



ENSEMBLE

The Voice of the Choral Art Form in Southwest Florida

Sing Out! Baroque, Second Annual SWFL Choral Festival slated this month, Symphonic Chorale hosts

Volume I, Issue 21
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There are few choral experiences as thrilling as singing Baroque. It is the epitome of the choral art, but it is a musical challenge that sometime eludes even seasoned choral singers.



View of almost sellout crowd at last season's Sing Out! Messiah Festival

This year the 2nd Annual Southwest Florida Choral Festival presented by the **Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida** will focus on Bach and his best peers, Handel and

Vivaldi, under the direction of Baroque choral specialist, **Patrick Walders**. (See profile, page 3) Singers from the community will learn this music from the inside out, and make choral magic with the Southwest Florida Choral Festival. The workshops conclude with a Festival Concert with instrumental ensemble and reception celebrating the greatest choral music ever written. The event is scheduled for Nov. 21, 22, and 23. The venue will be the Bonita Center for the Performing Arts. The program includes excerpts from the great cantatas of Bach, Antonio Vivaldi's Credo, and Pachelbel's Magnificat in G.

Jennifer Paulino, who has appeared with the Chorale in the past as well as with the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and the Bach Ensemble, will be appearing as



Baroque soloist Jennifer Paulino

guest soloist. Paulino has garnered significant praise and recognition as an interpreter of baroque and contemporary repertoire and is equally

renowned for her stunning voice and dramatic capability.

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Opera Naples presents



Puccini's beloved tale of bohemian life in Paris in the 1840s. Visit the crowded streets and garrets of the Latin Quarter and follow the tragic love affair of the tempestuous Rodolfo and the fragile Mimi.

Ramon Tebar
Conductor



Nov 20, 8 PM, Nov 22, 2PM

Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts
Tickets: www.artisnaples.org

Gulfshore Opera—Viva Verdi

Thrilling soloists accompanied by full orchestra and chorus present the most powerful and passionate musical moments of Verdi's greatest works. Maestro Paul Nadler conducts 100+ performers on stage. All enhanced by big screen and live video projections with translated text. Post-concert Inaugural celebration at Harborside on November 9th. Champagne toast by Mayor Henderson



November 6, 7:30 Pm, North Naples Church
November 8, 7:30 PM, Charlotte Performing Arts Center
November 9, 7 PM, Harborside, Fort Myers
Tickets: www.gulfshoreopera.org

Maestro
Paul Nadler
Conductor



Voices of Naples Messiah Sing-a-Long Concert

For the twelfth consecutive year the Voices of Naples will present the Messiah as a sing-a-long event. Artistic Director, Doug Renfroe says, "there are lots of people out there who would love to sing



Messiah but can't commit to weeks of preparation. No rehearsals, no fuss. Bring a score (or rent one at the door for \$1), take a seat, and sing along to the magic of this timeless work." Enjoy the outstanding voices of professional soloists and the

thrill of singing with a professional chamber orchestra. Just lots of people singing this beloved masterpiece to usher in the Christmas season.

The event is usually well attended so early arrival is recommended.

Sunday, November 23 2012, 3 p.m. Naples United Church of Christ.

Tickets: www.voicesofnaples.org or Call (239) 455-2582

National choral clinician to conduct Choral Festival



Patrick Walders

The Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida has engaged Patrick Walders as clinician and conductor at its second annual choral festival, Sing Out! Baroque, an enjoyable and inspiring weekend with Bach and his contemporaries. Walders is an Associate Professor and Director of Choral Studies within the School of Music and Dance at San Diego State University. He is also the founder of San Diego Pro Arte Voices and Artistic Director of the annual San Diego Summer Choral Festival.

Walders previously served as Director of Choral Activities at James Madison University for seven years. He directed the award-winning JMU Chorale and Madison Singers while developing the largest undergraduate and graduate choral program in Virginia.

Walders holds a bachelor's degree in music education from the State University of New York College at Fredonia, a master's degree in choral conducting from the Westminster Choir College, and a doctorate in conducting from the University of Maryland in College Park.

