



THE
Oratorio
SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Media Kit

About Us

BRINGING THE JOY!

For 50 years The Oratorio Society of Virginia has brought the joy of fine choral music to audiences in central Virginia. The Oratorio Society performs classical choral music, modern choral compositions, and opera for a broad and diverse audience of music lovers. With its unwavering commitment to excellence, the Oratorio Society is regarded as one of the pre-eminent community choruses in Virginia.

EXCELLENCE IS OUR GOAL

The Oratorio Society is a volunteer organization. Under the guidance of a gifted Music Director, the chorus members rehearse weekly for performances.

They join with the Society's Board and Executive Director in the hard work of staging performances, selling tickets, distributing posters and toting chairs, risers and equipment. Society members

participate in fundraising and make their own financial contributions. The commitment and hard work of every Society member results in performances of exceptional quality and musical excellence.

Chorus members are of

all ages and from all walks of life. Most have considerable choral singing experience, and some are professional musicians and music teachers. They join voices to share the joy of some of the best-loved choral masterpieces in music history.

We invite you to join our pursuit of excellence in the next chapters of our amazing story!

"Music... will help dissolve your perplexities and purify your character and sensibilities, and in time of care and sorrow it will keep a fountain of joy alive in you."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

La Traviata - The Oratorio Society with Ash Lawn Opera - Spring 2016



Fact Sheet



Founded: 1966, first performance 1968

Membership: Approximately 100 singers, 20 Board members

Leadership: Michael Slon, Music Director
Rowena Pinto Zimmermann, Executive Director

Concerts: Three per year (Holiday season, March, May)

Location: Charlottesville, Virginia

Website: www.oratoriosociety.org

Media Inquiries:
Rowena Pinto Zimmermann
ed@oratoriosociety.org
434-295-4385



Conductors & Music Directors



1982-1990
Paul Hill
Guest Conductor
1990 - 1993
Music Director
Conductor



1967 - 1970
Charles C. Bradley
Music Director
Conductor



1982 - 1990
Judith Gary
Music Director
Conductor



1971 - 1973
1975 - 1982
1993 - 2000
Donald G. Loach
Music Director
Conductor



2000 - 2011
L. Thomas Vining
Music Director
Conductor



1973 - 1975
Dingwall C. Fleary
Music Director
Conductor



2011 - Present
Michael Slon
Music Director
Conductor

Repertoire

A REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF MAJOR WORKS PRESENTED BY THE ORATORIO SOCIETY

CHARLES C. BRADLEY, JR., CONDUCTOR

- 1967-1968 Handel *Messiah*
1968-1969 Bach *St. John Passion*
1969-1970 Menotti *The Death of the Bishop of Brindisi*
1970-1971 Bach *Christmas Oratorio*
Brahms *A German Requiem*

DONALD G. LOACH, CONDUCTOR

- 1971-1972 Mendelssohn *Elijah*
1972-1973 Bach *Cantata 21: Ich hatte viel bekummernis*
Barber *Prayers of Kierkegaard*

DINGWALL C. FLEARY, CONDUCTOR

- 1973-1974 Handel *Solomon*
1974-1975 Haydn *Creation*

DONALD G. LOACH, CONDUCTOR

- 1975-1976 Mozart *Requiem*
Bruckner *Ecce Sacerdos*
Imbrie *On the Beach at Night*
1976-1977 Poulenc *Gloria*
Brahms *A German Requiem*
1977-1978 Bach *St. John Passion*
1978-1979 Dvorak *Requiem Mass*
1979-1980 Bach *Mass in B minor*
1980-1981 Vaughan Williams *Dona Nobis Pacem*
Durufle Requiem
1981-1982 Haydn *The Seasons*

