



Since 1970

A CAPPELLA

Newsletter of CAPPELLA CANTORUM

P. O. Box 714

ESSEX, CT. 06426

March 2014

From the Director

Cappella Cantorum's 45th season begins April 6 with a performance of Maurice Durufle's *Requiem* and the Easter section of George Frederick Handel's *Messiah*. The concert will begin at 3 p.m. at John Winthrop Middle School, One Winthrop Road, Deep River (exit 5 off Route 9). Durufle's *Requiem* reflects a haunting and spiritual Gregorian chant influence while Handel's *Messiah* is uplifting and inspiring in true Easter fashion. Simon Holt, artistic director of the Salt Marsh Opera, will accompany on keyboard organ for the Durufle with Chamber Orchestra.

This spring Cappella has again been invited to sing in New York City, this time at Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center with the Masterworks Series. Some 20 members of Cappella will join a Festival Chorus on March 23 to perform the Durufle *Requiem*. Last April, 70 or so Cappella members sang the Verdi *Requiem* at Carnegie Hall with composer John Rutter directing.

The Men's Chorus of Cappella Cantorum begin rehearsals Monday, April 7, at John Winthrop Middle School, Deep River. Registration will begin at 7 p.m. with a rehearsal to follow. No auditions are required. The group performs Broadway selections, sea chanteys, and sacred music throughout the state with the first concert scheduled for Sunday, June 8, 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 56 Great Hammock Road, Old Saybrook. For more information call Barry Asch at 860-388-2871.

CAPPELLA CANTORUM

Barry B. Asch, Conductor
Deborah Lyon, Accompanist

Durufle's 'Requiem' Handel's 'Messiah' (Easter section)

*professional chamber orchestra
and Simon Holt, organist*

David Bohy, Baritone
Fred Goff, Tenor
Tom Mullaney, Bass

*John Winthrop Middle School
One Winthrop Road, Deep River*

Sunday, April 6, 3 p.m.

--Admission \$25--

*Tickets: visit CappellaCantorum.org,
call 860-767-8452 or buy at the door
(Students 12 and under free)*

Future concert performances for Cappella. will feature Bach's *Magnificat* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* on Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014, Faure's *Requiem* in April of 2015 and various *Great Sacred Choruses* in December of 2015. All singers are welcome to join Cappella without audition.

New website will better serve our audience

Cappella Cantorum operates as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation out of a post office box in Essex and through a network of members including its founding music director, accompanist, volunteer board of directors and singers, making John Winthrop Middle School its “home base” for most rehearsals and choral performances. This keeps overhead costs very low but also makes it challenging to connect with our audience. While lacking a traditional “bricks and mortar” type of home of our own, we do have what we consider to be our virtual “front door,” our website, **CappellaCantorum.org**.

The format for our website has been the same simple, flat, one-page-scroll-down format for well over a decade. It has provided a place to announce our upcoming concert productions, give some brief history, biographical information and basic contact information and admittedly, not much more. A decade or so ago, it was a good, typical website. But there’s so much more that we can do with a website these days to connect with you, our audience, in ways no one could even imagine a decade ago.

So, we’re about to roll a proverbial red carpet out our front door to welcome you to our completely redesigned website! Being developed by Miranda Creative Inc. of Norwich, it will provide a rich framework to connect with our audience in new ways and for us to quickly and easily maintain fresh, timely information as well as an archive of our 45-year history of making music.

Here’s a taste of what we anticipate at time of launch:

- Want to see what we’re up to? Check out our easy to navigate online Calendar of Events.
- Connecting with us on the go? The new screen-size responsive website design automatically adapts to the device *you’re* using.
- Want to make advance ticket reservations using your VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express card or PayPal? All transactions go through PayPal, the most trusted online payments provider.
- Need a gift that’s just right for that not-so-easy-to-buy-for person on your list? A Cappella Cantorum gift certificate is always a perfect fit.
- Prefer to get your tickets in advance for a whole season? Choose from two discounted season subscription package options.
- Bringing a large group to a performance? Arrange for group discount tickets for 10 or more.
- Interested in singing with us? We provide all the information you need to get started with an easy online registration and reservation of music score - no audition needed.
- Want to support our music making? Make a donation or become a sponsor.
- Want to get your company’s message out to a sophisticated local audience? Advertise or partner with us.
- Prefer receiving our newsletter by e-mail? Tell us and together we can save paper and postage.

