



The Voice

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The Voice is a bi-annual publication of Schola Cantorum. You may contact the editors at 650-254-1700, or via e-mail at info@scholacantorum.org.
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Royal Memories

Schola Cantorum presents its first concerts of the 2011-12 season to honor its founder, Royal Stanton. The concerts, titled "Heaven's Lullaby," feature Gabriel Fauré's Requiem in its original orchestration and Luigi Cherubini's Requiem. They take place **Saturday, Nov. 5, 8:00 PM** at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, and **Sunday, Nov. 6, 3:00 PM** at First Congregational Church of Palo Alto.

When Schola Cantorum founder Royal Stanton came to Los Altos Hills in the early nineteen sixties to serve as the chairman of

the Fine Arts Department at the newly opened Foothill College, he recognized immediately that something was missing. Silicon Valley had no major choral group serving the community. In 1964, he began auditioning community members and soon had assembled a chorus of over 100 talented singers. He was not surprised at the depth of talent he found, he was only surprised that such a vocal ensemble, one dedicated to the choral arts, had not before been organized. He went on to lead Schola as its conductor and artistic director for 18 years. Thanks to Stanton's early efforts, Schola Cantorum continues today as a vibrant nonprofit organization now in its 48th year.

Royal Waltz Stanton (1917-1995) was a nationally known choral conductor and

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Echoes of 9/11

On September 11, 2011, Schola Cantorum partnered with Stanford's Department of Music and its Office of Religious Life to present a memorial performance of Mozart's Requiem as a musical tribute to those who lost their lives and those who gave aid in our national tragedy. Volunteer members of other local choruses joined to form a chorus of over 300 singers. Local orchestral players, organist Robert Huw Morgan, and soloists Christine Abraham, soprano, Malin Fritz Walrod, alto, Victor Floyd, tenor, and Jeffrey Fields, baritone donated their performances. The performance was conducted by Schola Cantorum's Music Director Gregory Wait, who conceived the project and led it to fruition.

The Reverend Scotty MacLennan, Dean of the Office of Religious Life at Stanford University, wrote following the performance, "Many people afterwards told me not only how moving the music was, but how important it was to have this positive, inspiring, and uplifting experience on 9/11/11."



PHOTO BY STEVEN M. SANO

Stanford Memorial Church was filled to capacity at the performance in honor of the victims and heroes of the 2001 tragedy.



Christmas with the Brass

Schola Cantorum welcomes the Oxford Street Brass to our special December event, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. What better way for the whole family, including the little ones, to celebrate the Season? Schola Cantorum and the five-person brass ensemble will perform holiday favorites, followed by a rousing sing-along for the entire audience. And don't miss a special guest appearance by Santa Claus! Get tickets now to this event on **Sunday, December 11**. Held at 3:00 PM at the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto. Order tickets online at www.scholacantorum.org or call (650) 254-1700.



2011 Messiah Sing

Presented by Schola Cantorum
Under the direction of Gregory Wait
with 25-piece chamber orchestra

Monday Dec. 12, 2011, 7:30 pm

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts
500 Castro Street, Mountain View

This year come to sing, or come to listen!
All are welcome!

Groups of ten or more receive special discount.

Order tickets through the
MVCPA box office at (650) 903-6000
or at www.mvcpa.com



Board Briefs

Thanking Friends—and Raising New Ones

By Candy Pelissero, Chair,
Schola Cantorum Board of Directors

At our season-ending celebration in May, Schola Cantorum wished a very fond farewell to our retiring Executive Director of eight years, Eryl Aynsley. We thank her for her many contributions and for her dedication to the organization over the years, and wish her all the best in her new endeavors!

We now welcome Mary Powell, former Program Manager with Hidden Villa and former Board Chair of Music For Minors, to the helm. We are delighted with Mary's energy, creativity and love of all things musical! Feel free to call her at the office and introduce yourself.

Last year in lieu of a gala, we kicked off a

special "friendraising" campaign with a goal of \$20,000. With the help of a generous matching grant from the Los Altos Community Foundation, for every new or increased dollar donated we received one in return, up to \$5,000. As part of the campaign, we established a Schola Cantorum Leadership Circle for donations of \$1000 and above. Our "April in Paris" fund-raising event also contributed to our totals, and I'm proud to say that we met our goal.

