

St. Martin's Chamber Choir's initial foray into the brave new world of online live-streaming is **THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 27**, 7:30pm (MDT)!

Taking the originally-planned June concert as its genesis, it's called "**A Mystical Visionary: Ralph Vaughan Williams**," and will include the performance of nine pieces connected to this great 20th century master, performed by a socially-distanced octet of singers, from within the reverberant acoustics of St. Paul Community of Faith.

But there's no need for you to plan to find (*and pay for*) parking, no need to make sure you've gone to the bathroom before the concert starts, no need to dress appropriately . . . and **every reason** for you to have a beverage of your choice in your hand, sitting in your most comfortable chair in front of the TV, or the computer, or your phone . . . (and remember, I'm pretty sure you can pause the live-stream if you need to, and just resume it when you're back from the fridge!)

To purchase a "ticket" to the event, go to this link at our website:

<https://www.stmartinchamberchoir.org/concerts/vaughan-williams/>

Click on the link at the bottom of that page. You will be asked to pay (by credit card) for the number of tickets you wish (based on the number of people planning to watch, at \$25 each). Of course, it would be entirely possible for you to purchase just a single \$25 ticket and have your whole neighborhood in to watch, but we're confident that our patrons will be wanting to support the arts (especially in this unpredictable time) by paying honestly for the number of people actually in the room.

Then, on Saturday itself, a few hours before the event, you will receive an e-mail from St. Martin's with a link to the concert on YouTube (as well as a separate link to a printed program booklet). We will have someone available by telephone during the hours preceding the concert for you to telephone if you encounter any issues. Here's the office line: (303) 298-1970; and I suspect we will also provide another phone number in the e-mail, directly to someone's cell-phone.

Please know that, since this is our first-ever foray into this brave new world, we can't guarantee a seamless experience yet; but as we "learn the ropes," and school ourselves on our mistakes, we hope to get better and better.

The nine pieces are:

RVW's Teachers

Parry -- "Sweet Day, So Cool"
Stanford -- "Beati quorum via"
Wood -- "Hail, Gladdening Light"

RVW Himself

The Folk Song Collector -- "The Turtle Dove"
The Tudor Enthusiast -- *Kyrie* from the Mass in G minor
The Modernist -- "The Cloud-Capp'd Towers"

RVW's Legacy

Harker -- "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day"
Pike -- "Wisdom"
Krueger -- "Simple Gifts"

The concert will probably be about an hour in length.

By the way, although tuning in live for that frisson of excitement is what I'd personally

recommend, it will also be possible to view the concert later, at a time more convenient to you. Tickets will remain on sale for post-live viewing (is that a word?) for a few days. And once you've paid for a ticket, you can watch the concert as many times as you want. And for those potentially watching from abroad (hint, hint), you'll probably be asleep when we are performing, but you could still purchase a ticket and watch it in the next day or two.

I hope to "see" you there. Since we won't be able to shake hands after the concert, please do let me know by e-mail what you thought of it, and what you might recommend for improvements in the future!

Our final Evensong of the season brings both a sense of relief and a sense of loss to me -- relief because I've found that the work of live-streaming services is more stressful and intense than the preparation and execution of music for in-person worship, so the hiatus will provide a much-needed chance to recharge the batteries; but a sense of loss because I treasure everything about the service of choral evensong -- the atmosphere, the music, the beauty of the language, the sacred space that it creates in one's soul for meditation, or contemplation, or deeply felt emotions.

Coincidentally, the honoree for June 25 is the poet James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938). I say coincidentally because he is the author of the words to the hymn "Lift every voice and sing," sometimes called the "Black national anthem." Written in 1900 to mark the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, it is a timely piece for these times. Johnson collaborated with his brother, the composer Rosamond Johnson, who wrote the music.

Here's the music I've chosen:

June 25, 2020, 5:45pm, Choral Evensong: James Weldon Johnson

Organ voluntary: Pastorale in F major by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Responses: John Repulski (2006)

Canticle of Light: "Hear my Prayer" by Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Psalm: 46 – plainchant

Service: T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953) in B minor

Anthem: "The Lord is my strength" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

Office Hymn: 599 (*Lift every voice*)

Organ voluntary: Paraphrase on *St. Patrick's Breastplate* by Rebecca Groom te Velde (b. 1956)

Mostly American composers, and two of color (Moses Hogan and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor). Noble is an "honorary" American composer: Though born and educated in Britain, he served for many years as organist-choirmaster of St. Thomas', Fifth Ave., NYC).

If you tune in -- first, download the service leaflet here:

<http://www.standrewdenver.org/online-worship#leaflets>

Then go to the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewdenver/>. We will go live at 5:40; the organ voluntary will begin at 5:45. The service will likely last about 40 minutes. Let me know if you watched.

This Sunday features a quartet of singers with organ, and here's the music:

June 14, 2020, 11:00am; Third Sunday after Pentecost

Organ voluntary: Adagio from Sonata No. 3 by Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Opening Hymn: 587 *Jerusalem*

Responses: Michael Gibson (2007)

Psalm: 89, Anglican chant by Jame Turle (1802-1882)

Mag & Nunc: Basil Harwood (1859-1949) in A flat
Anthem: "Dear Lord and Father" by C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)
Closing Hymn: 525 *Aurelia*
Organ voluntary: Trumpet Tune in D by David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

Again, if you tune in: First download the leaflet here (click on Sunday Morning): <http://www.standrewdenver.org/online-worship#leaflets>

Then go to the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewdenver/>. We will go live at 10:55, and the organ voluntary will begin at 11:00. The service will be slightly more than an hour.

I will not be writing a *Musical Weekly* next week (week of July 1), as MB and I will be braving to venture into the outside world with a road trip to visit MB's parents in beautiful Marquette (Upper Peninsula of Michigan) for a week. The only things we're concerned about are the hotels we will have to stay in *en route*, since it is a 20-hour drive (two days each way). But it seems hotels these days are taking extensive precautions to insure visitors' health . . . at least we hope!

Tim

Timothy J. Krueger

Choirmaster, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Denver

Artistic Director, St. Martin's Chamber Choir

Affiliate Faculty, Metropolitan State University of Denver