

The Boston Choral Ensemble
Miguel Felipe, Music Director
presents

Lamentations

Friday, March 4th, 2005
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Sunday, March 6th, 2005
Church of St. John the Evangelist, Episcopal
Boston, Massachusetts

BCE

the B o s t o n
C h o r a l
E n s e m b l e

The Boston Choral Ensemble's
4th Season, 2004 – 2005

...with immortal fire

May 13th and 15th, 2005

To finish the year, BCE explores English texts by some of the greatest writers of all time including, among others, Wm. Shakespeare. '*...with immortal fire*' features Britten's *Hymn to St. Cecilia* on a poem by W. H. Auden.

All Friday evening concerts are at 8 PM at
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Central Square, Cambridge

All Sunday afternoon concerts are at 2 PM at
Church of St. John the Evangelist, Beacon Hill, Boston

for more information, visit:
www.BostonChoral.org

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From BCE's Board President

Dear Listener,

Welcome to Boston Choral Ensemble's March Concert! We are in our 4th season and grateful for every year that we are able to bring quality music to the greater Boston area. Though the theme for this concert is *Lamentations*, we are truly joyful that you are with us today. Welcome.

You may notice a few members who have returned to the group and some fresh faces as well. Our new members were baptized by fire this January as we performed in "Lux Æterna", a benefit for the tsunami survivors, two weeks after joining the choir. Singing with 13 other local choirs was an amazing experience. We made a lot of new friends and the event was quite a success, raising over \$13,000 for Oxfam America.

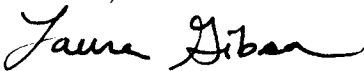
Arusha Hollister has stepped down from the board after more than three years of service. We'd like to thank her for her energy and yummy vegetarian creations, and wish her well as she starts her new role as parent. Cyndi McDonald has come forward to join the board and we welcome her. We also thank Celeste Beck and Belina Mizrahi for their contributions as ad coordinator and concert manager, respectively. Of course none of this would be possible without the tireless hard work of our conductor, Miguel Felipe. Thankfully, he still has time to relax and lead sing-alongs of "76 Trombones".

Perhaps some of you caught a sneak preview of this performance at Harvard-Epworth Church in Harvard Square last Sunday. Many thanks to Lisa Fagerstrom and Andrew Holman for making that possible. We are happy to return to St. Peter's in Central Square and St. John the Evangelist on Beacon Hill for our performances.

As always, you can be a part of BCE by coming to our concerts, telling your friends about us, auditioning to sing with us, donating valuable skills (legal, marketing, recording, design), or making financial contributions. For more information about any of these activities visit our website (www.BostonChoral.org) or talk to one of us after the concert.

We are so glad you took the time to come out and hear us. It's through the generous support of people like you that we are able to continue providing high-quality choral music to the greater Boston area. We look forward to seeing you here again in May.

Best wishes,



Laura Gibson
Board President, Boston Choral Ensemble

From BCE's Music Director

Welcome, Friends,

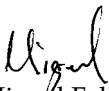
The program you hear tonight began in rehearsals on January 11th, hardly two weeks after the catastrophic Southeast Asian earthquake and tsunami of December 26th, 2004; an event of such great scale we may never fully understand its impact. And so, as we began rehearsals, we immediately prepared for "Lux Æterna," a benefit in which BCE, along with over a dozen other Greater Boston choruses, raised over \$13,000 to benefit survivors in Southeast Asia.

The performance, along with the six weeks of rehearsal leading to today's concert, have immersed us in texts and music of sorrow. All the works on the program mark a sense of lamentation. In each work, however, the human spirit seems to look forward not with despair, but with hope. For example, John Tavener's *Funeral Ikos* ends "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."

As you listen, let these masterworks transport you and remind you of the sorrow surrounding death *and* the hope for peace and light. In the end, these works are hopeful and beautiful.

Today, I'm happy to present several members of BCE who will be speaking throughout the concert about the works they are singing; thanks to all of them for their research, curiosity, and brave public speaking!

And finally, thank you, our audience, for supporting us. As always, it's when we finally share our voices with you that our labors come to fruition. We hope you enjoy today's program as much as we've enjoyed learning it.