We are pleased to announce that due to the success of the Leadership Circle, we are now establishing a second tier Crescendo Circle for donations of \$2,500 and above. All unrestricted dollars raised go toward the support of our concerts including accompanists, orchestra, soloists and community outreach programs such as Summer Sings and Sing-alongs. I hope that if you are not already a donor you

consider becoming one. If you do support us, consider joining one of our Circles—and be a special friend to Schola!



Outgoing Executive Director Eryl Aynsley shares a laugh with long-time Schola Cantorum member John Ehrman at the 2010-11 season-end party held at singer Jo Darius' home.

Royal Stanton...

(Continued from page 1)

teacher. Born in Santa Monica and educated at UCLA, Stanton directed music at the high school and college levels. Before being recruited by Foothill College, he founded Schola Cantorum Long Beach, a symphonic choir with which Marilyn Horne performed. Upon moving north, he pioneered innovative ways to reach out to the broader singing community by establishing the popular Schola Cantorum Summer Sings. He launched the annual Messiah Sing-Along, the longest running in California, which takes place each December at the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts. Both programs continue to this day.

Stanton would be proud of the legacy he left. A remarkable number of current singers boast they got their start under his baton. Deborah Anderson, of Los Gatos, remembers him fondly, "He was talented, handsome, and charismatic. He touched people's lives through his vision and strong presence. I remember vividly how he conducted us at rehearsals, always

urging us to meet his standards of choral artistry."

Another singer from the Stanton era, John Ehrman, of Sunnyvale, observes that Stanton's legacy is in the continuing quality of the organization he founded. "I have been with Schola for 46 years and I am continually impressed with the new talent we attract. Our singers achieve a high level of choral excellence each season."

Legacy lives on

Schola's current Music Director, Gregory Wait, embodies many of the artistic qualities Stanton brought to the group. The recipient of the Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching in the Music Department at Stanford, Maestro Wait also holds the Arts Leadership Award by the Arts Council Silicon Valley for his tireless work in the support of the choral arts. Says Schola Executive Director Mary Powell, "Greg is in his 22nd year with us. We can truly say that the legacy Royal started is being continued by Greg in an extraordinary way."



Royal Stanton

Tickets for the November 5 and 6 concerts may be purchased online in advance or at the door starting one hour before the concert. Phone 650-254-1700 or visit www.scholacantorum.org for more information. The concerts are funded by the Hurlbut-Johnson Foundation.

SAVE THE DATE



Once Upon a Time...
Schola Cantorum's Annual Gala

Saturday Evening, April 21, 2012
Fremont Hills Country Club, Los Altos Hills

Dinner, dancing, auction and entertainment!
Your dreams will come true, while you support Schola Cantorum's mission of great performances and live choral music in our community!

Don't miss the fun - mark your calendar now!



Funding Notes

Schola's Mission is Vibrantly Alive!

By Mary Powell, Executive Director

I'm delighted to start my work with Schola Cantorum as the new Executive Director. Schola is a powerful presence in our community, because it gives all of us in the audience the thrilling experience of hearing 100 live voices, raised together in sounds that transport us to new places and touch our hearts and souls.

Antonio Pappano, music director of the Royal Opera in London, describes his passion for live music: "There is nothing like the live experience, the visceral excitement of being in a room with other people, watching the performers engage with full intensity." This is exactly the magic and impact of a Schola concert.

Live and local. For 48 years, Schola has maintained an extremely high standard of excellence. To ensure we continue to serve the entire community, we keep our ticket prices affordable and we perform in venues that are close by and easy to get to. Our ticket prices cover only one fifth of our annual expenses. So, we are fortunate to enjoy strong support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Los Altos Community Foundation, the Arts Council Silicon Valley, and the Hurlbut-Johnson Foundation. But our main support comes from donors and sponsors like you.

With your help, we will continue making a difference in the community for many more years to come. Many thanks for all of your support—we truly appreciate you!

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Schola Cantorum Donors

We gratefully acknowledge all of our donors who have contributed between July 1 and September 30, 2011. Please note, we will acknowledge gifts in kind and services in the next issue.

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