

The Renaissance Street Singers
Loft Concert

RSS & Friends Caroling, Dec 16, 2006

Photos by Norman Trabulus

3 pm Sundays March 4 and 11, 2007

in John Hetland's Loft
135 West 17th Street, 3B
New York, NY 10011

The Renaissance Street Singers

The Renaissance Street Singers, founded in 1973 by John Hetland, perform polyphonic 15th- and 16th-century sacred music *a cappella* on the sidewalks and in the public spaces of New York. The motivation is a love for this music and the wish to share it with others. Concerts are two or three Sundays a month, usually from 2 to 4 p.m., always free.

Loft Concert

We are pleased to perform here in the Loft once a year for your enjoyment. The music is our usual repertoire, mostly unrelated compositions that we like. For this year's concert we have chosen composers who were born in England or spent time there or knew somebody who went there. And we are again performing all five sections of the Ordinary of the Mass, this time from masses written by five English composers. Interspersed among the mass sections you will hear more of the music we love to sing.

For more information
and a performance schedule, visit:

www.streetsingers.org

Today's Concert

Credo quod Redemptor meus vivit **Robert Parsons (English; c.1530-1572)**

KYRIE from Mass for Five Voices **William Byrd (English; 1543-1623)**
Solos: Kate, Barbara, Bill, Bruce, Richard

In Monte Oliveti **Alfonso Ferrabosco the elder (Italian; 1543-1588)**

Domine, non est exaltatum **William Mundy (English; c.1529-c.1591)**

Sancta Maria, non est tibi similis **John Dunstaple (English; c.1390-1453)**

Exaudiat te Dominus **Robert White (English; c.1538-1574)**
Solos: Evie, Barbara, Alan, Sari, Everett, Virginia, Bruce, Brian

O sacrum convivium **Francisco Guerrero (Spanish; 1528-1599)**

GLORIA from Mass 'Cantate' **John Sheppard (English; c.1515-c.1560)**
Solos: Ron, Bruce, Everett, Kate, Cynthia, Rob

--- Intermission ---

Cantate Domino canticum novum **Richard Dering (English; c.1580-1630)**

CREDO from Mean Mass **John Taverner (English; c.1490-1545)**
Solos: Virginia, Holly, Rob, Everett

Gaude Maria Virgo **William Byrd**

SANCTUS from Mass 'Euge bone' **Christopher Tye (English; c.1505-c.1572)**
Solos: Nancy, Evie, Gina, Brian, Ben, David, Everett

Laboravi in gemitu meo **Philippe Rogier (Flemish; c.1561-1596)**
modified by Thomas Morley (English; c.1558-1602)

AGNUS DEI from 'Salve intemerata' **Thomas Tallis (English; c.1505-1585)**
Solos: Erica, Janet, Dan, Brian, Sig

Hodie nobis de caelo **Peter Philips (English; c.1560-1628)**

Please stay for more refreshments and open singing

First Half

(Text in italics is sung by soloists)

Credo quod Redemptor meus vivit Robert Parsons (English; c.1530-1572)

Job 19: 25-27 except for the words “Credo” and “Salvatorem meum.” The clashes between major and minor dominant chords provide nice harmonic surprises.

Credo quod Redemptor meus vivit,
et in novissimo die
de terra surrecturus sum:
Et in carne mea videbo Deum
Salvatorem meum.

I believe that my Redeemer lives,
and in the last day
from the earth I shall arise:
And in my flesh I shall see God
my Savior.

KYRIE from Mass for Five Voices William Byrd (English; 1543-1623)

It was unusual for English masses to have a Kyrie, but this mass was for Catholics, a persecuted minority, and was published in a very small edition.

