

Graduate Singers

ISRAEL

IN

EGYPT

HANDEL

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GRADUATE SINGERS

Conducted by

CARL CROSSIN

ISRAEL IN EGYPT

HANDEL

with

William Bamford, Tenor
John Collis, Alto
Rosalind Martin, Soprano
Tessa Miller, Soprano
Dean Patterson, Bass
Peter Deane, Bass

PILGRIM CHURCH

8.00 P.M.

SATURDAY, 28TH AUGUST 1982

CARL CROSSIN graduated from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (Music Education) in 1976. He subsequently taught at Whalan High School, Sydney for two years before moving to Adelaide at the beginning of 1978 to study at the University of Adelaide. He graduated in 1980 with a first class honours degree in Musicology.

He conducted choral and musical societies at the University of Sydney and New South Wales from 1975 until the end of 1977, and during the same period was founder and conductor of the Lachrymae Singers, a seven voice ensemble specialising in early music.

Since coming to Adelaide, he has conducted the University of Adelaide Bach Choir, the Italian Chorale and both the Flinders and Adelaide University Choral Societies. He has recently formed a thirteen voice ensemble, Canticle. He teaches at Brighton High School Music Centre.

GRADUATE SINGERS is composed mainly of graduates from various universities and colleges in Australia. A broad spectrum of disciplines is represented but the members share a lively interest in choral singing. Many different styles of music have been performed since the group began in 1977, ranging from delicate Elizabethan madrigals sung as part of an afternoon of poetry and music in Carclew, to Carl Orff's energetic Carmina Burana in which the group joined with the Adelaide Chorus and the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra in a concert in the Adelaide Town Hall. Our last concert was "Music in Praise of Music" in Pilgrim Church in May this year.

Our next concert will be a programme of unusual music for Christmas, including Gerald Finzi's In Terra Pax. It will take place on Saturday night, 4th December.

WILLIAM BAMFORD is a graduate of the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music and the Victorian College of the Arts, where he studied voice production and vocal teaching with Dame Joan Hammond. He has performed with the Australian Opera, the Victorian Opera and the State Opera of South Australia, and is presently involved in the State Opera's production of The Tales of Hoffman.

JOHN COLLIS moved to Canberra soon after completing an Honours degree in Music at Sydney University. While in Canberra he began voice lessons with Lois Bogg, and within a short time sang the role of Micah in the Canberra Choral Society's presentation of Handel's oratorio Samson. Since that time he has moved to Sydney, where he has understudied James Bowman for a role with the Australian Opera, and is currently acting as director of the Renaissance Players. He has also spent some time in New York, both studying and performing.

ROSALIND MARTIN is currently completing her B.A./B.Mus degree at the University of Adelaide majoring in clarinet. A singing student of Arnold Matters for 5 years, she has had recent success in the Adelaide Eisteddfods, winning the State Government Vocal Championship as well as the Shell Special Award for the competitor showing exceptional promise. She is a member of the State Opera chorus and earlier this year sang the role of Vesperta in Telemann's "Pimpinone" with the recently formed Singers Company.

DEAN PATTERSON has made many concert appearances in South Australia and interstate. He has been director of the Corinthian Singers since 1975, and in 1979 was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study choral techniques overseas.

PETER DEANE is a graduate in music of the University of Adelaide. He is a member of the Corinthian Singers, and currently conducts the Adelaide University Choral Society. He is employed by the Education Department as conductor of the Public Schools' Music Festival.

TESSA MILLER is a graduate of the Adelaide College of the Arts and Education. She is to sing the role of Aline in the forthcoming Gilbert and Sullivan Society's production of "The Sorcerer".

ISRAEL IN EGYPT

Israel in Egypt is unique in the choral repertoire. Apart from the sheer scale of the work, and its extraordinarily high proportion of choruses to arias and duets, it employs practically the entire range of choral techniques - choral recitative, arioso, fugue and double fugue, homophonic declamation, coloratura and double choir antiphony.

The whole work was written during October 1738, the second part (*Moses' Song*) being written first and finished in an astonishing eleven days, and the first part (*Exodus*) being completed by the end of the month. Originally the work commenced with an anthem Handel had composed the year before for Queen Caroline's Funeral, *The Ways of Sion*, (its name changed for the purpose to *Lamentations of the Israelites for the death of Joseph*), so it was clearly not Handel's intention that the work should begin with a recitative as most modern scores of the work do. Accordingly, tonight's performance will begin with the Introit to the Funeral Anthem.

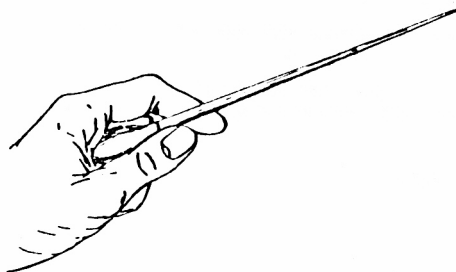
Israel in Egypt was a failure at its first performance in April 1739. The London audience of the time was more interested in the current "pop stars" (Italian opera singers) than in the breadth and magnificence of Handel's choral writing, and even a shortened version (the current version in two parts without the Funeral Anthem) which included several new arias, three in Italian, for the popular soprano La Francescina, found little favour. It was not until the nineteenth century that *Israel in Egypt* became second only to *Messiah* in popularity.