Even after our new website goes live, there are more planned features and content already under way.

- By David C. Nelson
Website Redesign Ad Hoc Committee Chair

Cappella has inspired music lovers for 45 years



Cappella Cantorum is now in its 45th year under the baton of maestro, co-founder, and music director Barry Asch. This is an extraordinary achievement in the arena of Connecticut choral directing. It may also be a major achievement in the United States.

Over the past 45 years Cappella Cantorum members have sung in Deep River as well as several other Connecticut towns, New York City (Carnegie Hall) and many European sites. The Men's Chorus has performed all across the state, as well as in Dennis, Cape Cod, Mass. Cappella has also been joined by a long list of professional soloists who have added greatly to the quality of our concerts. Many concerts have featured the vocal abilities of our own members as well.

There are many members who have sung for almost as many years as Barry has been conducting. Then, there are the several couples who found each other in the rehearsal rooms of John Winthrop Middle School.

Over the past 45 years audiences have been inspired in many ways by our music. As we move into the 21st century, we are hopeful that we can continue to bring great choral music to our audiences whether in Connecticut, New York, or Europe.

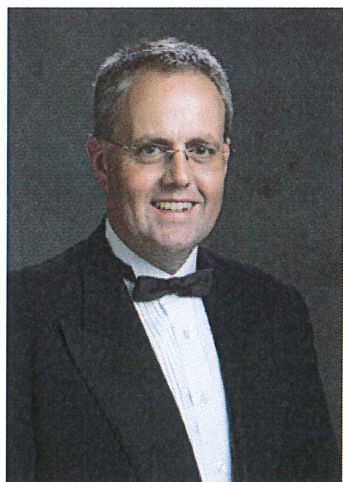
We will celebrate our harmonious 45 years together with a special event this summer. Watch for details as the committee makes them available.

We thank the singers and most of all our sponsors and advertisers without whom we would not have been able to bring 45 years of great choral works to our audiences. We will continue to need their support and look forward to widening our audiences in the future.

With gratitude on behalf of all our board and members,

- Claudia Epright, President

Simon Holt guest organist for April 6 concert



We are fortunate to have Simon Holt of Stonington, Conn., as our guest organist for the Durufle *Requiem* section of our concert on April 6. He is currently the artistic director for the Salt Marsh Opera here in Southeastern Connecticut, the executive director of the United Theater in Westerly, R.I., and music director at the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme.

As an organist he has performed at Westminster Abbey, York Minster, Selby-Abby, St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, Reading Town Hall and the cathedrals of Norwich, Carlisle, Portsmouth, Wells, Canterbury, Rochester and Gloucester. He has toured extensively in Europe performing at St. Mark's in Venice, Sacre Coeur and Notre Dame in Paris and venues in Holland, Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic, Belgium and Switzerland.

He has appeared several times on British and American radio and television.

Newsletter editor: Joyce Mletschnig



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Trip to Austria set for June 2015

And here we go adventuring again. After two years, in June of 2015 the Cappella Tour Committee is planning another concert tour to Austria. Our tour will include a short cruise from Vienna to Bratislava and Budapest on the Danube River. On our return we will sing and spend some time in Vienna. Then our travels will take us on to Graz and Salzburg for a few days and finally on to Munich.



This tour includes concert venues and several delightful short tours into the Alps, Mondsee, Eagles Nest and several breathtakingly beautiful abbeys. Our guest Cappella tour conductor will be Hallie Sorenson who conducted the choir on our tour in 2013 to Ireland, Wales and England. Accompanying the choir will be Anna Jedd from Waterbury who also accompanied the choir for the Ireland, Wales and England tour. We invite anyone who might be interested to come to the Austria presentation given by Melissa Reed of Cultural Tour Consultants on Saturday, May 31.

For further information, please call Pat Hill at 203-245-2887 or 203-314-7313. Pat's email address is phill2013mad@gmail.com.

- By Pat Hill