Solos: Kate, Barbara, Bill, Bruce, Richard

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

In Monte Oliveti Alfonso Ferrabosco the elder (Italian; 1543-1588)

Matthew 26: Jesus tells the Disciples, who fall asleep while he prays for his life, “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

In monte Oliveti
oravit Jesus ad Patrem:
Pater, si fieri potest,
transeat a me calix iste:
Spiritus promptus est,
caro autem infirma.
Fiat voluntas tua.

On the Mount of Olives
Jesus prayed to the Father:
Father, if it is possible,
let this cup pass from me:
The spirit is willing,
but the flesh is weak.
Let your will be done.

Domine, non est exaltatum**William Mundy (English; c.1529-c.1591)**

Psalm 130 (Hebrew 131). Each phrase of the text begins with its own musical motif, repeated by each of the six voices.

Domine, non est exaltatum cor meum,
Neque elati sunt oculi mei.
Neque ambulavi in magnis,
Neque in mirabilibus super me.
Si non humiliter sentiebam,
Sed exaltavi animam meam;
Sicut ablactatus est super matre sua,
Ita retributio in anima mea.
Speret Israel in Domino,
Ex hoc nunc et usque in saeculum. Amen

O Lord, my heart is not exalted,
Nor are my eyes lofty.
Nor have I walked among great things,
Nor among wondrous things beyond me.
If I did not think humbly,
still I raised my soul;
Like a child weaned from his mother,
So is the reward in my soul.
Let Israel hope in the Lord,
From this time forth and forever. Amen.

Sancta Maria, non est tibi similis **John Dunstaple (English; c.1390-1453)**

Gentle praise of Mary in three voices.

Sancta Maria,
non est tibi similis
orta in mundo
in mulieribus.
Florens ut rosa,
fragrans sicut lilium,
ora pro nobis,
sancta Dei Genitrix.

Holy Mary,
no one like you
has arisen in the world
among women.
Blooming like the rose,
fragrant as the lily,
pray for us,
holy Mother of God.

Exaudiat te Dominus

Robert White (English; c.1538-1574)

Psalm 19 (20): A stirring invocation of the Lord's protection in the face of armed enemies. Again there is pervasive imitation, each voice taking up the motif of each new phrase. Victory in war! And a big "Amen."

Solos: Evie, Barbara, Alan, Sari, Everett, Virginia, Bruce, Brian

*Exaudiat te Dominus
in die tribulacionis:
protegat te nomen Dei Iacob.
Mittat tibi auxilium de sancto:
et de Sion tueatur te.
Memor sit omnis sacrificii tui:
et holocaustum tuum pingue fiat.
Tribuat tibi secundum cor tuum:
et omne consilium tuum confirmet.
Letabimur in salutari tuo:
et in nomine Dei nostri magnificabimur.
Impleat Dominus omnes petitiones tuas:
nunc cognovi quoniam
salvum fecit Dominus christum suum.*

*May the Lord answer you
in the day of troubles: may
the name of the God of Jacob protect you.
May he send you help from the sanctuary:
and look upon you from Zion.
May he remember all your sacrifices:
and may your burnt-offering be pleasing.
May he grant you your heart's desire:
and strengthen your every resolve.
We shall rejoice in your good fortune:
and magnify the name of our God.
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions:
now I have seen that
the Lord has protected his anointed.*

*Exaudiet illum de celo sancto suo:
in potentatibus salus dexteræ eius.
Hi in curribus, et hi in equis:
nos autem in nomine Domini Dei nostri
invocabimus.
Ipsi obligati sunt, et ceciderunt:
nos autem surreximus, et erecti sumus.
Domine, salvum fac regem:
et exaudi nos in die
qua invocaverimus te. Amen.*

*He will answer him from his holy heaven:
deliverance in the powers of his right hand.
Some trust in chariots, others in horses,
but we in the name of the Lord our God
will trust.
They have been confined and have fallen:
but we have risen and are standing tall.
O Lord, make safe the king:
and answer us in the day
that we shall call on you. Amen.*

O sacrum convivium**Francisco Guerrero (Spanish; 1528-1599)**

The Last Supper. This is an antiphon for the Feast of Corpus Christi.

