti lassus,
Redemisti crucem passus,
Tantus labor non sit cassus.

Juste judex ultionis
Donum fac remissionis
Ante diem rationis.

Ingemisco tamquam reus,
Culpa rubet vultus meus,
Supplicanti parce, Deus.

Qui Mariam absolvisti
Et latronem exaudisti,
Mihi quoque spem dedisti.

Death and Nature shall be astonished
When all creation rises again
To answer to the Judge.

A book, written in, will be brought forth
In which is contained everything that is,
Out of which the world shall be judged.

When therefore the Judge takes His seat
Whatever is hidden will reveal itself.
Nothing will remain unavenged.

What then shall I say, wretch that I am,
What advocate entreat to speak for me,
When even the righteous may hardly be
secure?

King of awful majesty,
Who freely savest the redeemed,
Save me, O fount of goodness.

Remember, blessed Jesu,
That I am the cause of Thy pilgrimage,
Do not forsake me on that day.

Seeking me Thou didst sit down weary,
Thou didst redeem me, suffering death on
the cross.

Let not such toil be in vain.

Just and avenging Judge,
Grant remission
Before the day of reckoning.

I groan like a guilty man.
Guilt reddens my face.
Spare a suppliant, O God.

Preces meae non sunt dignae,
Sed tu bonus fac benigne,
Ne perenni cremet igne.

Inter oves locum praesta,
Et ab hoedis me sequestra,
Statuens in parte dextra.

Confutatis maledictis
Flammis acribus addictis,
Voca me cum benedictis.

Oro supplex et acclinis,
Cor contritum quasi cinis,
Gere curam mei finis.

Lacrymosa dies illa
Qua resurget ex favilla
Judicandus homo reus.
Huic ergo parce, Deus,
Pie Jesu Domine,
Dona eis requiem.

Thou who didst absolve Mary Magdalene
And didst hearken to the thief,
To me also hast Thou given hope.

My prayers are not worthy,
But Thou in Thy merciful goodness grant
That I burn not in everlasting fire.

Place me among Thy sheep
And separate me from the goats,
Setting me on Thy right hand.

When the accursed have been confounded
And given over to the bitter flames,
Call me with the blessed.

I pray in supplication on my knees.
My heart contrite as the dust,
Safeguard my fate.

Mournful that day
When from the dust shall rise
Guilty man to be judged.
Therefore spare him, O God.
Merciful Jesu,
Lord Grant them rest.

Offertorium

Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae,
libera animas omnium fidelium defunctorum
de poenis inferni, et de profundo lacu:
libera eas de ore leonis,
ne absorbeat eas tartarus, ne cadant in
obscurum,

sed signifer sanctus Michael
repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam,
quam olim Abrahae promisisti

Offertorium

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
deliver the souls of all the faithful
departed from the pains of hell and from the
bottomless pit.

Deliver them from the lion's mouth.
Neither let them fall into darkness
nor the black abyss swallow them up.
And let St. Michael, Thy standard-bearer,
lead them into the holy light
which once Thou didst promise

et semini ejus.

Hostias et preces, tibi, Domine,
laudis offerimus:
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
quarum hodie memoriam facimus:
fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam,
quam olim Abrahae promisisti
et semini ejus.

to Abraham and his seed.

We offer unto Thee this sacrifice
of prayer and praise.
Receive it for those souls
whom today we commemorate.
Allow them, O Lord, to cross
from death into the life
which once Thou didst promise to Abraham
and his seed.

Sanctus

Sanctus. Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth!
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Osanna in excelsis.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Sabaoth.
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Osanna in excelsis.

Benedictus

Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the
Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of
the world,
grant them rest.
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of
the world,
grant them everlasting rest.

Communio

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,
cum sanctis eis in aeternum,
quia pius es.

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis,
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,
quia pius es.

Communio

May eternal light shine on them, O Lord,
with Thy saints for ever, because
Thou art merciful.

Grant the dead eternal rest, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine on them,
with Thy saints for ever,
because Thou are merciful.