



Sunday Afternoon, January 15, 2012, at 2:00

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY)

Iris Derke, *Co-Founder and General Director*

Jonathan Griffith, *Co-Founder and Artistic Director*

Presents

Distinguished Concerts Orchestra International

Distinguished Concerts Singers International

Psalms and Songs for the New Year

JAMES M. MEADERS, *Guest Conductor*

RANDOL BASS ***Gloria*** (7:00)

LEONARD BERNSTEIN ***Chichester Psalms*** (18:30)

- I. Psalm 108, vs. 2
 Psalm 100, entire
- II. Psalm 23, entire
 Psalm 2, vs. 1-4
- III. Psalm 131, entire
 Psalm 133, vs. 1

ERIC S. BRENNER, *Countertenor*

Intermission

JOHN RUTTER ***Mass of the Children*** (37:00)

- I. Kyrie
- II. Gloria
- III. Sanctus and Benedictus
- IV. Agnus Dei
- V. Finale (Dona nobis pacem)

KRISTEN JOHNSON, *Soprano*

JAY CARR, *Bass-baritone*

Please hold your applause until after the final movement.

Avery Fisher Hall

*Please make certain your cellular phone,
pager, or watch alarm is switched off.*



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Notes on the Program

Gloria

RANDOL BASS

Born in 1953

Randol Bass composed his *Gloria* in 1990 for the New York Pops Orchestra, which premiered it under Skitch Henderson. It is a syllabic rendering of the *Gloria* with no repeats in the text, in which Bass adapts the musical style to the meaning of each phrase.

Composer, arranger, conductor, singer, and pianist Bass received his musical education at the Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati

Text and translation of *Gloria*

*Gloria in excelsis deo,
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te.
Glorificamus te.*

*Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
gloriam tuam.*

*Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater
omnipotens.*

Domine fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

*Qui tollis peccata mundi suscipe
deprecationem nostram.*

*Qui sedes ad dexteram patris miserere
nobis.*

Quoniam tu solus sanctus.

*Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe.*

*Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.*

Chichester Psalms

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Born in 1918; Died in 1990

Composer, conductor, and pianist Leonard Bernstein was one of the most frenetic musicians of the last century. But he

with a master's degree in choral conducting, and further studies in conducting at Ohio State University and the Robert Shaw Institute, where John Williams was among his teachers. He sees as one of his main tasks in life the furthering of non-musician's understanding and appreciation of the musical arts. In addition to many guest appearances as conductor and performer worldwide, he is currently serving as conductor of the community-based Metropolitan Winds of Dallas.

—*Note by Joseph and Elizabeth Kahn*

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you. We bless you. We adore you.
We glorify you.
We give thanks to you for your great glory.

Lord God, Heavenly King, God Almighty
Father.

Lord Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

You who take away the sins of the world
have mercy on us.

You who take away the sins of the world
hear our prayer.

You who sit at the Father's right hand,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are holy. You alone, Lord.

You alone the Most High, Jesus Christ.

With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the
Father. Amen.

selected the 1964–65 season as a well-earned sabbatical from his position as music director of the New York Philharmonic. It was supposed to be time for reduced activity, but he was constitutionally unable to wind down. His level of activity barely varied from that of other years.



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One of the products of the year of “idleness” was *Chichester Psalms*, commissioned by the dean of the Cathedral of Chichester in Sussex, England. It is a setting in Hebrew for boy soprano or countertenor (not by a woman), chorus, and orchestra of three complete Psalms, along with verses from three others. Originally scored for trumpets, trombones, timpani, harp, percussion, strings, and organ, Bernstein later re-orchestrated it for harp and percussion.

Part I opens with Psalm 108, verse 2: “Awake, psaltery and harp! I will rouse the dawn!” All the settings are replete with tone painting as in the following psalm, “Make a joyful noise unto the Lord” where a battery of percussion instruments and the dynamic rhythms conjure both the “joyful noise” and King David’s dancing before the Ark.