O sacrum convivium!
 in quo Christus sumitur:
 recolitur memoria passionis eius:
 mens impletur gratia:
 et futurae gloriae
 nobis pignus datur.
 Alleluia.

O sacred banquet!
 in which Christ is received;
 the memory of his passion is recalled,
 the mind is filled with grace,
 and a pledge of future glory
 is given to us.
 Alleluia.

GLORIA from Mass 'Cantate'**John Sheppard (English; c.1515-c.1560)**

A truly glorious setting of the Gloria. Sheppard, like Mundy and White, has imitation in phrase motifs, sometimes widely spaced to great effect, especially in the final triumphal "in gloria Dei Patris. Amen."

Solos: Ron, Bruce, Everett, Kate, Cynthia, Rob

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, Et in terra pax
 hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te.
 Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus
 te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
 gloriam tuam.*

*Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.
 Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
 Filius Patris.*

*Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
 Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe
 deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad
 dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
 Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus
 Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu
 Christe.*

*Cum Sancto Spiritu,
 in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.*

*Glory to God in the highest, And on earth,
 peace to people of good will. We praise
 thee. We bless thee. We adore thee. We
 glorify thee. We give thee thanks for thy
 great glory.*

*O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
 O Lord God, Lamb of God,
 Son of the Father.*

*Who takest away the sins of the world, have
 mercy on us. Who takest away the sins of
 the world, receive our prayer. Who sittest at
 the right hand of the Father, have mercy on
 us. For thou alone art holy. Thou alone art
 Lord. Thou alone art the Highest, Jesus
 Christ.*

*With the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Intermission

Second Half

Cantate Domino canticum novum Richard Dering (English; c.1580-1630)

From Psalm 95 (96), a favorite text for composers, who generally try to do something new with it. Dering uses polyphony, homophony and some antiphony for an unabashed song of praise.

Cantate Domino canticum novum:

cantate Domino, omnis terra.

Cantate Domino, et benedicite nomini ejus.

Annuntiate inter gentes gloriam ejus,
in omnibus populis mirabilia ejus.

Quoniam magnus Dominus,
et laudabilis nimis.

Sing to the Lord a new song:

Sing to the lord, every land.

Sing to the Lord, and bless his name.

Proclaim among the nations his glory,
among all peoples his wonders.

For great is the Lord,
and greatly to be praised.

CREDO from Mean Mass**John Taverner (English; c.1490-1545)**

The statement of belief colorfully set with some word-painting, including incarnation, death and resurrection. The "Et in Spiritu Sancto" section is omitted by the composer.

Solos: Virginia, Holly, Rob, Everett

*Credo in unum Deum,
Patrem omnipotentem, factorem caeli et
terrae, visibilium omnium, et invisibilium.
Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum,
Filius Dei unigenitum.*

*Et ex Patre natum
ante omnia saecula.*

*Deum de Deo, lumen
de lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero.
Genitum, non factum, consubstantialem
Patri: per quem omnia facta sunt. Qui
propter nos homines, et propter nostram
salutem descendit de caelis.*

*Et incarnatus est
de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virgine:
Et homo factus est.
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis, sub Pontio
Pilato passus, et sepultus est.*

*Et resurrexit tertia die,
secundum Scripturas.
Et ascendit in caelum:
sedet ad dexteram Patris.*

*Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum.
Et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.*

*I believe in one God, The
Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible. And
in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten
Son of God.*

*And he was born of the Father
before all ages.*

*God of God, light
of light, true God of true God.
Begotten, not made, one substance
with the Father, by whom all things were
made. Who for us men and for our
salvation came down from heaven.*

*And he was made flesh
by the Holy Spirit from the Virgin Mary,
and he was made man.
He was even crucified for us; under Pontius
Pilate he suffered, and he was buried.*

*And he rose again on the third day,
according to the scriptures.
And he ascended into heaven:
he sits at the right hand of the Father.*

*And I look for the resurrection of the dead.
And the life of the world to come. Amen.*

Gaude Maria Virgo

For Mass on feasts of the Virgin Mary.

