

**To  
SOOTHE  
THE  
SAVAGE  
BREAST**



*"MUSIC HATH CHARMS TO SOOTHE THE SAVAGE BREAST,  
TO SOFTEN ROCKS, OR BEND A KNOTTED OAK."*

GRADUATE SINGERS

FRIDAY 23 APRIL 1999

8.00PM

NORTH ADELAIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

## PROGRAMME NOTES

Since Grads performed a concert entitled "Music to Die For" in 1997, we have been asked several times to put together another concert of choral gems. Hence this performance, a selection of beautiful, lilting melodies, some of which will be familiar and some quite fresh.

Music that has survived centuries is almost always linked with the church, as these were the only places that kept documents as we understand them. Hence our two earliest pieces, Palestrina's *Sicut Cervus desiderat* and Hildegard of Bingen's *O Eucharisti*. Both are unaccompanied and both show a love of gentle melodic lines. The Hildegard, being a Gregorian chant, displays the beauty of pure melody. Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* is likewise a gentle piece that contains a soaring melodic line, although the addition of organ significantly changes its texture. Written for similar forces, Fauré's setting of one of Jean Racine's *Cantiques Spirituels* is a miniature masterpiece of rich, romantic beauty.

A leap into the twentieth century will reveal some unusual and yet equally beautiful choral masterpieces. John Rutter's setting from a 1545 Sarum Primer of *God Be in my Head* is a simple, moving anthem. John Tavener's *The Lamb* and Henryk Górecki's *Totus Tuus* are both tarred with the same brush of gentle repetition, and both were written during the last thirty years. *The Lamb* is a straightforward setting of the well known William Blake poem, and conveys God's perfection by creating various mirrors within the music. *Totus Tuus*, written for the third visit back to Poland by Pope John Paul II in 1987, does not try to reach the listener by a normal progression of melodic ideas; rather, it repeats two or three core phrases until the listener begins to appreciate the total sound rather than the details.

When Maurice Duruflé composed his *Requiem* in 1947, he most assuredly had Fauré's masterpiece in mind. Here, as in the older work, is none of the terrifying drama often found in settings of the Requiem Mass. It includes no "Dies Irae", but instead represents an ideal of "peace, faith and hope" (Duruflé). Featuring two soloists in only three of the nine movements, the majority of the work focuses our attention on a richly harmonised choir, interspersed with meditative organ solos. Throughout the work, one is always convinced that Duruflé is sure in his faith. Duruflé uses original Gregorian themes from the Requiem Mass, and in this our concert comes full circle, as we find we have covered music from the 12th century to our own, all displaying the power that music has *to soothe the savage breast*.

Andrew Close

Alain's *Postlude pour l'Office de Complies* (Postlude for the Office of Compline) begins with a gentle and meditative rocking figure around which is weaved the traditional chants for Compline, the last Mass of the day in the traditional Catholic church. The piece develops an extraordinary quality, as statements of plainchant sing in their own time, completely separate from the accompaniment, floating and peaceful.

*Matthew Atherton*

### **ANDREW CLOSE, Musical Director**

Andrew was appointed Musical Director of Grads at the beginning of 1997. He is well known and respected in Adelaide both as performer and conductor, and currently teaches music at Pembroke School.

As a conductor, Andrew has been Musical Director for the Northern Light Theatre Company, Tea Tree Gully Youth Orchestra, Noarlunga City Choir and Children's Choir and the Hills Choral Society. He recently completed a short period of study with maestro Jorma Panula, including workshops conducting the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

He has directed most of the ensembles at Pembroke School, including during the successful 1997-98 Choir and Orchestra European Tour, which featured his very well received *Pembroke Divertimento for Strings*.

A keen composer and performer (clarinet), Andrew is currently a member of Cameo Trio, who are presenting their first subscription series this year.

