



HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GREATER BOSTON

presents

EREVAN CHORAL SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA

in its

Sixteenth Annual

Christmas Concert



With a Tribute to

HAMPARTZOOM BERBERIAN'S 87th BIRTHDAY

FATHER OSHAGAN MINASSIAN, *Conductor*

Sunday, December 13, 1992, 7:30 P.M.

THE REV. FR. MAMPRE KOUZOUIAN, *Pastor*

HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Program

- CHRISTMAS CAROLS arr. by David Willcocks
* O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL (Processional)
* THE FIRST NOWELL
* HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING
Chorus and Orchestra
- OV ZARMANALI (O Wondrous One) Gomidas Vartabed
John Tedeschi, Chorus and Orchestra
- MEDZATZOUSTZE (Magnificat) Vartan Sarxian
KRISDOS DSUNAV (Christ is Born) Khoren Mekhajian
Chorus and Orchestra
- YEGEGHETZIN HAYGAGAN (The Armenian Church) Cantata Hampartzoum Berberian
Jami Rogers, *Soprano*
Michelle Conrad, *Alto*
Bruce Lancaster, *Tenor*
Warren Huffman, *Baritone*
Chorus and Orchestra
- MAGNIFICAT IN C (D. 486) Franz Peter Schubert
Jami Rogers, *Soprano*
Michelle Conrad, *Alto*
Bruce Lancaster, *Tenor*
Warren Huffman, *Baritone*
- JOY TO THE WORLD arr. by Lowell Mason
SILENT NIGHT Franz Gruber
Chorus and Orchestra
- AVE MARIA Charles Aznavour
Bruce Lancaster, Chorus and Orchestra
- CAROL CANTATA IV Robert Russell Bennett
* GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMEN
* IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR
* NOW IS BORN, THE DIVINE CHRIST CHILD
* O HOLY NIGHT
David Klipp, Chorus and Orchestra
- WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS arr. by Arthur Harris
HALLELUJAH CHORUS (from *The Messiah*) George Frideric Handel
Chorus and Orchestra



GIFT OF MUSIC

A TRIBUTE TO THE MASTER

HAMPARTZOU M BERBERIAN: 87th BIRTHDAY (1905 -)

"After thoroughly examining your works, I have come to fully appreciate your musical achievements. In my opinion your compositions truly display genuine professionalism and richness of content. It is indeed admirable that your music reflects oriental folk idioms, in particular the elements of Armenian folklore.

Wishing you much success and good health."

Aram Khachaturian

"I have the highest regard for Mr. Berberian's style of composition — his masterful use of polyphonic technique and his great talent in creating expressive and colorful works of larger forms and genres, such as the Vartanantz Cantata. For me, Berberian the conductor was truly a revelation. Not only did he present us with a unique interpretation of his own compositions, but he also convinced everyone that he is ultimately an accomplished artist in the domain of conducting."

Tatool Altoonian

FRANZ PETER SCHUBERT (1797 - 1828)

"This child will become a master such as few have been." Dr. Anton Schmidt, reported by Joseph Spaum

"Given time, he [Schubert] would probably have set the whole German literature to music."

Attributed to Robert Schuman



The Armenian Church

Text by: VAHAN TEKEYAN

Music by: HAMPARTZOOM BERBERIAN

The Armenian Church is the birthplace of my soul,
Like a vast grotto it is simple and profound, dark and light —
With its hospitable court, ample tribune, and hushed altar
Standing in the distance, as though it were a ship afloat . . .

The Armenian Church I see with my eyes closed,
I breathe and hear it through the clouds of incense
Which rise towards the feet of the Infant Jesus,
And through the fervent prayers vibrating its walls . . .



The Armenian Church is the mighty fortress of my forefather's faith
Raised by them from the earth stone by stone,
And brought down by them from heaven, one dewdrop and one
cloud at a time,
And in which they unfolded themselves peacefully and humbly . . .

The Armenian Church is a great embroidered tapestry,
Behind which the Lord descends into the chalice, and
Before which all my people stand with bowed heads,
To commune with the past through the life-giving bread and wine . . .

The Armenian Church is a peaceful haven across the turbulent seas,
It is fire and light in the cold of the night;
It is a shady forest in the scorching midday sun
Where lilies bloom by the River of Hymns . . .

The Armenian Church beneath every stone in its floor
Holds a secret passage leading up to Heaven . . .

