The William Baker Choral Foundation in Georgia, through the Support of Alice & Jorge Blanco, presents

Leonard Bernstein

CHICHESTER PSALMS

Works of Jewish Composers

Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Amy Thropp, Music Director & Conductor

The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers

Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor

Tuesday Evening, 14 April 2015 Congregation Beth Shalom Dunwoody, Georgia

> Lord, Lord, my heart us not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty, Nor do I exercise myself in great matters or in things too wonderful for me. Let Israel hope in the Lord from henceforth. How good and pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity.

SOLI DEO GLORIA

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Amy Thropp

Music Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

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Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Zimria Festivale Atlanta was founded in 2014 as an ensemble of the William Baker Choral Foundation. The 2014-2015 season is considered a developmental year as the ensemble seeks to become a 30-40 voice chorale specializing in music of Jewish heritage and the works of Jewish composers in a diversity of styles and genres. The ensemble performed for the first time in December 2014 prior to the annual Congregation Beth Shalom Chanukah party. Tonight's appearance marks their second performance. There are openings in all sections of the chorus. Auditions are ongoing. For additional information, please contact the Choral Foundation at Mail@FestivalSingers.org.

Amy Thropp, Music Director & Composer

Amy Thropp was born and raised in the New York City area, and for the last 25 years, has been living in metro Atlanta. Amy has been the Music Director at Congregation Beth Shalom, in Dunwoody, GA, for the last 23 years, where she has lead the High Holiday Choir and various children's groups. The choir's repertoire includes many of Amy's original choral arrangements. Ms. Thropp studied theory, music composition and choral conducting at the Juilliard School (preparatory division), the University of Denver, and at Berklee College of Music in Boston, and holds a degree in Music Composition from Berklee. She has been a member of the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers since 2013 and a member of the Summer Singers of Atlanta since 2001. Previously, for ten years, Amy held the post of Musical Director for the Arcado Community Theatre in Lilburn, GA. Past experiences also include being a member of the Raleigh Oratorio Society and an active Jazz performer in the Boston area. She has been a long-time member of the Summer Singers of Atlanta, and was appointed to membership in The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers in 2013.

Mindy Margolis, Guest Soloist

Mindy Margolis last performed under Lynn Swanson's baton as a featured soloist in Gabriel Faure's Requiem in November 2013. A classically trained coloratura soprano, Mindy currently sings with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Chamber Chorus, and has been a member and High Holiday Choir soloist at Ahavath Achim Synagogue since 1996. She and her husband, Andy, lead the traditional services at the synagogue and participate in the AAbsolute Shabbat rock band. She is also a founding member of Shir Harmony, Atlanta's Only Jewish Women's A Cappella group. Mindy and Andy have a 3.5-year-old son, Robbie, and 9-month-old baby daughter, Lily Rose.

The William Baker Choral Foundation

Zimria Festivale Atlanta is an ensemble of The William Baker Choral Foundation, a national organization founded in Atlanta and now based in Roeland Park, Kansas, that presently sponsors choral ensembles based in three states involving hundreds of men, women and youth. The Foundation also sponsors Amber Waves Music Publishing, a creative company that offers more than 50 quality titles in worldwide distribution (www.AmberWavesPublishing.com). The Choral Foundation offers a year-round Student Intern program for conductors in masters-level study, and a Choral Scholar program for conductors studying at the doctoral level, and is the sponsoring organization for the Institute for Healthy Singing. The unique continuing education program enables aspiring conductors to gain practical experience in musical leadership and management of a major arts organization. The staff of the Choral Foundation also offers consulting services nationwide for church, community, and professional musical organizations. For additional information, please contact us at Mail@FestivalSingers.org.

Leonard Bernstein: Chichester Psalms & Works of Jewish Composers Zimria Festivale Atlanta & The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers

Tuesday Evening, 14 April 2015 at 7:30 Congregation Beth Shalom, Dunwoody, Georgia

Introit

HEAVENLY LIGHT

Alexander KOPYLOV, 1854-1911 Carl Fischer Music 27966-3

Sent from heaven,
Thy rays were given on great and small to shine,
O Light Divine!
May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly light.
Thou blessing to all creation, lead us to our salvation.
All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar.
O shine from above, Divine Light of Love!
Show us the way unto our God, we pray.
Thou, our Beacon and Guide, shalt be.
Light Divine, we praise Thee!