*Gaude Maria Virgo,
cunctas haereses sola interemisti.
Quae Gabrielis Archangeli dictis credidisti.
Dum Virgo Deum et hominem genuisti:
et post partum, Virgo,
inviolata permansisti.
Dei Genitrix, intercede pro nobis.*

William Byrd

*Rejoice, Virgin Mary,
you alone have destroyed all the heresies.
You believed the Archangel Gabriel's words.
While a Virgin, you bore God and man:
and after the birth, O Virgin,
you remained pure.
Mother of God, intercede for us.*

SANCTUS from Mass ‘Euge bone’ Christopher Tye (English; c.1505-c.1572)

Successive voices take up phrase motifs, either rapidly, as in the “Dominus Deus,” or widely spaced, as in the beautiful “Benedictus.”

Solos: Nancy, Evie, Gina, Brian, Ben, David, Everett

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

*Pleni sunt caeli et terra
gloria tua.*

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, Holy, Holy
is the Lord God of Hosts.

*Heaven and earth are full
of thy glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Laboravi in gemitu meo

Philippe Rogier (Flemish; c.1561-1596)

modified by Thomas Morley (English; c.1558-1602)

From Psalm 6. For the Office of the Dead. The word “lavabo” (“I shall bathe”) is set very much like “lavabis” in many settings of the “Asperges me” opening of the Mass.

Laboravi in gemitu meo;
lavabo per singulas noctes lectum meum;
lacrymis meis stratum meum rigabo.

I am exhausted in my groaning;
I shall bathe my bed every night;
I shall soak my pillow with my tears.

AGNUS DEI from ‘Salve intemerata’ Thomas Tallis (English; c.1505-1585)

In this setting of the final Common section of the Mass, the final “dona nobis pacem” seems to be first a desperate cry, then a quiet acceptance of peace.

Solos: Erica, Janet, Dan, Brian, Sig

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

Hodie nobis de caelo**Peter Philips (English; c.1560-1628)**

For Christmas Day. A double-choir show piece with such colorful devices as having “per totum mundum” (“throughout the whole world”) come from everywhere, and repeated treatments of “melliflui facti sunt caeli” (“the heavens are flowing with honey.”)

Hodie nobis de caelo
pax vera descendit:
Hodie per totum mundum
melliflui facti sunt caeli.
Hodie illuxit nobis
dies redemptionis novae,
reparationis antiquae,
felicitatis aeternae.
Hodie per totum mundum
melliflui facti sunt caeli.

Today upon us from heaven
true peace has descended:
Today through the whole world
the heavens are flowing with honey.
Today has shone for us
a day of new redemption,
of old restoration,
of eternal happiness.
Today through the whole world
the heavens are flowing with honey.

Please stay for more refreshments and open singing

The Renaissance Street Singers

Director John Hetland

Sopranos Anna Dembska,
Lisa Detert,
Kate Ellis,
Sari Ganulin,
Joy Glazener,
Erica Lowe,
Nancy Mandel,
Evie Manieri,
Holly Weiss

Altos Ann Berkhausen,
Martha Buckwalter,
Ruth Grossman,
Virginia Kaycoff,
Cynthia Parker,
Janet B. Pascal,
Lisa Rogers,
Barbara Rosen,
Diana Sidtis,
Gina Tlamsa

Tenors Gerald Beirne,
Brian Brewer,
Benjamin Dean,
Bruce Rickenbacher,
Leslie K. Schwarz,
Dan Winckler,
Bill Wolz

Basses Richard Burger,
Rob Hollander,
David Kuperman,
Everett Patterson,
Sigmund Rosen,
Alan Shaw,
Ron Zamir

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