JUDITH GARY, MUSIC DIRECTOR/CONDUCTOR

PAUL HILL, GUEST CONDUCTOR

- 1982-1983 Mozart *Mass in C minor*
Vivaldi *Beatus Vir*
1983-1984 Cherubini *Requiem Mass in C minor*
Brahms *Motet Opus 109: Fest und Gedenksprüche*
1984-1985 Bach *Magnificat in D*
Bach *Motet V: Komm, Jesu, Komm*
Handel *Four Coronation Anthems*
1985-1986 Brahms *A German Requiem*
Bernstein *Chichester Psalms*
1986-1987 Verdi *Requiem*
1987-1988 Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*
Fauré *Requiem*
Brahms *Liebeslieder Waltzes*
1988-1989 Bach *Mass in B minor*
Schubert *Mass in G*
1989-1990 Mendelssohn *Elijah*
Mozart *Requiem*

PAUL HILL, MUSIC DIRECTOR/CONDUCTOR

- 1990-1991 Thompson *Frostiana*
Gershwin *Porgy and Bess*
Dello Joio *To Saint Cecilia*
1991-1992 Handel *Messiah*
"St Mark's Cathedral Revisited"
Schutz *Psalm 100*
Monteverdi *Cantate domino* and *Sfogava con le stelle*
1992-1993 Puccini *Messa di Gloria*
Mendelssohn *Psalms 42, 91, and 100*

DONALD G. LOACH, CONDUCTOR

- 1992-1993 Rutter *Gloria*
1993-1994 Dvorak *Songs of Nature*
Vivaldi *Magnificat*
Vaughan Williams *Fantasia*
1994-1995 Britten *Ceremony of Carols*
Rutter *Magnificat*
Brahms *A German Requiem*
Rossini *Stabat Mater*
1995-1996 Mozart *Solemn Vespers (K. 339)*
Bernstein *West Side Story*



The Society in concert at the Paramount Theatre

- 1996-1997** Vivaldi *Gloria*
Bach *St. Matthew Passion*
- 1997-1998** Ross/Dove *The Pleasures in Walking Through:
A Song of the Seasons* (World Premiere)
Haydn *Tè Deum*
Brahms *Alto Rhapsody*
Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs*
- 1998-1999** Britten *Ceremony of Carols*
Beethoven *Mass in C*
- 1999-2000** Bernstein *Chichester Psalms*
Rutter *The Reluctant Dragon*
Handel *Israel in Egypt*

L. THOMAS VINING, MUSIC DIR./CONDUCTOR

- 2000-2001** Willcocks *Magnificat*
Rutter *Gloria*
Haydn *Creation*
Brahms *A German Requiem*
- 2001-2002** Bach *Cantata 191: Gloria in excelsis Deo*
Bass *Gloria*
Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*
Mozart *Requiem*
Haydn *Mass in Time of War*
- 2002-2003** Britten *Ceremony of Carols*
Mendelssohn *Elijah*
Verdi *Requiem*
- 2003-2004** Orff *Carmina Burana*
McCullough *Canite Tuba*
Bach *Mass in B minor*
- 2004-2005** Bach *Christmas Oratorio* excerpts
Beethoven *Symphony No. 9*
Mozart *Requiem*
Mendelssohn *Symphony No. 2 ("Lobgesang")*
- 2005-2006** Vivaldi *Gloria*
Bach *St. John Passion*
Verdi *La Traviata*
- 2006-2007** "Choral Celebration"
Rutter *Magnificat*
Handel *Messiah*
Verdi *Rigoletto*
- 2007-2008** "An Afternoon of Choral Treasures"
Bach *Cantata 191: Gloria in excelsis Deo*
Vaughan Williams *A Sea Symphony*
"Spirit of America"
Hanson *Song of Democracy*
Thompson *Testament of Freedom*
and selections from *Frostiana*
Dello Joio *A Jubilant Song*
- 2008-2009** Wilberg *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*
Haydn *Creation*
Verdi *Requiem*
- 2009-2010** Brahms *A German Requiem*
Haydn *Little Organ Mass*
Liszt *Missa Choralis*
Vaughan Williams *Dona Nobis Pacem*
- 2010-2011** "A Choral Cornucopia"
Pinkham *Christmas Cantata*
Handel *Dixit Dominus*
Schubert *Mass in G*
Jenkins *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*



