

The William Baker Choral Foundation in Georgia presents

Georg Frideric Handel

JUDAS MACCABAEUS

Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Amy Thropp, Music Director & Conductor

Soo Jin Kim, Piano

Maddy Kallman, soprano

Donna Kallman, mezzo-soprano

Felicia Hernandez, alto

John Harr, tenor

David Neiland & William Baker, bass

Sunday Afternoon, 6 March 2016

Congregation Beth Shalom

Dunwoody, Georgia

Hallelujah! Amen!

O Judah rejoice in songs Divine.

With Cherubim and Seraphim harmonious join.

SOLI DEO GLORIA

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Amy Thropp

Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

William O. Baker, DMA

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ZIMRIA FESTIVALE ATLANTA

Amy Thropp, Music Director & Conductor



In its second season, the group, aptly named Zimria Festivale Atlanta (Festival Singers, in Hebrew), is a member group of the William Baker Choral Foundation, focusing on choral compositions with Jewish-themed material or written by Jewish composers, both sacred and secular. The goal is to bring this unique mix of music to the general public in Atlanta, and for singing members, coming from diverse backgrounds, to be exposed to literature previously unexplored in our area of the country.

In the Pilot year, 2015, the group performed Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* with the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers at a Holocaust Memorial Concert held at the group's home venue, Congregation

Beth Shalom, in Dunwoody, Georgia. Also performed at the memorial, was the premiere of an original work by Zimria Festivale Atlanta's musical director, Amy Thropp, *Kaddish for the Six Million*.



Born in New York, raised in New Jersey and for the last 26 years, an Atlanta resident, she has been the Music Director of Congregation Beth Shalom, in Dunwoody, GA, for 24 years. Amy studied theory, music composition, flute, 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 for the past four seasons and a member of the Summer Singers of Atlanta since 2002. As a member of the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, Amy performed with the group at numerous venues, including three times at Piccolo Spoleto in Charleston, SC. Previously, for ten years, Amy held the post of Musical Director for the Arcado Community Theatre in

Lilburn, GA. Prior to that, she was a member of the Raleigh Oratorio Society and an active Jazz performer in Boston. She has performed with the North Carolina Symphony as well as with the New England Conservatory Symphony and at Carnegie Hall.

THE CHORAL FOUNDATION BY THE NUMBERS

561 Men, women and youth participated in Choral Foundation ensembles between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015

24 Number of languages performed by the Festival Singers **19** Number of states where the choruses have performed

\$218,500 Operational Budget for FY2016 for all ensembles in all cities

\$39,500 Anticipated revenues from concert tickets

17% Percentage of needed operational funds will be received from concert tickets

\$15,000 Goal for the 2016 Magic Envelope Challenge - Your Donation Matched Dollar-for-Dollar before June 1

PLEASE SUPPORT THE 2016 MAGIC ENVELOPE CHALLENGE

Your Contribution is Fully Tax-Deductible www.ChoralFoundation.org

The 2016 Masterworks Concert

Zimria Festival Atlanta Amy Thropp, Music Director & Conductor
Maddy Kallman, Donna Kallman, Felicia Hernandez, John Harr, David Neiland & William Baker, soloists
Sunday Afternoon, 6 March 2016, 3:00 PM, Congregation Beth Shalom, Dunwoody, Georgia

Georg Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

JUDAS MACCABAEUS

HWV 63 Oratorio Libretto by Thomas Morrell, 1703-1784

*First Performance Tuesday, 1 April 1747 at Covent Garden in London, led by the Composer
Today's Performance is the First Under the Sponsorship of the William Baker Choral Foundation*

Judas Maccabaeus is performed today in English and without intermission

OVERTURE

Judas shall set the captive free,
And lead us all to victory.

MOURN, YE AFFLICTED CHILDREN

Chorus

Mourn, ye afflicted children, the remains
Of captive Judah, mourn in solemn strains;
Your sanguine hopes of liberty give o'er,
Your hero, friend and father is no more

ARM! ARM! YE BRAVE

Israelite Man

Arm, arm, ye brave! A noble cause,
The cause of Heaven your zeal demands.
In defense of your nation, religion, and laws,
The Almighty HaShem will strengthen your hands.

O FATHER, WHOSE ALMIGHTY POWER

Chorus

O Father, whose Almighty power
The Heavens, and earth, and seas adore;
The hearts of Judah, thy delight,
In one defensive band unite.
And grant a leader bold, and brave,
If not to conquer, born to save.

WE COME IN BRIGHT ARRAY

Chorus

We come, we come, in bright array,
Judah, thy sceptre to obey.

I FEEL THE DEITY WITHIN

Israelite Man

I feel, I feel the deity within,
Who, the bright cherubim between,
His radiant glory erst displayed;
To Israel's distressful prayer
He hath vouchsafed a gracious ear,
And points out Maccabaeus to their aid:

TO HEAVEN' ALMIGHTY KING

Israelite Woman

To Heaven's Almighty king we kneel,
For blessings on this exemplary zeal.
Bless him, HaShem, bless him, and once more
To thy own Israel liberty restore.