In the serene, ethereal Psalm 23 in Part II, the boy soloist, David the shepherd, is accompanied by the harp. The psalm is interrupted violently by the male voices

singing the verses from Psalm 2: “Why do the nations rage?” The female voices reply with a variation of the boy’s melody, initially overpowering the men—Bernstein writes in the score, “Blissfully unaware of the threat,”—but the orchestra concludes with the men’s theme. Peace is still elusive.

Part III opens with a meditative instrumental prelude, a variation of the theme of the opening Psalm 108. Gradually the orchestra becomes hushed as the chorus enters with the tranquil Psalm 131. Finally, the unaccompanied chorus sings Psalm 133, verse 1: “Behold, how good and pleasant it is for people to dwell together as brothers.”

One cannot help but compare *Chichester Psalms* to Stravinsky’s *Symphony of Psalms*. Stravinsky’s work is decidedly more austere and abstract, while Bernstein presents different facets of the human relationship with God.

—Note by Joseph and Elizabeth Kahn

Text and translation of *Chichester Psalms*

PART I

Psalm 108, verse 2

Urah, hanevel, v'kinor!
A'irah shachar!

Awake, psaltery and harp!
I will rouse the dawn!

Psalm 100

Harimu l'Adonai kol ha'aretz.
Iv'du et Adonai b'simcha.
Bo'u l'fanav bir'nanah.
D'u ki Adonai Hu Elohim.
Hu asanu, v'lo anachnu.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before his presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord, He is God.
It is He that hath made us, and not
we ourselves

Amo v'tson mar'ito.

We are His people and the sheep of
His pasture.

Bo'u sha'arav b'todah,
Chazeirotav bit'hilah,
Hodu lo, bar'chu sh'mo.
Ki tov Adonai, l'olam has'do,
V'ad dor vador emunato.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise.
Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.
For the Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting.
And His truth endureth to all generations.





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PART II

Psalm 23

*Adonai roi, lo echsar.
 Bin'ot deshe yarbitseini,
 Al mei m'nuchot y'nahaleini,
 Naf'shi y'shovev,
 Yan'cheini b'ma'aglei tsedek,
 L'ma'an sh'mo.
 Gam ki eilech
 B'gei tsalmavet,
 Lo ira ra,
 Ki Atah imadi.
 Shiv't'cha umishan'techa
 Hemah y'nachamuni.
 Ta'aroch l'fanai shulchan
 Neged tsorerai
 Dishanta vashemen roshi
 Cosi r'vayah.
 Ach tov vachesev
 Yird'funi kol y'mei chayai
 V'shav'ti b'veit Adonai
 L'orech yamim.*

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
 He leadeth me beside the still waters,
 He restoreth my soul,
 He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness,
 For His name's sake.
 Yea, though I walk
 Through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil,
 For Thou art with me.
 Thy rod and Thy staff
 They comfort me.
 Thou preparest a table before me
 In the presence of mine enemies,
 Thou anointest my head with oil,
 My cup runneth over.
 Surely goodness and mercy
 Shall follow me all the days of my life,
 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
 Forever.

Psalm 2, verses 1-4

*Lamah rag'shu goyim
 Ul'umim yeh'gu rik?
 Yit'yats'vu malchei erets,
 V'roznim nos'du yachad
 Al Adonai v'al m'shicho.
 N'natkah et mos'roteino,
 Yoshev bashamayim
 Yis'chak, Adonai
 Yil'ag lamo!*

Why do the nations rage,
 And the people imagine a vain thing
 The kings of the earth set themselves,
 And the rulers take counsel together
 Against the Lord and against His anointed.
 Saying, let us break their bonds asunder,
 He that sitteth in the heavens
 Shall laugh, and the Lord
 Shall have them in derision!