-From the Russian Orthodox Liturgy

Donated to the Music Library of the William Baker Choral Foundation by Johnny Gravley in memory of Millie Respess Feasel

> The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers Lynn Swanson, conducting

Welcome

T

FUNERAL IKOS

Sir John TAVENER, 1944-2013 Chester Music Limited CH55676

Why these bitter words of the dying, O brethren, Which they utter as they go hence? I am parted from my brethren.
All my friends do I abandon and go hence.
But whither I go, that understand I not,
Neither what shall become of me yonder;
Only God Who hath summoned me knoweth.
But make commemoration of me with the song: Alleluia.

But whither now go the souls?
How dwell they now together there?
This mystery have I desired to learn,
But none can impart aright.
Do they call to mind their own people, as we do them?
Or have they forgotten all those who mourn them
And make the song: *Alleluia*.

We go forth on the path eternal, and as condemned, With downcast faces,
Present ourselves before the only God eternal.
Where then is comeliness? Where then is wealth?
Where then is the glory of this world?
There shall none of these things aid us,
But only say oft the psalm: Alleluia.

If thou hast shown mercy unto Man, O Man, That same mercy shall be shown thee there; And if on an orphan thou hast shown compassion, The same shall there deliver thee from want. If in this life the naked thou hast clothed, The same shall give thee shelter there, And sing the psalm: *Alleluia*.

Youth and the beauty of the body fade at the hour of death, And the tongue then burneth fiercely, And the parched throat is inflamed.

The beauty of the eyes is quenched then, The comeliness of the face all altered, The shapeliness of the neck destroyed; And the other parts have become numb, Nor often say, *Alleluia*.

With ecstasy are we inflamed
If we but hear that there is light eternal yonder;
That there is Paradise,
Wherein every soul of Righteous Ones rejoiceth.
Let us all, also, enter into God,
That all we may cry aloud thus unto Him: Alleluia.

-From the Greek Orthodox Order for the Burial of Priests

II

ANU MA'AMIN

Warsaw Ghetto Melody Arranged by Erwin Jospe Transcontinental Music

Sung in Hebrew

I believe with perfect faith in the coming of the Messiah, And, though He tarry, I will wait daily for His coming. -Except from The 13 Principles of Faith

-Sarah Means, soloist

Given by Joseph & Jill Ferst in memory of M. Rita Ferst

Zimria Festivale Atlanta The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers Amy Thropp, conducting

Ш

CHICHESTER PSALMS

Leonard BERNSTEIN, 1918-1990 Amberson Music/G. Schirmer 2656

Sung in Hebrew

I

Awake, psaltery and harp!
I will awake the dawn!
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness
And come before His presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord, He is God.
It is He that hath made us and not we ourselves.
We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.
Enter into His gates with thanksgiving
And into His courts with praise.
Be thankful unto Him and bless His Name.
For the Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting.
And His truth endures to all generations.

-Psalm 100

-Psalm 108:2

II

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside the still waters, He restores my soul, He leads me in the path of righteousness for His Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me In the presence of mine enemies, Thou anointest my head with oil, My cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy Shall follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. -Psalm 23 Why do the nations rage together, And why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, And the rulers take counsel together Against the Lord and His anointed. Saying, let us break their bonds asunder, And cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, And the Lord shall have them in derision! -Psalm 2:1-4

Ш

Lord, Lord, My heart is not haughty,
Nor mine eyes lofty,
Nor do I exercise myself in great matters or in things
Too wonderful for me.
Surely I have calmed and quieted myself,
As a child that is weaned of his mother,

My soul is even as a weaned child. Let Israel hope in the Lord From henceforth and forevermore. Behold, how good and pleasant it is, For brothers to dwell together in unity.

-Psalm 131

-Psalm 133:1

Mindy Margolis, soloist
Sarah Means, Felicia Hernandez,
Wayne Burdette & Thomas Sheets, quartet
Leanne Elmer Herrmann, organ
Julie Albertson, harp
Jeff Kershner, percussion

Zimria Festivale Atlanta The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers Ms. Swanson, conducting

 \mathbf{IV}

KADDISH IN MEMORY OF THE SIX MILLION

Amy THROPP, Born 1953 Composer Manuscript

Sung in Hebrew

May His great Name grow exalted and Sanctified in the world that He created as He willed.

May He give reign to His kingship in your lifetimes And in your days, and in the lifetimes of the entire Family of Israel, swift and soon.

Amen

May His great Name be blessed forever and ever.