Walders is a highly sought clinician for clinics, workshops, and festivals throughout the United States.

For more information and registration, call 239-560-5695.

Of excellence and longevity

By Jim George

Southwest Florida is an upstart part of the country. There was little development here before the late 70s but once it began people flocked here from everywhere. The downside was they left areas that were culturally mature and offered a full range of artistic opportunities. Southwest Florida was a wasteland compared to that and newcomers found little artistic release. Today, however, that is no longer the case. Thanks to forward looking people, the opportunities are boundless. Which brings me to my point—artistic opportunities thrive and grow when excellence is the driving force. Three cases in point.

The Symphonic Chorale of Southwest Florida, formerly the Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus, has been in existence for 53 years. Key Chorale is celebrating their 30th season and Gloria Musicae was established 35 years ago. All three of these organizations were fortunate to be led over the years by people who recognized that musical excellence was the key to attracting top singers and audiences. Today, all three are recognized as the top group in their respective areas. It doesn't happen by accident. It requires a collective vision within an organization to stay the course regardless of the periodic bumps in the road. It requires the commitment of resources and time to reinforce quality in favor of the temptation of quantity and quick return.

Even when all the stars are in alignment it takes years for an artistic organization to establish itself artistically and financially. With choral groups the hill is even steeper because choral music doesn't have the large following that a symphony orchestra would have or the appeal of opera companies who traditionally use celebrities in lead rolls. So to have three full season choral groups in southwest Florida with a combined 118 years of performance is no small feat and is a testimony to an emphasis on the quality of their artistic directors and their music, the dedication of their boards and the commitment of their individual singers. With the continued growth of choral groups in southwest Florida there is no better model than that.

Pagliacci



In the true theatrical tradition, despite his real-life humiliation at his wife's infidelity, Canio the clown must go on with the performance. Presented in partnership with the Sarasota Orchestra, this opera features the iconic aria "Vesti la giubba." Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

Opera in a prologue and two acts by Ruggiero Leoncavallo.

Undeniably one of the most powerful short operas in the international opera repertory, Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* – which simply means 'Players' – has come recently into a life of its own in a very interesting way. For over a century it was invariably paired in performance with Mascagni's equally powerful *Cavalleria rusticana*, leading to the slightly irreverent nickname of opera's 'Heavenly Twins'.

Nowadays *Pagliacci* is often given alone. Cynics may say that this reflects the shorter attention-spans of current audiences: our grandparents would have felt short-changed if an evening at the theatre lasted less than three hours, and their grandparents if it lasted less than five. But modern audiences respond strongly to the musical and dramatic values of *Pagliacci* when it stands alone.

These values include one of the most effective stories in the operatic canon, a score which is as skillful as it is melodically inspired, and that very rare fusion of a brilliant libretto with a tailor-made score – the librettist, in this case, being the composer himself.

The story is set in the very south of Italy in the nineteenth century and tells of a troupe of travelling clowns headed by Canio, one of opera's great dramatic roles.

Sarasota Opera

Sarasota Opera House Friday, October 31, 8 pm,

Tickets: www.sarasotaopera.org

*Sunday, November 2 at 1:30 pm
Wednesday, November 5 at 8 pm
Tuesday, November 11 at 8 pm*

Festival. Continued from page 1

Symphonic Chorale President Joanne Paulino has attended the San Diego Choral Festival twice and gives Walders rave reviews. "He is not only an excellent teacher, he is such fun to work with," she said.

Coming off their successful inaugural Sing Out! Messiah Festival last season, the Chorale is anticipating enthusiastic response to the second festival.

