



ST. JOSEPH'S SINGERS

Stephen Black, conductor
Kyung-A Lee, accompanist

“To Be Sung of a Summer Night on the Water”

May 8, 2005

8:00 P.M.

PROGRAM

Water Night

Eric Whitacre
(b. 1970)

Sure on this shining night

Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

Hermit Songs Op. 29

Barber

- III. St. Ita's Vision - Jennifer Behnke, soprano
- IV. The Heavenly Banquet - Julie Musilek, soprano
- V. The Crucifixion - Sarah Worthington, soprano

Crossing the Bar

Jennifer Behnke, soprano
Sheila Gaffney, alto
Hector Martinez, tenor
Robert Wisniewski, bass

Charles Ives
(1874-1954)

Berceuse

Susanna Leuci, soprano

Ives

The Children's Hour

Brian Hamer, baritone

Ives

American Trio

(see roster for list of singers*)

Kirke Mechem
(b. 1925)

- I. Fire and Ice
- II. Richard Cory
- III. “Sweet spring is your”

Two Unaccompanied Part Songs

Frederick Delius
(1862-1934)

- I. Slow, but not dragging
- II. Gaily, but not quick - Sheila Gaffney, Hector Martinez, soloists

The Shepherd's Carol (2001)

Bob Chilcott
(b. 1955)

Evening Hymn from *Cantiones Sacrae* Vol. I
Larisa Malikova, soprano

Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

Blessing of the Spring

Nathaniel Billings
(dates unrecorded)

Please turn off mobile phones and pagers. Thank you.

St. Joseph's Singers is a select choral chamber ensemble of skilled singers from Connecticut, New Jersey and New York. SJS sings sacred and secular music from all periods, with an emphasis on the music of J. S. Bach and contemporary composers. SJS was founded in the spring of 2004 by Stephen Black, director of music at St. Joseph's Church Yorkville. For more information please visit our website at www.sjsingers.org.

SOPRANO

Jennifer Behnke
Larisa Malikova
Julie Musilek*
Anne Pretz
Sarah Worthington*

ALTO

Sheila Gaffney
Hannah Kerwin*
Susanna Leuci
Sally Miller*
Ellen Starks*

TENOR

José Cuevas
Hector Martinez
Tim Sachs*

BASS

Jud Brooks*
Brian Hamer
Ricardo Rivera*
Bob Wisniewski

Stephen Black holds graduate degrees in organ and choral conducting from the Yale University School of Music. While at Yale he was the conductor of the Yale University Choir at Battell Chapel. He was awarded the Charles Ives Prize in 1997, given by the dean of the school of music to the most outstanding organ performer in 1996-1997. He was also the recipient of the Richard French Prize, which recognizes outstanding talent in the field of choral conducting. He received his undergraduate education at the University of Louisville, where he studied organ with Melvin Dickinson.

Mr. Black has received several honors and awards in both organ performance and choral conducting. In 1997 he won first prize in the John R. Rodland organ competition in New Jersey, one of the largest organ scholarship competitions in the country. In 1999 he was one of six finalists at the American Guild of Organists Young Artist Competition at the national organist convention in Denver. He has performed recitals at Washington National Cathedral; St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York City; All Saints Cathedral in Albany, NY; Longwood Gardens in Westchester County, PA; and St. Mary's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland.

Mr. Black is equally active as a conductor. From 1999 to 2003 he was the Artistic Director of the Greater New Haven Community Chorus in Connecticut. He has been the assistant conductor of the New Amsterdam Singers in New York City since the fall of 2002. He has conducted for organizations such as the National Association of Composers USA and the Association of Connecticut Choruses Summersing. He was awarded a conducting fellowship to the Dennis Keene Choral Festival in the summer of 2002.