Blessed, praise, glorified, exalted, extolled, mighty, Upraised and lauded be the Name of the Holy One. Given by Joseph & Jill Ferst in memory of Samuel M. Ferst

Blessed is He, beyond any blessing and song,

Praise and consolation that are uttered in the world. Now say "Amen."

May there be abundant peace in Heaven, and life upon Us and upon all Israel. Now say, "Amen."

He Who makes peace in His heights, may He make Peace, upon us and upon all Israel. Now say "Amen."

> Zimria Festivale Atlanta The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers Ms. Thropp, conducting

The appearance of organist Leanne Elmer Herrman in tonight's concert is made possible by a grant from Amy Thropp in memory of Phyllis & George Kravitz

The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers

The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers was created in September 2009, and has become one of the fastest growing ensembles in the history of the Choral Foundation. Specializing in short form sacred a cappella classics, spirituals and folk songs from across the globe, the Festival Singers has already established a regional reputation for their richness of tone, diversity and depth of repertoire and expressive performances.

The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers also performs annual concerts of masterworks for chorus and orchestra in collaboration with the Orchestra of the American Heartland. Recent performances have included Vivaldi: Beatus Vir, Schubert: Mass in G, Faure: Requiem, Haydn: Te Deum, Mozart: Coronation Mass, Bernstein: Chichester Psalms and Missa Brevis, and Bloch: Avodath Hakodesh. The Festival Singers will be performing the Mass in B minor of Johann Sebastian Bach with the Orchestra of the American Heartland in March 2016.

From their home in Smyrna the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers have performed in significant music festivals across the region, including the Arts International Festival on the campus of Francis Marion University, the Christmas Atlanta Festival, Convocation 2010 and, most notably, Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival in 2012 and 2013. In March 2012, the Festival Singers journeyed to Kansas City to join other Choral Foundation ensembles in the Bloch *Avodath Hakodesh* in the historic Community Christian Church, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The performance was broadcast in its entirety on Kansas Public Radio in commemoration of the eve of Passover. In December 2012, the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers performed for the annual Holiday Gala of the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta. For information on upcoming concerts, please contact the Cobb Office of the William Baker Choral Foundation by email at Mail@FestivalSingers.org.



Lynn Swanson, Music Director and Conductor, is a native of Marietta, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta. A life-long resident of the area, she has served the north metro community as a leader in the musical arts for nearly 30 years. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from Shorter University in Rome, Georgia, and the Master of Music Education in Choral Pedagogy at the University of Kansas. She studied conducting with Dr. William Baker, Dr. James Daugherty, and Alexander Mickelthwaite. Ms. Swanson is the Founder of the Northside Young Singers, the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, and the Cobb Summer Singers, in addition to her service as Associate Director and Vocal Coach of the William Baker Festival Singers in Atlanta. She serves as Executive Associate Music Director of the William Baker Choral Foundation. Recent choral/orchestral masterworks

have included Handel's Messiah; Mozart's Solemn Vespers; Faure's Requiem; Schubert's Mass in G; Haydn's Te Deum, Beethoven's Mass in C, Vivaldi's Beatus Vir, in addition to Bernstein: Chichester Psalms & Missa Brevis; Brahms: A German Requiem; Handel: Dettingen Te Deum & Water Music Suite, Mozart: Exsultate Jubilate, Eine kleine Nachtmusik and Coronation Mass; Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F, Cantata No. 51 "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen," and Magnificat. Her choral ensembles have been featured recently as headline performers at the Christmas Atlanta Festival, Arts International, and appear annually at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina.

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Steve Brailsford '14
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Vince Evans '14
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Cornelia Tuttle Hamilton '15
Kristin Hampton '14
Victoria Harkins '13
Felicia Hernandez '12
Ellen Hicks '10

Susan Hinesley '11 Lexann Johnson '10 Judy Feasel Jones '12 Bambi Kendrick '09 Mark Kagika '14 Jody Kershner '09 Alexis LaSalle '10 Sarah Means '10 Marcia Mein '11 Charles Nelson '11 David Nieland '13 Susan Pierce '13 Rebekah N. Plowman '14 Bill Price '15 Charlene Price '15 Carol Rogers Reiser '09 Eddie Ross '09 Mary Selano '11 Thomas Sheets '11 Charles St. Clair '11 Amy Thropp '13 Jack Walker '14 Michael Warrick '09 Nancy Warrick '10 Niccole Winney '14 Jack Worrill '10



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