PART III

Psalm 131

*Adonai, Adonai,
 Lo gavah libi,
 V'lo ramu einai,
 V'lo hilachti
 Big'dolot uv'niflaot
 Mimeni.
 Im lo shiviti
 V'domam'ti,
 Naf'shi k'gamul alei imo,*

Lord, Lord,
 My heart is not haughty,
 Nor mine eyes lofty,
 Neither do I exercise myself
 In great matters or in things
 Too wonderful for me to understand.
 Surely I have calmed
 And quieted myself,
 As a child that is weaned of his mother,



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*Kagamul alai naf'shi.
Yachel Yis'rael el Adonai
Me'atah v'ad olam.*

My soul is even as a weaned child.
Let Israel hope in the Lord
From henceforth and forever.

Psalm 133, verse 1

*Hineh mah tov,
Umah nayim,
Shevet achim
Gam yachad.*

Behold how good,
And pleasant it is,
For brethren to dwell
Together in unity.

Mass of the Children

JOHN RUTTER

Born in 1945

Mass of the Children was written in response to an invitation to compose a new work for a concert in Carnegie Hall during the American Choral Directors Association's national convention in New York in February 2003. Rutter's larger-scale choral works have been relatively few—the *Gloria*, Requiem, and *Magnificat* are the most often performed—but each one has a distinct character.

is to say a Mass without a *Credo* section) is mainly sung by the adult choir or the soloists. The children sometimes sing the Latin—for example at the *Christe eleison*, the opening of the *Gloria* and at the *Benedictus*—but elsewhere they and the two soloists sing specially chosen English texts which in some way reflect upon or illuminate the Latin.

Mass of the Children represents something new in the composer's work insofar as it was conceived with an integral role for a children's choir alongside an adult mixed choir, two soloists, and orchestra. The role of the children's choir is to add a further dimension to the traditional Latin Mass sung by the adult choir, sometimes commenting, sometimes amplifying the meaning and mood. The Mass itself (a *Missa brevis*, that

The work opens with two verses from Bishop Thomas Ken's morning hymn for the Scholars of Winchester College, and it closes with the children singing his evening hymn with Tallis' timeless melody, as the adults intone the traditional *Dona nobis pacem*, a prayer for peace. This creates a framework (from waking to sleeping) within which other texts and moods appear in kaleidoscopic succession, like events in a day or landmarks in a life.

—Note by Louise Luegner
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Text and translation of *Mass of the Children*

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tua; Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater Omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe; Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good will. We give thanks to thee for thy great glory; Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty, Lord the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us, receive our prayer. Thou



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sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us. Receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us, for thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord, thou only, Christ, art most high, with the Holy Ghost in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth, Hosanna! Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Hosanna! Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Miserere nobis.

Have mercy upon us.

Dona nobis pacem.

Grant us peace.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Dona nobis pacem.

Grant us peace.

Meet the Artists



James M. Meaders

James M. Meaders is the chair of the Department of Music and director of choral activities at Mississippi College. A member of the MC faculty since 1998, Dr. Meaders conducts the Mississippi College Singers, teaches applied voice, and heads the graduate program in conducting. The singers, under Dr. Meaders' direction, have performed on Mississippi (2002, 2007, 2010), Southern Division (2004, 2008), and National (2005) ACDA convention programs. He has conducted the singers in Canterbury Cathedral; Washington National Cathedral;

four international tours including Germany, Italy, Austria, England, and South Africa; and three recent performances at Carnegie Hall.

In 2004–05 Dr. Meaders was selected by the Mississippi College faculty as Distinguished Lecturer in Arts and Sciences and was Humanities Professor of the Year.

Dr. Meaders has served on the boards of MS and Southern Division ACDA as repertoire and standards chair for Youth and Student Activities and repertoire and standards chair for Colleges and Universities. He has also served as president of Mississippi ACDA. He is a frequent festival adjudicator, presenter, and clinician. In addition to his work at MC, Dr. Meaders was artistic director of the Jackson Choral Society from 2002 to 2008, and he has been minister of music at



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Northside Baptist Church in Clinton since 2001. He has conducted the Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir since 2003.