O LIBERTY!

Israelite Woman

O liberty, thou choicest treasure,
Seat of virtue, source of pleasure!
Life, without thee, knows no blessing,
No endearment worth caressing.

LEAD ON

Chorus

Lead on, lead on! Judah disdains
The galling load of hostile chains.

HEAR US, O LORD!

Chorus

Hear us, O Lord, on Thee we call,
Resolved on conquest, or a glorious fall.

HAIL JUDEA! HAPPY LAND

Chorus

Hail, hail, Judea, happy land!
Salvation prospers in his hand.

THANKS TO MY BRETHREN

Judah

Thanks to my brethren; but look up to Heaven;
To Heaven let glory and all praise be given;
To Heaven give your applause,
Nor add the second cause,
As once your fathers did in Midian,
Saying, "The sword of God and Gideon."
It was the Lord that for his Israel fought,
And this our wonderful salvation wrought.

HOW VAIN IS MAN

WHO BOASTS IN FIGHT

Judah

How vain is man, who boasts in fight
The valor of gigantic might!
And dreams not that a hand unseen
Directs and guides this weak machine.

O GRANT IT, HEAVEN

Israelite Woman

Oh, grant it, Heaven, that our long woes may cease,
And Judah's daughters taste the calm of peace,
Sons, brothers, husbands to bewail no more,
Tortured at home, or havocked in the war.

SO SHALL THE LUTE AND HARP AWAKE

Israelite Woman

So shall the lute and harp awake,
And sprightly voice sweet descant run,
Seraphic melody to make,
In the pure strains of Jesse's son.

*Given by Dr. William O. Baker in honor of
Music Director Amy Thropp & Zimria Festivale Atlanta*

FROM CAPHARSALAMA

Israelite Woman

From Capharsalama, on eagle wings I fly,
With tidings of impetuous joy:
Came Lysias, with his host, arrayed
In coat of mail; their massy shields
Of gold and brass, flashed lightning o'er the fields,
While the huge tower-backed elephants displayed
A horrid front. But Judas, undismayed,
Met, fought, and vanquished all the rageful train.
Yet more, Nicanor lies with thousands slain;
The blasphemous Nicanor, who defied
The living God, and, in his wanton pride,
A public monument ordained
Of victories yet ungained.

But lo, the conqueror comes; and on his spear,
To dissipate all fear,
He bears the vaunter's head and hand,
That threatened desolation to the land.

SEE THE CONQUERING HERO COME

Chorus

See, the conquering hero comes!
Sound the trumpets, beat the drums.
Sports prepare, the laurel bring,
Songs of triumph to him sing.
See, the conquering hero comes!
Sound the trumpets, beat the drums.

TO OUR GREAT GOD

Chorus

To our great God be all the honor given,
That grateful hearts can send from earth to Heaven.

O LOVELY PEACE

Two Israelite Women

O lovely peace, with plenty crowned,
Come, spread thy blessings all around.
Let fleecy flocks the hills adorn,
And valleys smile with wavy corn.
Let the shrill trumpet cease, nor other sound
But nature's songsters wake the cheerful morn.

Given by Amy Thropp in memory of Phyllis & George Kravitz

REJOICE, O JUDAH

Simon

Rejoice, O Judah, and, in songs divine,
With cherubim and seraphim harmonious join!

Given by Joe & Jill Ferst in memory of Rita Ferst

HALLELUJAH, AMEN

Chorus

Hallelujah, amen.
Oh, Judah rejoice, and in songs divine
With cherubim and seraphim harmonious join
Hallelujah, amen.

Zimria Festivale Atlanta and the Choral Foundation Family express

*Joy and Congratulations to Congregation Beth Shalom on 40 years as a congregation,
and we thank them for graciously providing a home for our rehearsals and concerts.*

The 2016 Andrew Cain Memorial Masterworks Concert Honoring Robert Shaw

Johann Sebastian Bach MASS IN B MINOR

The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers

Founded as Gwinnett Festival Singers in 1985, and known as William Baker Festival Singers Atlanta from 1998-2015

Orchestra of the American Heartland

Arietha Lockhart, soprano Lisa Rader, mezzo-soprano

Magdalena Wor, alto Jonathan Pilkington, tenor Stephen Ozcomert, bass

Timothy Young, organ Lynn Swanson, conducting

Sunday Afternoon, 13 March 2016, 3:00 PM

St. John United Methodist Church, 550 Mount Paran Road, Atlanta, GA 30327

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Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor Ivy Belk Pirl, Accompanist

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The Northwest Georgia Summer Singers

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REHEARSALS THURSDAY EVENINGS, 7:00-9:15, beginning June

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