Miguel Felipe
Music Director, Boston Choral Ensemble

The Boston Choral Ensemble presents

Lamentations

Friday, March 4th, 2005, 8:00 PM
St. Peter's Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Sunday, March 6th, 2005, 2:00 PM
Church of St. John the Evangelist, Boston, Massachusetts

The Boston Choral Ensemble

Matthew Baggetta
Celeste Beck
Adam Bell
Rebecca Benefiel
Caitlin Cunningham
John Davis
Nils Erickson
Arusha Hollister
Andrew Hudson
Laura Gibson
John Graham
Kirk Hornberger
Ezra Keshet
Angharad Laing

Jonathan Markowitz
Andrea Meacham
Andrew McDiarmid
Cyndi McDonald
Sarah McDougal
Belina Mizrahi
Judith Müller
Dan Phillips
Dan Rogalski
Katherine Rose
Mary Tsien
Ryan Tucker
Sara Willis

Miguel Felipe, Music Director
Ezra Keshet, Assistant Music Director

The Boston Choral Ensemble presents

Lamentations

March 4th and 6th, 2005

Thomas TALLIS
ca. 1505-1585

Lamentations II (ca. 1565-1670)

Josquin des PREZ
ca. 1450/55-1521

Nymphes des bois (ca. 1497)
Le déploration de Johannes Ockeghem

John TAVENER
b. 1944

Funeral Ikos (1981)

Thomas TALLIS Lamentations I (ca. 1565-1670)

Herbert HOWELLS Requiem (1932)
1892-1983 I. Salvator mundi

II. Psalm 23
Judith Müller, soprano
Andrea Meacham, alto
Dan Phillips, tenor

III. Requiem æternam (1)

IV. Psalm 121
Dan Phillips, baritone
Kirk Hornberger, tenor

V. Requiem æternam (2)

VI. I heard a voice from heaven
Nils Erickson, tenor
Dan Phillips, baritone
Mary Tsien, soprano

Miguel Felipe, conductor

Program Texts

The Book of Lamentations

King James Version

v. 1-2 used in Tallis' *Lamentations I*

v. 3-5 used in Tallis' *Lamentations II*

¹How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary!

²She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies.

³Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest: all her persecutors overtook her between the straits.

⁴The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

⁵Her adversaries are the chief, her enemies prosper; for the LORD hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.

Both settings begin with:

Here beginneth the lamentation of Jeremiah the prophet:

And end with:

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

Nymphes des bois

A lamentation on the death of Johannes Ockeghem

Wood-nymphs, goddesses of the fountains,

Skilled singers of every nation,
Turn your voices, so clear and lofty,

To piercing cries and lamentation
Because Atropos*, terrible satrap,
Has caught your Ockeghem in her trap,

The true treasurer of music and master,
Learned, handsome and by no means stout.

It is a source of great sorrow that the earth must cover him.

Put on the clothes of mourning,
Josquin, Pierre de la Rue, Brumel,
Compère,

And weep great tears from your eyes,

For you have lost your good father.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

* Atropos is the Fate whose role it was to cut the thread of human life with her shears.

Tenor: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

BCE THANKS

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Funeral Ikos

From *The Order for the Burial of Dead Priests* translated from Greek by Isabel Hapgood

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 younger; 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 to say oft 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*.



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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 Christ, that all we may cry aloud thus unto god: *Alleluia*.

Salvator mundi

Howells Requiem, Mvt. I

O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and thy precious blood hast redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Psalm 23

Howells Requiem, Mvt. I

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Requiem Aeternam

Howells Requiem, Mvt. III & V

Eternal rest grant unto them. And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Psalm 121

Howells Requiem, Mvt. IV

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.

Dear BCE,

Thank you for your **music** which brings us **peace** and **inspiration**.

Jamie & Harry Keshet



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The Lord himself is thy keeper: he is thy defence upon thy right hand;

So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in: from this time forth and for evermore.

I heard a voice from heaven

Howells Requiem, Mvt. VI

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write,

From henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord:

even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours.

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