

Johannes-Passion

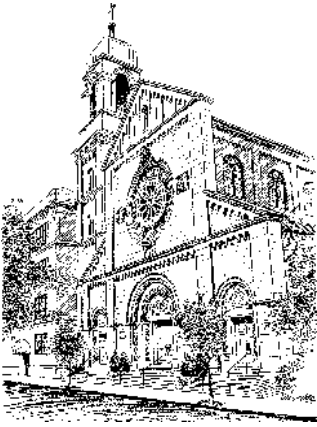
By Heinrich Schütz



St. Joseph's Singers, Stephen Black, conductor
Kannan Vasudevan, Narrator
Tim Krol, role of Jesus

Sunday, March 7, 2010 4:00 P.M.

St. Joseph's Church Yorkville
404 East 87th Street



ST. JOSEPH'S SINGERS

Stephen Black, conductor
Kannan Vasudevan, tenor
Tim Krol, baritone

March 7, 2010

4:00 P.M.

PROGRAM

O Jesu nomen dulce SWV 308

Heinrich Schütz
(1585-1672)

O misericordissime Jesu SWV 309
Lauren Alfano, soprano

Schütz

Johannes-Passion SWV 481
Julie Musilek, Maiden
Matthew Bachiochi, High Priest's Servant
Lance Langston, Peter
Tim Sachs, Pontius Pilate

Schütz

ST. JOSEPH'S SINGERS

SOPRANOS

Lauren Alfano
Kathleen Cantrell
Julie Musilek

ALTOS

Melissa Casey-José
Sally Miller
Raynor Park

TENORS

José Cuevas
Lance Langston
Tim Sachs

BASSES

Matthew Bachiochi
John Lechicky
Robert Wisniewski

Please turn off cellphones. Thank you.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Kannan Vasudevan, tenor and Pittsburgh native, has performed *Monostatos* in *The Magic Flute* and *Tonik* in Smetana's *Two Widows*, both with Bronx Opera, and *Alfred* in Britten's *The Little Sweep* with the Cantata Singers. On the concert stage, he has sung the *Evangelist* in Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and the tenor solos in the *Mass in B Minor* and *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Choral Symphony Society. As a soloist he has also performed works by Schütz and Bach with the Cantata Singers, and works by Charpentier with the Chœur Régional Provence. Kannan was a winner of the Wesleyan University Concerto Competition and has studied at the Aspen and Bowdoin Summer Music Festivals. Engagements this season include the *Dance Master* in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Brooklyn Repertory Opera, the *First Elder* in Handel's *Susanna* with the New York Metamorphoses Orchestra, and the *Young Man* in Cui's *Feast in Time of Plague* with Metropolis Opera Project.

Tim Krol is a lyric baritone and Grammy-winning recording artist. His repertoire spans from early music to modern classical and opera, as well as musical theatre and jazz. For nine years, Tim performed and toured worldwide with Chanticleer, America's premier a cappella vocal ensemble. He can be heard on thirteen Chanticleer recordings, including the Grammy Award-winning "Colors of Love."

As a Bach specialist, Tim has performed solo in numerous cantatas and Passions. He sang in a series of master classes at the Carmel Bach Festival, and proceeded to become a regular in Carmel, singing various solo roles, including Pontius Pilate in J. S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* and *St. John Passion*. In April 2009, Tim portrayed Pilate in the critically acclaimed staged version of the Bach *St. Matthew Passion* directed by Sir Jonathan Miller at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Upcoming highlights include a Carnegie Hall debut on March 22, 2010, where Tim will play various small roles in an operatic adaptation of Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath*, which will be narrated by Jane Fonda.

Stephen M. Black is the Organist and Director of Music at St. Joseph's Church Yorkville, and the conductor of the St. Joseph's Singers, which he founded in 2005. Additionally, he is the Artistic Director of the Central City Chorus in New York City, as well as the conductor of the Brearley Singers on the upper east side of Manhattan. He has degrees in organ and choral conducting from the University of Louisville and the Yale University School of Music.

St. Joseph's Singers was founded in the fall of 2005 by Stephen Black, Director of Music at St. Joseph's Church Yorkville. The chorus numbers sixteen to twenty-four auditioned singers who come from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. The chorus sings sacred and secular repertoire of all periods, with an emphasis on the music of J. S. Bach and contemporary composers. In its short history the chorus has presented several performances of Bach cantatas, and additionally has been recognized for its new music concerts. The October 2006 new music concert, featuring the world premiere of a suite from the opera *Darkling* by Stefan Weisman, was a Critic's Choice in *TimeOut Magazine NY*. In April 2008 the ensemble enjoyed the singular honor of being selected to perform a concert for the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United States. The St. Joseph's Singers performed music by Arvo Pärt, Aaron Jay Kernis, Franz Schubert and J. S. Bach for the event, which was broadcast on network television and numerous other media outlets around the world. The ensemble is currently under contract to release its first CD with MSR Classics in 2011, featuring the *Seven Last Words of Christ* by Nancy Wertsch.

Music at St. Joseph's Church Yorkville

The liturgical tradition of singing and processions, typical of German parishes, has been part of St. Joseph's heritage since its founding in 1873. Evidence of this can be seen in the St. Cecilia window, located above the tabernacle and to the left. This window, depicting the patron saint of musicians with her attribute the organ, was given by the St. Joseph's Kirchor upon the completion of the present church building in 1895. The magnificent Müller and Abel organ of 38 ranks and 2,115 pipes was installed in the same year, and was built using a windchest design original with these two builders. The design allows more wind to gently enter the pipes, producing a large, resonant sound typical of a cathedral organ. Müller and Abel were both German immigrants who worked with the famed Roosevelt organ company in New York City before beginning their own organ-building firm in 1893. Blessed with this treasure of an instrument, St. Joseph's Church continues to nurture these liturgical traditions, and additionally presents concerts for the benefit of the Yorkville community and the greater metropolitan area.

Program Cover Art: *Kleine Passion, No. 14 'The Mocking of Christ'* – woodcut by Alfred Dürer (1471-1528)

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT EVENT ON FRIDAY, MARCH 19

We are delighted to welcome the **St. Joseph's University Singers** from Philadelphia, PA, who will sing for the 7:30 P.M. mass as part of our parish's patronal feast day activities. The choir will also present a free concert before the mass at 6:30 P.M., and all are invited. There will be a reception to conclude the festive evening. Please plan now to come!