The Armenian Church is the shining armor of the Armenians' soul
and body,
In it her crosses are as a dagger;
Her bell rings forth and her song is always Victory . . .





MUSIC MAKERS: BIOGRAPHY AT A GLANCE

HAMPARTZOUM BERBERIAN



Maestro Hampartzoum Berberian is one of the foremost contemporary composers of Armenian choral and orchestral music. Berberian's musical language is expressed through the Western style of composition, but he preserves his native Armenian folk idiom.

Hampartzoum Berberian was born in Adana, Turkey, on May 25, 1905, and in his childhood became witness and subject to the Turkish Genocide in 1915. During his early years he studied violin privately with Gregory Kalajian in Izmir. He attended the Athens National Conservatory of Music in Greece from 1922 to 1930 where he studied composition with Professir Economedis and conducting with Dimitri Mitropoulos. The following year he accepted the post of rector at the Hellenic Conservatory in Cyprus.

Berberian's musical career spans over sixty years, from 1924 to the present. This includes an extensive chronology of composing, conducting, academic and administrative activities. He has conducted numerous concerts throughout the Middle East, Europe, North and South Americas, and Armenia. Berberian has composed in excess of one hundred fifty pieces which include operas, symphonies, concertos, choral works, chamber music, and songs. Some of his most admired compositions include *Titter*, an opera-ballet; *Areknazan*, an opera-oratorio, *Cello Concerto*, *Violin Concerto*, *Requiem*, *Vartanantz Cantata*, *Aghotk Vaghva Semin Archev*, *Soorp Mesrob Oratorio*, and *Kovk Hayasdani Cantata*. Berberian has produced masterworks in all the larger forms of music.

Berberian's style is lyric and melodic and reveals beautiful harmonic treatment. His music expresses a refinement of musical structure. He is very adept in the selection of text that has popular appeal. Berberian has a native talent for writing a colorful melody line. By the use of polyphonic technique his choral and instrumental compositions have become more interesting and colorful.

Maestro Berberian has been the recipient of many awards and citations. In 1979 he received the coveted "Sahag Mesrob Medallion" from His Holiness, Vazken I, Catholicos of All Armenians. In 1991, he was given the "Komitas Award" by the Union of Composers of Armenia. Mr. Berberian presently resides in Watertown, Massachusetts.

FRANZ PETER SCHUBERT



Franz Peter Schubert was an Austrian composer who is remembered for his songs, symphonies, chamber music, piano works, masses, sonatas, and choral works. Schubert showed a remarkable gift for creating lovely melodies and he is reputed by many to be the greatest song writer who ever lived. He wrote over six hundred German *lieder* (art songs), the most popular of which are *Ave Maria*, *Who is Sylvia*, and *Serenade*.

Franz Peter Schubert, son of a schoolmaster, was born in Vienna, Austria, on January 31, 1797. He was taught piano and violin by his father and brother. He also studied composition with Michael Holzer, the organist and choirmaster of the local church. Schubert prepared himself for a career as a school teacher, but in 1816 he decided to give up teaching and to concentrate extensively on music. He lived the rest of his short life in dire poverty. His friends did what they could to bring about performances of his works. Yet Schubert kept on working and kept on producing masterworks in prodigious quantities.

Beginning in 1823 his health started to deteriorate. He died in Vienna on November 10, 1828, and, at his own request, was buried in a grave near Beethoven. It was through the painstaking efforts of musicians like Robert Schuman and George Grove that it became evident how much Schubert had written during his brief life span and how much of it was music of the first significance.



EREVAN CHORAL SOCIETY SINGERS

SOPRANOS

CAROL ALEXANDER
HAMEST ATAMIAN
NAYIRI BERBERIAN
ADRINE BEURKLIAN
MELINE CONRAD
CHRISTINA EASTMAN
TAKOUHI FRENGULIAN
HERMINE GETZOYAN
PATTI GUREKIAN
ARPI HALEBIAN
JEANNETTE JOHN
MARGARET JOHNSON
IZABELLA KOTSINIAN
SHIRLEY LEIPHON
HELEN MERGUERIAN
GERMAINE MESSETT
ARDEMIS MINASSIAN
ZABEL ODABASHIAN
ALICE PALANJIAN
ARPI POTOUKIAN
SYLVI POTOUKIAN
JAMI ROGERS
ANAHID SALAKIAN
ANAHID TINKJIAN