The first part begins with a magnificent chorus similar in its moving intensity to the opening of Bach's St Matthew Passion, and continues with a vivid catalogue of the various plagues visited on the Egyptians. It ends with a short declamatory chorus and four part fugue: Israel saw, and believed.

Part Two is a fierce and triumphant song of praise to a God of warlike and indisputable powers, bounded by two renditions of an elaborate and exaltant double chorus: "I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously, the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea."

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PART THE FIRST

RECIT. *Tenor:* Now there arose a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph; and he set over Israel taskmasters to afflict them with burthens, and they made them serve with rigour.

CHORUS: And the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and their cry came up unto God. They oppressed them with burthens, and made them serve with rigour; and their cry came up unto God.

RECIT. *Tenor:* Then sent He Moses, His servant, and Aaron whom He had chosen; these shewed His signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.

He turned their waters into blood.

CHORUS: They loathed to drink of the river. He turned their waters into blood.

AIR *Alto:* Their land brought forth frogs, yea, even in their king's chambers.

He gave their cattle over to the pestilence; blotches and blains broke forth on man and beast.

CHORUS: He spake the word, and there came all manner of flies and lice in all their quarters.

He spake, and the locusts came without number, and devoured the fruits of the ground.

CHORUS: He gave them hailstones for rain; fire mingled with the hail ran along upon the ground.

CHORUS: He sent a thick darkness over the land, even darkness which might be felt.

CHORUS: He smote all the first born of Egypt, the chief of all their strength.

CHORUS: But as for His people, He led them forth like sheep: He brought them out with silver and gold; there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

CHORUS: Egypt was glad when they departed, for the fear of them fell upon them.

CHORUS: He rebuked the Red Sea, and it was dried up.

He led them through the deep as through a wilderness.

But the waters overwhelmed their enemies, there was not one of them left.

CHORUS: And Israel saw that great work that the Lord did upon the Egyptians; and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and his servant Moses.

- INTERVAL -

PART THE SECOND

CHORUS: Moses and the children of Israel sung this song unto the Lord, and spake saying: I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

DUET *Soprano*: The Lord is my strength and my song; He is become my salvation.

CHORUS: He is my God, and I will prepare Him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

DUET *Bass*: The Lord is a man of war: Lord is His name. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea; his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.

CHORUS: The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.

CHORUS: Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power: Thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

CHORUS: And in the greatness of Thine excellency Thou has overthrown them that rose up against Thee.

CHORUS: Thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

CHORUS: And with the blast of Thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

AIR *Tenor*: The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them, I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

Air *Soprano*: Thou didst blow with the wind, the sea covered them; they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

CHORUS: Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? Thou stretchedst out Thy right hand, the earth swallowed them.

DUET *Alto and Tenor*: Thou in Thy mercy hast led forth Thy people which Thou has redeemed: Thou has guided them in Thy strength unto Thy holy habitation.

CHORUS: The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on them: all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away: by the greatness of Thy arm they shall be as still as a stone; till Thy people pass over, O Lord, which Thou has purchased.

AIR *Alto*: Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountains of Thine inheritance, in the place, O Lord, which Thou hast made for Thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which Thy hands have established.

CHORUS: The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

RECIT. *Tenor*: For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the Lord brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

CHORUS: The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

RECIT *Tenor*: And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them:

SOLO *Soprano* and Chorus: Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

GRADUATE SINGERS

Bridget Bruer	Marjolijn Jones	Sharon Proferes
Jan Buchan	Joan Juniper	Chris Rawlinson
Chris Burrell	John Kibble	Margaret Rawlinson
Helen Carrig	Dick Leeson	Brenda Rayner
Daryl Colquhoun	Cathy Lock	Barbara Rennison
Cathy Cox	Fiona Lumb	Jannine Sinn
Deeanne Dooland	Mary Lyster	Alan Sutton
Gillian Dooley	Alison McDougall	Colin Telfer
Mary Doube	Gillian Middenway	Mark Thompson
Mark Hastings	Heather Miller	Jennifer Tranter
Philippa Horton	James Mullett	Peter Watt
	Neil Piggott	

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Leader: Stephen Fleming

Violins:	Stephen Fleming Richard Westphalen Shelley Walker Verity Cruickshanks Mary Raptis Andrea Aldam	Oboes:	Grant Dickson Meg Capon
Violas:	Anita Spratt Paul Leask	Bassoons:	Sharon Parr Heather Brook
Cello:	Ian Sweetland	Trumpets:	Gary Mansell Colin Archibald
Bass:	Andrew Dean	Trombones:	Dane Winnall Michael Murphy Liz Clarkeson
		Timpani:	Katherine Boehm
	Organ Continuo:	Warren Bourne	
	Harpichord Continuo:	Lois Anson	

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Ann Hoban

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