### **BILL JACKSON, Bass-Baritone**

Bill has sung with a number of Adelaide choirs including Grads, Adelaide University Choral Society, Corinthian Singers and St David's Anglican Church Burnside. He has sung a number of solos with Graduate Singers and St David's including Schütz *St Matthew Passion*, PDQ Bach *The Seasonings*, Stainer *Crucifixion* and Wood *St Mark Passion*. Bill has studied voice with Norma Hunter since 1995.

### **GRETA BRADSEN, Soprano**

Singing in choirs throughout her school life, Greta also studied piano and composition, receiving a high distinction for piano and a perfect score for composition. She began singing lessons in her final year of school, in 1996, with Rosalyn Martin. In 1998, Greta began a Bachelor of Music, majoring in performance, voice, at the Elder Conservatorium. She hopes to further her musical career through both solo and choral work.

### **MATTHEW ATHERTON, Organist, Accompanist**

Matthew is a professional freelance organist and composer. He has studied with Christa Rumsey and graduated with Honours in Organ Performance from the Elder Conservatorium. He has been Organ Scholar at St Peter's Cathedral and is currently Assistant Organist at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. He has performed with the Adelaide Symphony and Chamber Orchestras, for the Adelaide Town Hall's annual recital series and, in 1999, the Memorial Service for Sir Donald Dunstan. Matthew has travelled to England, France and Canada and has participated in master classes with the acclaimed Marie-Claire Alain, Dame Gillian Weir, Daniel Roth (one of Duruflé's students) and Thomas Trotter. He has accompanied most of Adelaide's major choirs and currently lectures at the TAFE School of Music. Matthew is one of three organists featured on the CD *Four Rank Mixture* and maintains a keen interest in the 20th century repertoire. Several of his works have been premiered at Grads performances.

### **GRADUATE SINGERS**

Grads formed in 1977 and has sung under a number of musical directors including Carl Crossin, Hilary Weiland, Graham Abbott and Jason Shute. Grads has performed for the ABC on many occasions and has broadcast on ABC-FM and 5MBS. The choir gained critical acclaim for its concerts with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and has enjoyed the opportunity of working with international and Australian conductors including Nicholas Braithwaite, János Fürst, David Porcelijn and Vladimir Verbitsky. The choir performs many styles of music: chamber concerts such as tonight, music from all periods, and more ambitious presentations of great choral classics including Bach's *Mass in B Minor* and *Magnificat*, Handel's *Messiah*, *Samson* and *Dixit Dominus*, Monteverdi's *1610 Vespers* and Mozart's *Requiem*. Grads has premiered works by Matthew Atherton (including his *Requiem to the Unknown*, in 1996) and Andrew Close. Grads next concert, *Of Wine, Women and Song*, complete with mulled wine for all, is on July 30 and 31 in the Old Methodist Meeting Hall, Pirie St.

<b>Soprano</b>	<b>Alto</b>	<b>Tenor</b>	<b>Bass</b>
Trudie Austin	Mary Doube	Jeremy Schluter	Rob Cox
Greta Bradsen	Rebecca Fleming	Sarah Stroehler	Bill Jackson
Christina Clark	Vera Green	Louise Tunbridge	Phil Lock
Margaret Cunningham	Chris Halbert	David Visentin	Paddy McGee
Raechel Damarell	Melissa Jones		Gavin Pearce
Alison Day	Cathy Lock		David Rohrsheim
Alison Fleming	Katrina Matthews		Chris Steketee
Amy Hilditch	Deb Tranter		Terry Werner
Linda Ockenden			
Alicia Tsogas			

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We would like to thank Martin Christmas, North Adelaide Baptist Church,  
The Venerable John Collas, Christ Church North Adelaide, Helena Rolan,  
Cheryl West, Jack Connell and Judith Bradsen for their assistance  
in presenting tonight's performance.

Grads is available for weddings, services and corporate functions.  
New members are also *always welcome*.  
Please contact our President, Trudie Austin on (08) 8361 2234.

**REQUIEM**  
**Maurice Duruflé**

**Introit**

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
You shall be praised, Lord in Sion,  
and paid tribute in Jerusalem.  
Hear my prayer.  
All flesh shall come before you.