Music Director Michael Slon conducting the Society in concert

MICHAEL SLON, MUSIC DIRECTOR/CONDUCTOR

- 2011-2012** Rutter *Gloria*
Haydn *Lord Nelson Mass*
Mozart *Solemn Vespers (K. 339)*
Fauré *Requiem* and *Messe Basse*
- 2012-2013** Pergolesi/Durante *Magnificat*
Borodin *Polovtsian Dances*
Prokofiev *Alexander Nevsky* (with Charlottesville
Symphony & UVA University Singers)
Duruflé *Requiem*
Britten *Festival Te Deum*
MacMillan *A New Song*
Bach *Cantata 140: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*
Handel *Coronation Anthems*
- 2013-2014** Britten *Ceremony of Carols*
Paulus *Wonder Tidings*
Mozart *Ave Verum Corpus*
Vivaldi *Gloria* (with community singers)
Bernstein *Candide* (with Ash Lawn Opera)
- 2014-2015** Pinkham *Christmas Cantata*
Schubert *Mass in G* (with community singers)
Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* (with Charlottesville
Symphony & UVA University Singers)
Honegger *King David* (with Charlottesville Ballet)
- 2015-2016** Respighi *Laud to the Nativity*
Biebl *Ave Maria*
Fauré *Requiem* (with community singers)
Verdi *La Traviata* (with Ash Lawn Opera)
- 2016-2017** Handel *Messiah (Part One)*
Lauridsen *Lux Aeterna* (with community singers)
"Celebration of Great Choruses"
- 2017-2018** Redford *Welcome All Wonders*
"American Anniversaries"
Bernstein *Chichester Psalms* and *Hashkiveinu*
African American spirituals (with UVA University
Singers and Zion Union Baptist Church Adult Choir)
"50th Anniversary Gala Concert"
Hailstork *The World Called* (World Premiere)
Mozart *Mass in C minor*

Collaborations

"Together in Song" Community Sing-Ins
Vivaldi - *Gloria* - 2014
Schubert - *Mass in G* - 2015
Fauré - *Requiem* - 2016
Lauridsen - *Lux Aeterna* - 2017

GUEST & COMBINED CHORUSES

Burley Bearettes Young Women's Chorus - 2013, 2016
Burley Middle School

Cale Chamber Singers - 2001
Cale Elementary School

The Charlottesville Singers - 2017
Charlottesville High School

UVA University Singers &
Zion Union Baptist Church Adult Choir
"American Anniversaries" - 2018

BENEFIT PERFORMANCES

Alliance for Interfaith Ministries - 2015
PACEM - 2014

JOINT PERFORMANCES

Ash Lawn Opera (now Charlottesville Opera)
Bernstein - *Candide* - 2014
Verdi - *La Traviata* - 2016

Charlottesville Ballet
Honegger - *King David* - 2015

Charlottesville Municipal Band
Christmas Concerts 2015, 2016, 2017

Charlottesville Symphony & UVA University Singers
Borodin - *Polovtsian Dances* - 2013
Prokofiev - *Alexander Nevsky* - 2013
Beethoven - *Symphony No. 9* - 2015

Roanoke Symphony Orchestra & Chorus
Prokofiev - *Alexander Nevsky* - 2014
Beethoven - *Symphony No. 9* - 2017

Staunton Music Festival Chamber Orchestra
Beethoven - *Symphony No. 9* - 2017



Charlottesville Treble Choir - 1997
(Bach, *Saint Matthew Passion*)

Children's Chorus - 1970
(Menotti, *The Death of the Bishop of Brindisi*)

Field School Boys' Choir - 2015
Field School of Charlottesville

Handbell Choir - 2010
First Presbyterian Church, Charlottesville

In One A-Chord - 2014
Charlottesville High School

Orange County High School Singers - 2015
Orange County High School

Patriot Singers - 2013, 2017
Albemarle High School

Concert Posters



CELEBRATING OUR
50th Season
THE **Oratorio**
SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL SLON, MUSIC DIRECTOR

A CELEBRATION
OF GREAT
CHORUSES

WITH EXCERPTS FROM
MENDELSSOHN *Elijah*, BACH *Mass in B minor*
ORFF *Carmina Burana*, RACHMANINOFF *Vespers*
& BERNSTEIN *Candide*