Eric S. Brenner

Soprano and countertenor Eric S. Brenner's voice has been described as "dazzling," "startlingly true," and "arrestingly beautiful." Current projects include: soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah* at Alice Tully Hall and the Cathedral of St. John's in Albuquerque, New Mexico; alto soloist at the Boulder Bach Festival; Beast in Hannah Lash's *Blood Rose*, with New York City Opera's VOX program; Doodle in *The Scarlet Ibis* by Stefan Weisman and David Cote; D.A.V.E. in Kamala Sankaram's *Miranda*; soloist and ensemble on Guggenheim Fellow Toby Twining's new CD, *Eurydice* (Cantaloupe Music); and area appearances with Toby Twining Music. Mr. Brenner also sang soprano for three seasons with the Grammy Award-winning ensemble Chanticleer.



Kristen Johnson

A native of Meridian, Mississippi, Kristen Johnson, soprano, received vocal performance degrees from Mississippi College and The Florida State University. Ms. Johnson performed many opera roles while at Florida State, namely Cleopatra in Handel's *Giulio Cesare* and Musetta in Puccini's *La bohème*. Ms. Johnson continues to maintain an active performing presence in the state of

Mississippi with oratorio, opera, and musical theater genres. She serves on the faculty of Mississippi College and is thrilled to be making her Lincoln Center debut with the Mississippi College Singers.



Jay Carr

Jay Carr, a native of Brandon, Mississippi, earned his bachelor of music in vocal performance from Mississippi College. He is currently pursuing his master of vocal performance at Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music. Performance credits include Myluta in *The Tsar's Bride*; Gremin in *Eugene Onegin*; Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*; and cover roles of Pimen in *Boris Godunov* and Emile De Becque in *South Pacific*. Mr. Carr is a former member of the Mississippi College Singers. This afternoon's performance marks his Lincoln Center debut.

Distinguished Concerts International New York

Founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor) Distinguished Concerts International is driven by passion, innovative vision, a total belief in its artists, and unwavering commitment to bringing forth unforgettable audience experiences. With over 25 combined years of experience, DCINY is a creative producing entity with unmatched integrity that is a talent incubator, a star-maker, and a presenter of broadly accessible, world-class musical entertainment. For more information about Distinguished Concerts International in New York and upcoming DCINY musical events around the world, please visit: www.dciny.org, or call toll free: 1-877-MYDCINY.

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Participating in *Chichester Psalms* and *Gloria*:

Martin High School Chorale (TX), Kay W. Owens, *Director*

Mississippi College Singers (MS), James M. Meaders, *Director*

University of South Carolina Chorus (SC), Alicia W. Walker, *Director*

Participating in *Mass of the Children*:

Cappella Girls Choir (MS), Tammy Carney, *Director*

Classic Choral Society (NY), Janice Kohler, *Director*

Jubilate Warwick Youth Choir (NY), David Crone, *Director*

Mississippi College Singers (MS), James M. Meaders, *Director*

The Mississippi Girlchoir (MS), Anna Johnson and Kristy Brumfield, *Directors*

The Mississippi School of the Arts Chorale (MS), Patton Rice, *Director*

Queens University Chamber Choir, Charlotte (NC), Jonathan Crutchfield, *Director*

Global Sing for Peace

The Global Sing for Peace 2012 calls on choirs around the world to join in celebrating peace through music. Beginning with the Global Sing for Peace Weekend and continuing throughout 2012, the Global Sing for Peace seeks to provide solace and connection in these challenging times, uniting choirs around the world through music of healing and hope for a

better world. The Global Sing for Peace Weekend begins with Psalms and Songs at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall on January 15 and culminates in the world premiere of *The Peacemakers* by Karl Jenkins on January 16 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) at Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage. Visit www.globalsingforpeace.org for details.

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