**Kyrie**

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

**Offertoire**

O Lord Jesus Christ, king of glory,  
deliver the souls of the dead  
from the pains of hell  
and from the depths of the pit.  
O Lord Jesus Christ, king of glory,  
deliver the souls of the dead  
from the mouth of the lion,  
lest hell seize them  
and they fall into darkness.  
Lord, sacrifices and prayers  
of praise we offer:  
accept them for those souls  
whose memory we celebrate today:  
make them, Lord, from death pass to life,  
as once you promised Abraham  
and his seed.

**Sanctus**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth!  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!

**Pie Jesu**

Gentle Jesus, grant them rest;  
grant them rest, eternal rest.

**Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world, grant them rest.  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world, grant them rest.  
Lamb of God who takes away the sins  
of the world, grant them rest eternal.

**Lux aeterna**

Let eternal light shine upon them, Lord,  
with your saints for ever,  
because you are merciful.  
Eternal rest grant them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

**Libera me**

Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death  
on that dreadful day,  
when heaven and earth are moved,  
when you will come to judge the world by fire.  
I tremble and am afraid,  
I fear the trial and the wrath to come.  
That day, day of wrath,  
of calamity and misery,  
a great and very bitter day.  
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

**In Paradisum**

May the angels lead you into paradise;  
at your coming may the martyrs receive you  
and lead you into the holy city of Jerusalem.  
May the chorus of angels receive you  
and with Lazarus, once poor,  
may you have eternal rest.

**O EUCHARI  
Hildegard of Bingen**

O Eucharius,  
you trod the path of joyousness  
when you tarried with the Son of God,  
touching Him  
and seeing the miracles that He wrought.

You loved Him perfectly  
when your fellow-travellers were terrified  
because they were men  
and had no chance  
to see Divine Good perfectly.

But you  
in the full love of burning devotion  
cherished Him  
when you garnered the bales  
of His commands for yourself.

O Eucharius,  
you were greatly blessed  
when the word of God  
touched you with the dove's fire  
whence you were made shimmering like daybreak,  
and thus so fashioned  
the foundation of Ecclesia.

The daylight gleams  
in you breast  
in which three shrines  
stand on a marble pillar  
in the city of God.

In your mouth Ecclesia savours  
the old and the new wine  
which is the potion of holiness.

And in your preaching  
Ecclesia is filled with understanding,  
so that she has proclaimed in the highest places  
that the hills and trees should bend  
and be suckled by her.

Now, in your shining voice,  
beseech Christ for this multitude  
that they may not desert the rites of God  
but may always make  
the living sacrifice before His altar.

**THE LAMB**  
**John Tavener**

Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?  
Gave thee life and bid thee feed  
By the stream, and o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice?  
Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,  
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee:  
He is called by thy name,  
For he calls himself a Lamb.  
He is meek and he is mild;  
He became a little child.  
I, a child, and thou a lamb,  
We are called by his name.  
Little Lamb, God bless thee!  
Little Lamb, God bless thee!



**TOTUS TUUS**  
**Henryk Górecki**

I dedicate myself to you, O Mary,  
mother of our Redeemer  
virgin of God, virgin holy,  
mother of the Saviour of the world.

**GOD BE IN MY HEAD**  
**John Rutter**

God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.  
God be at my end and in my departing.

**CANTIQUE DE JEAN RACINE**  
**Gabriel Fauré**

Word of God the most high,  
on Thee alone relying  
Eternal Day of the earth and the skies,  
We break the peace of night  
with our repentant crying, O Saviour,  
hear and turn Thine eyes to us, O Saviour!

Spread over us the fire  
of Thy abounding mercy,  
let Hell retire before Thy mighty voice;  
Disperse the clouds  
surrounding our drowsy souls,  
and lead us back to the love of Thy laws!

O Christ, look down with favour on Thy people,  
assembled here for thy worship and praise:  
Receive the songs we offer Thee,  
our true salvation,  
and send us forth,  
heap'd with gifts of thy grace!