

PROGRAM

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| Ave Maria | Josquin des Prez (1450-1521) |
| Confitebor Tibi | G.P. da Palestina (1524-1594) |
| Sicut Cervus | G.P. da Palestrina |
| It Was a Lover and His Lass | Thomas Morley (1557-1602) |
| Ave Verum Corpus | William Byrd (1540-1623) |
| Confitebor Tibi* | Claudio Monteverdi (1576-1643) |
| As Pants the Hart** | G.F. Händel (1685-1759) |

Intermission

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Echoes | Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900) |
| Alleluia | Randall Thompson (1899-1984) |
| Ave Verum Corpus | Imant Raminsh (1943-) |
| Ave Maria*** | Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868) |
| It Was a Lover and His Lass | John Rutter (1945-) |
| Alleluia | Robert Muczynski (1929-2010) |

*Soprano - Skye Donald; Conralto - Solveig Farquharson; Organ - Peter Orme

**Soprano - Skye Donald; Tenor - David Brown; Organ - Peter Orme;

Orchestra - Members of the Nanaimo Chamber Orchestra

***Organ - Peter Orme

The choir would like to acknowledge the generous assistance of the following:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Susan Brown | Nanaimo Daily News |
| Audrey Wickham | Nanaimo News Bulletin |
| St Paul's Anglican Church | A Cappella Plus |
| Brechin United Church | Nanaimo Chamber Orchestra |
| Fascinating Rhythm | Shaw TV |
| Quilted Duck Gift Cottage | Island Radio |

PROGRAM NOTES

Josquin des Prez is considered the 1st master of the high Renaissance style, a central figure of the Franco-Flemish school of music. He was born on the French border with Belgium and spent his life in France and Italy. He lived during a transitional stage in music history, marked by an increased movement of musicians so that many influences were brought to bear. His polyphony as you can hear in the motet, Ave Maria, exhibits free and easy motion. *Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, serene Virgin. Hail, thou whose Conception, full of great joy, fills heaven and earth with new gladness. Hail, thou whose Nativity became our great celebration, as the light-bearing Morning Star anticipates the true Sun. Hail, faithful humility, whose Annunciation was our salvation. Hail, true virginity, immaculate chastity, whose Purification was our cleansing. Hail, glorious one in all angelic virtues, whose Assumption was our glorification. O Mother of God, remember me. Amen.*

Giovanni Palestrina was born in Palestrina near Rome and became both a prolific composer and one who gained great favour with the papacy, spending much of his life in the Julian Chapel at St. Peter's in Rome. His reputation grew so as to eclipse that of des Prez. His polyphony is ornate, well-constructed in counterpoint and realizes "smooth" dissonance which is featured on weak beats. Confitebor Tibi is an Offertory for Passion Sunday, the text from several psalms. *I offer you thanks, Lord, with all my heart; be kind to your servant so that I might live and keep your word; grant me life in accordance with your word, O Lord.*

Sicut Cervus is a motet based on psalm 41. *As pants the hart after the water brooks, so pants my soul after thee, O God. My soul*

thirsts for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

Thomas Morley was born in Norwich and lived for a time in the same parish as William Shakespeare. The foremost member of the English Madrigal School, he is considered to be the most famous composer of secular music in the Elizabethan England. "It Was a Lover and His Lass" is taken from Shakespeare's "As You Like It".

William Byrd was a Londoner, a student of Thomas Tallis and teacher to Thomas Morley. He became a prominent musician in the Elizabethan court attaining the prestigious post of Gentleman of the Chapel Royal. Byrd became a devoted Catholic in Protestant England and successfully navigated the dangerous politics of the day. His 470 compositions mark him as one of the masters of European Renaissance music. Ave Verum Corpus is a short motet from Byrd's "Gradualia" and displays less of polyphony but is instead more homophonic and imitative (listen to the repetition of "O Pie" and "miserere"). *Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, who having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mankind, whose pierced side flowed with water and blood: may it be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet] in the trial of death. Oh dear Jesus, Oh merciful Jesus, Oh Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.*

continued...

From the Director



I've always wanted to do a program which features the contrasts in composition of different composers writing the same titled piece. There are so many possibilities to choose from, and this program is simply one that allows us to span many centuries of choral music. We hope, especially, that you will enjoy the Händel Chandos Anthem which engages also, players from the Nanaimo Chamber Orchestra as well as organist, Peter Orme.

The Island Consort

Director: Bruce Farquharson

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|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| sopranos: | Mary Butt Skye Donald Zinda FitzGerald Elizabeth Lutz Rosemarie Sherban Zinda FitzGerald | altos: | Solveig Farquharson Linda Leonard Bethany Norris Marla Tusa |
| tenors: | David Brown Don Butt Stephen Pilling | basses: | Randall Donald Robin FitzGerald Phil Haig Steve Hill Lionel Tanod |

Guest Performers

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| 1st violin | Karl Rainer (Concertmaster) Carol de la Haye Catherine Sevenhuysen | violincello | Janis Kerr Diana Fletcher |
| 2nd violin | Leslie Krull Sonya Parkin Monica Morosan | contrabass | Barb Cleary |
| | | oboe | Deborah Vitek |
| | | bassoon | Laurie Schmidt |
| | | organ | Peter Orme |



The Island Consort

Director, Bruce Farquharson

Guests: Peter Orme, organ

Members of Nanaimo Chamber Orchestra

ECHOES ECHOES?



**St. Stephen's United Church
Qualicum Beach
Saturday April 16 at 7:30**

**Brechin United Church
Nanaimo
Sunday April 17 at 7:30**

admission \$15