ALTOS

LUCY ALEXANDER
AIDA ARTHUR
BETH BURNHAM
LOOSVART CHEPJIAN
MICHELLE CONRAD
MARGUERITE DANIELL
CHERYL GRAY
GRETCHEN HALL
HANNA HANSEL
RITA HAROUTUNIAN
SEMA MAGZELCI
NANCY MOSCOFIAN
RITA PALANJIAN
KAREN POTOUKIAN
SYLVIE STEWART
AZNIVE SUICHMEZIAN
ALICE TAGHNANELIAN
KNARIK YEGHIAZARIAN

*Since singing is so good
a thing,*

*I wish all men would
learn to sing.*

WILLIAM BYRD

TENORS

GARY ALEXANDER
HAROLD HARUTUNIAN
PHILIP KIDD
DAVID KLIPP
BRUCE LANCASTER
DAVID MEDZORIAN
ARTO OZCAN
JOHN TEDESCHI

BASSES

GEORGE BAREFORD
DAVID BURNHAM
JOSEPH DER TOROSSIAN
MANUEL DER TOROSSIAN
HAGOP GHERIDIAN
JOHN HAROUTUNIAN
WARREN HUFFMAN
ANTRANIK KELEDJIAN
APKAR POTOUKIAN
SARKIS SALAKIAN
MATTHEW SCHUKIS
JEFF STEVENS
JAY WILKINSON

ORCHESTRA

First Violin

Sophia Herman, *Concertmaster*
Gregory Ayriyan, Matt Green,
Jill Good, Michael Loo, Elliot Markow,
Susan Turcott

Second Violins

Stanley Silverman, *Principal*
Debbie Markow, Armen Movsesian,
Ricardo Slevira

Violas

David Schriber, *Principal*
Scott Blake

Violoncelli

Hrant Tatian, *Principal*
Cynthia Forbes

Contrabass — Albert Tedesco

Flute — Pat Anthony

Oboe — Kristine Severson

Clarinet — Rebecca Leonard

Bassoon — Greg Newton

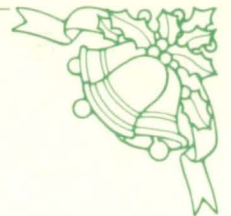
French Horn — Bob Marlott

Trumpet — Jerry Serfass

Trombone — Dennis Lambert

Percussion — Neil Laravee

Organ — Valerie Becker



THANK YOU BENEFACTORS

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ajemian, *Dover*
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert and Teresa Alexander, *Winchester*
 Mr. and Mrs. Nishan Atiniz, *Belmont*
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Judy Bichajian, *Arlington*
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 General Vahan and Mary Vartanian, *Jamaica Plain*

The Holy Trinity Armenian Church and Erevan Choral Society gratefully acknowledge the generosity and support of our Benefactors whose contributions have made this concert possible. "Gratitude is the heart's memory."

For those of you who have enjoyed this concert and wish to make it possible for the Holy Trinity Armenian Church to present you with inspiring programs, we have enclosed an envelope for your consideration.

WE CONGRATULATE OUR AUDIENCES! Your support will be the key to our future Christmas concerts.



WELCOME TO OUR 27th SEASON!

I LOVE ARMENIA CONCERT

Sunday, May 23, 1993, 3:30 p.m., Belmont High School Auditorium, Belmont, Massachusetts

Christmas Carol Hymns

The word "carol" is derived from the word *carola*, which means a ring dance. Carols, then, have long been thought of as an early form of sacred folk music, dating in time from the early Middle Ages. During this period they seem to have been an integral part of the early mystery and miracle plays which were widely used by the Medieval Church for teaching its religious dogmas. The carols were sung during these plays as an intermezzo between the various scenes, much like the role of a modern-day orchestra between the scenes of a drama production.



REFLECTIONS

- *The hinge of history is on the door of a Bethlehem stable. — Ralph W. Sockman*
- *Christmas began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man — Religious Telescope*
- *I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month. — Harlan Miller*
- *God shocked the world with a babe, not a bomb. — Anonymous*
- *A good conscience is a continual Christmas — Benjamin Franklin*
- *Study for the love of music, not with the hope of glory. People can get tired of glory, but not of something they love. — Ivan Galamian*
- *Life is either a daring challenge or it's nothing at all. — Helen Keller*
- *When Handel completed the "Hallelujah Chorus", he told his servant: "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the Great God Himself." And when his great task was over, and all his music was on paper, he remarked simply: "I think God has visited me."*

A reception will follow the concert in the Charles and Nevart Talanian Cultural Hall.

All are warmly invited.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