WITH METROPOLITAN OPERA SOPRANO
DANIELLE TALAMANTES

TENOR
JORDAN DAVIDSON

ORGANIST
JEREMY THOMPSON

14 MAY 2017 - 4PM
OLD CABELL HALL AT THE UNIV. OF VIRGINIA
\$25 ADULTS, \$15 STUDENTS

TICKETS AT UVA ARTS BOX OFFICE - WWW.ARTSBOXOFFICE.VIRGINIA.EDU
434.924.3376 - WWW.ORATORIOSOCIETY.ORG

THE ORATORIO SOCIETY IS AFFILIATED WITH THE MCINTIRE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

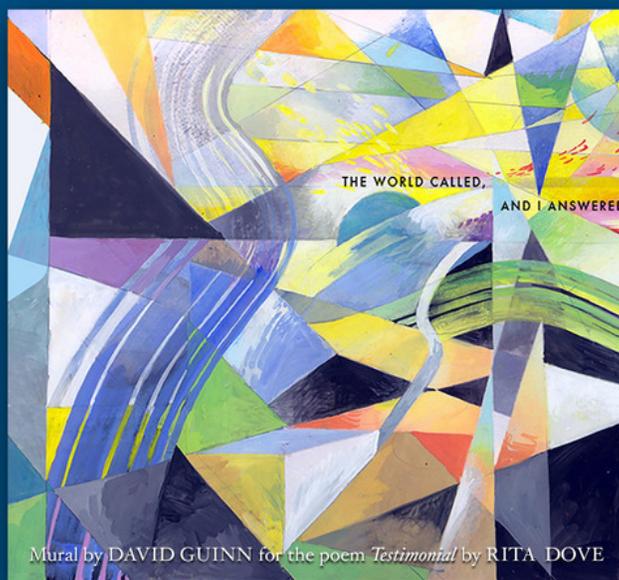
wmra

WPPT
Your Source for PBS and More!

VIRGINIA
COMMISSION
Arts

ART WORKS.
arts.gov

50th Anniversary
Gala Concert
THE
Oratorio
SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL SLON MUSIC DIRECTOR



Presenting the World Premiere of Adolphus Hailstork's
*The World Called
& Mozart's Mass in C minor*
also selections with the Oratorio Encore Society

FRIDAY - MAY 25, 2018 - 7PM
OLD CABELL HALL AT UVA

TICKETS (\$10/25/35): ORATORIOSOCIETY.ORG or UVA Arts Box Office
THE ORATORIO SOCIETY IS AFFILIATED WITH THE MCINTIRE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AT THE UNIV. OF VA





THE
Oratorio
SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA
MICHAEL SLON MUSIC DIRECTOR

**CHRISTMAS AT
THE PARAMOUNT**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
2:30 & 7:30PM**

FEATURING J.S. BACH'S
MAGNIFICAT
& OTHER FESTIVE FAVORITES

GUEST APPEARANCES BY
**CHILDREN'S CHOIR
OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA**
AND
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HANDBELL ENSEMBLE**

TICKETS \$10 STUDENT, \$27 REGULAR, \$49 GOLD CIRCLE
ORATORIOSOCIETY.ORG THEPARAMOUNT.NET

THE ORATORIO SOCIETY IS AFFILIATED WITH THE MCINTIRE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

wmra



community
idea stations



wvtf **MUSIC**



A Community Sing-In
Together in Song
Rutter & the ROYALS

Saturday, March 16th at 4pm
Concert tickets: \$15 (General Admission)

John Rutter's REQUIEM
& music from the British royal weddings

First Presbyterian Church, Charlottesville

For community singers who wish to sing onstage with the Oratorio chorus at the concert: Choral Masterclass (required) w/ Michael Slon: 10am to 1pm. Register at www.oratoriosociety.org Fee: \$25 (\$15 students)

ORATORIOSOCIETY.ORG

DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR HOSPICE OF THE PIEDMONT



community
idea stations

