

Great Sacred Music

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Sir George Dyson: Lauds from Three Songs of Praise
St. Michael's Singers, Jonathan Rennert
Thomas Trotter, organ

H. Walford Davies: Psalm 130, "Out of the deep"
Choir of King's College, Cambridge, Philip Ledger
Francis Grier, organ

Antonio Lotti: Crucifixus a 10
Taverner Choir, Andrew Parrott

Sir George Dyson (1883-1964) became Director of The Royal College of Music in 1937.
H. Walford Davies (1869-1941) was Master of The King's Music from 1934-1941.
Italian Baroque composer Antonio Lotti (1667-1740) spent much of his professional life
as a musician at Saint Mark's Basilica, Venice.

Sir John Stainer: God so loved the world from The Crucifixion
Choir of St. John's College, Cambridge, George Guest

John Sanders: The Reproaches
Choir of Gloucester Cathedral, John Sanders

Sir Edward Elgar: Nimrod from Enigma Variations, Op. 36
Peter Richard Conte, organ
Wanamaker Grand Court Organ, Macy's, Philadelphia

English composer Sir John Stainer (1840-1901) was Organist of Magdalen College and
Saint Paul's Cathedral. English organist John Sanders (1933-2003) was Organist of
Gloucester Cathedral from 1967-1994. The pathos of Sir Edward Elgar's Nimrod from
his Enigma Variations eloquently captures the mood of this time of remembrance of the
9/11 tragedy.

George Frideric Handel: I know that my Redeemer liveth from Messiah
English Chamber Orchestra, Sir Charles Mackerras
Elisabeth Harwood, soprano

Franz Schubert: Psalm 23, D. 706
Capella Bavariae, Wolfgang Sawallisch

Handel's setting of the text from Job 19:25 in Messiah has to be one of the more reassuring moments in that great work. Schubert's setting of Psalm 23 was written for the pupils of Anna Fröhlich (1793-1880), a singing teacher at the Wiener Konservatorium.

1 Minute Silence to remember those who died on September 11, 2001

Samuel Barber: Agnus Dei
Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, John Scott
Joshua Ross, treble

J.S. Bach: Chorale Prelude "Alle Menschen müssen sterben", BWV 643
Michael Murray, organ
Walcker Organ at Methuen Hall, Methuen, Massachusetts

In 1967 American composer Samuel Barber set his 1936 Adagio for Strings to the text Agnus Dei. The work is scored for SATB choir with optional accompaniment. Bach's chorale prelude is based on a hymn that dates from 1652. The German translates as "Hark! A voice saith, 'All are mortal'"

J.S. Bach: Cantata 164, "Ihr, die ihr euch von Christo nennet"
Leonhardt Consort; Tolzer Knabenchor; Collegium Vocale Gent, Gustav Leonhardt
Christoph Wegmann, soprano; Paul Esswood, alto
Kurt Equiluz, tenor; Max van Egmond, bass

The German translates as "You, who call yourselves after Christ". The text includes the Parable of the Good Samaritan. The cantata was first performed on August 16, 1725, in Leipzig.

Commentary: Andrew Scanlon

Jean-Yves Daniel-Lesur: In Paradisum
Andrew Scanlon, organ
The Perkins & Wells Memorial Organ, C.B. Fisk Op. 126, 2005, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenville, North Carolina

French musician Jean-Yves Daniel-Lesur (1908-2002) studied with Charles Tournemire and was a friend of Olivier Messiaen.

Thomas Tallis: Missa Salve intemerata
Oxford Camerata, Jeremy Summerly

Andrew Parker notes: "The Salve intemerata Mass is thought to be among the earliest of Tallis's surviving music and was probably written no later than 1530." Latin: Salve intemerata Virgo Maria, filii Dei genetrix Translation: Hail, pure virgin Mary, Mother of the Son of God,

W.A. Mozart, completed by Robert Levin: Requiem in D minor, K. 626
Boston Baroque, Martin Pearlman
Ruth Ziesak, soprano; Nancy Maulsby, mezzo-soprano
Richard Croft, tenor; David Arnold, baritone

"A year after the terrible events of September 11, 2001, choirs in several nations of the Western Hemisphere participated in a unique worldwide tribute to honor the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The "Rolling Requiem," as the concert was known, planned to have choirs perform Mozart's Requiem on September 11 in each of the world's 24 time zones beginning at 8:46 a.m. local time, the moment when the first hijacked aircraft hit the World Trade Center in New York." With our performance of Mozart's Requiem, we honor the memory of all who died in the attack of September 11, 2001, as well as all the first responders and other men and women who succumbed to their injuries in the years following the attacks." Mozart died while composing his Requiem. This is a 20th century completion.

J.S. Bach, arr. Virgil Fox: Komm, süsser Tod (Come, sweet death), BWV 478
Peter Richard Conte, organ
Wanamaker Grand Court Organ, Macy's, Philadelphia

J.S. Bach: Easter Oratorio, BWV 249
Taverner Consort & Players, Andrew Parrott
Emily Van Evera, soprano; Caroline Trevor, alto
Charles Daniels, tenor; Peter Kooy, baritone

What we know as the Easter Oratorio began as a cantata for Easter Day 1725. Bach gave it the title Easter Oratorio when he revised the work in 1735. He further revised the oratorio in 1740. This is the version on our playlist.

César Franck: Pièce Héroïque
Michael Murray, organ
1888 Cavallé-Coll organ at Saint Sernin Basilica, Toulouse

César-Auguste-Guillaume-Hubert Franck published his Piece Heroique in B minor in 1878 together with Cantabile and Fantaisie in A.