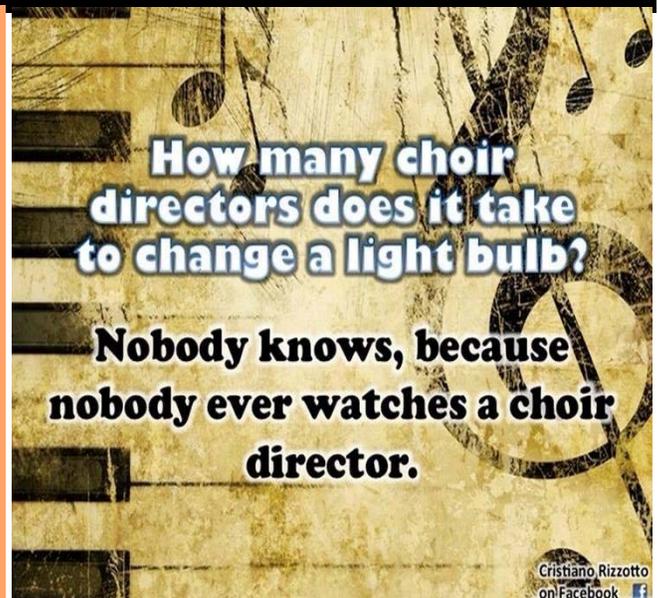
Dr. Tim McDonnell is Artistic Director and weekend Emcee.

Registration, (\$50, to participate as a singer for the weekend) is through the website www.SymphonicChorale.org. (Includes all sessions, dinner on Saturday night & Post Concert European reception.)

High School/College Students: No Charge

Concert tickets (\$30) available at Bonita Center Box Office,

(239) 495-8989 or www.artcenterbonita.org



Gloria Musicae—In Thanksgiving

This fall concert is devoted to charity and giving and will serve as the kick-off event for the season of sharing. The concert is in partnership with the Community Foundation of Sarasota and the Herald Tribune Media Group. Guest Artists will be Sarasota Young Voices.

Artistic Director, Joseph Holt

Sunday, November 23, 4 PM, Sarasota Opera House

Tickets: www.gloriamusicae.org



The Bach Ensemble



“Dixit Dominus” Baldassare Galuppi (1706-1785) . This setting of Psalm 110 is composed in the early Classical style.

Keyboard concerto in D Minor” Bach with strings and continuo. This concerto was probably arranged from a lost violin concerto. It has remained Bach’s most popular of the collection from the 19th century onwards.

“Magnificat” Vivaldi with strings and continuo. Vivaldi actually wrote several versions of the “Magnificat” between 1717-1730. The ensemble will perform

a combination of both versions.

Artistic Director: Peter Hastings Hutchings

Sunday, November 02, 3:00pm, Grace Lutheran Church, 860 Banyan Boulevard, Naples, FL 34104

Thursday, November 06, 7:30pm, Community Congregational Church, 15300 Tamiami Trail N, Naples, FL 34110

Tuesday, November 18, 5:30 pm, Marco Island Center for the Arts

Tickets” www.thebachensemble.org



Exsultate— A Musical Kaleidoscope

Exsultate will open their season as guests of the Venice Symphony.

Friday, November 21, 7:30 PM, Saturday, November 22, 3:30 and 7:30 PM, Venice Performing Arts Center

Artistic Director: Stephen Johns

Tickets: Tickets available through the Venice Symphony - Tel: 941-207-8822 or go to www.thevenicesymphony.org.

MUSICA SACRA



CANTORUM



Robert Parrish
Artistic Director

Musica Sacra Cantorum—A Randall Thompson Perspective

Randall Thompson was inarguably one of the most influential American composers of the 20th century. Musica Sacra Cantorum celebrate his contribution to the American choral treasury with a presentation by their newly constituted professional ensemble, Voices, of three of his most endearing and timeless masterworks. Included is his haunting "Alleluia," commissioned by Serge Koussevitzky for the Berkshire Choral Festival. It has since become a staple of the American a cappella choral tradition, with its subtle, yet complex harmonic structure and understated acclamation. His "The Peaceable Kingdom" is based on Edward Hicks' painting of the same name. (In fact, Hicks painted 61 versions on this theme.

Musica Sacra Cantorum Voices

Church of the Redeemer, Sarasota, FL

November 3, 2014, 7 PM

Tickets: www.musicasacracantorum.org

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