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The Academy of Vocal Arts presents *Jubilate! A Concert of Sacred Music and Oratorio Masterpieces*

The Academy of Vocal Arts' annual foray into the sacred vocal repertoire to feature standards and rarities, plus an original work by music director and conductor David Antony Lofton.

Philadelphia: The Academy of Vocal Arts' annual "**Jubilate! A Concert of Sacred Music and Oratorio Masterpieces**" returns in March to venues in Center City, Bryn Mawr and South Jersey. This year's concert will feature selections from **Dvorak's emotionally intense *Stabat Mater***, plus works by Handel, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Verdi, Bizet, Dubois, and Vaughn-Williams. Also on the program are a piece from contemporary composer **John Musto's** song cycle, *Shadow of the Blues*, which is based on the poetry of **Langston Hughes**.

Master Vocal Coach and conductor **David Antony Lofton** leads the AVA resident artists, the 100 voice **New Jersey MasterChorale** and the **AVA Opera Orchestra** on **Sunday, March 7** at **The Church of the Holy Trinity**, Rittenhouse Square, **Saturday, March 13** at **Proclamation Presbyterian Church** in Bryn Mawr, and **Sunday, March 14** at **Haddonfield United Methodist Church**.

THE ARTISTS:

DAVID ANTONY LOFTON, Conductor and Master Vocal Coach

David Lofton is a native Philadelphian and a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied piano accompanying with Dr. Vladimir Sokoloff. He attended Westminster Choir College from 1975 to 1977, where he developed his choral conducting skills. He has served as artistic director of Opera North (Opera Ebony). He was the accompanist for the voice studio of the late Todd Duncan for eight years and has been a recital collaborator for many renowned singers including Marietta Simpson, and AVA alumnae Wilhelmenia Fernandez and Nancy Fabiola Herrera. He has also served as coach/accompanist for The Luciano Pavarotti International Voice Competition and participated in the Festival dei due mondi

in Spoleto, Italy, where he was assistant conductor for televised productions of *Carmen* and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Mr. Lofton has performed frequently as piano soloist, and has conducted full concerts of operatic and symphonic music with the famed Harlem Boys Choir at Carnegie Hall. He joined the AVA music faculty in 1986. Prior to this appointment, he was a faculty member of the Curtis Institute of Music for ten years and taught at the Combs College of Music. He is currently the Minister of Music at St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Elkins Park.

Program (subject to change)

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

“Sound an Alarm” from *Judas Maccabeus*
John Viscardi, tenor

“See the Raging Flames Arise” from *Joshua*
Alex Lawrence, baritone

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)

“Laudamus te” from *Mass in C minor*
Olivia Vote, mezzo-soprano

“Domine Deus” from *Mass in C minor*
Maria Aleida, soprano, and Olivia Vote, mezzo-soprano

“Et incarnatus est” from *Mass in C minor*
Maria Aleida, soprano

“Benedictus” from *Mass in C minor*
Maria Aleida, soprano; Cynthia Cook, mezzo-soprano; John Viscardi, tenor; Zachary Nelson, bass-baritone; the New Jersey MasterChorale

Antonin Dvořák (1841 – 1904)

“Stabat Mater” from *Stabat Mater*
Na Li Youm, soprano; Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo-soprano; Sean Arnold, tenor; Ryan Kuster, bass-baritone; the New Jersey MasterChorale

“Quis est homo” from *Stabat Mater*
Na Li Youm, soprano; Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo-soprano; Sean Arnold, tenor; Ryan Kuster, bass-baritone

“Inflammatu” from *Stabat Mater*
Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo-soprano

“Quando corpus” from *Stabat Mater*
Na Li Youm, soprano; Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo-soprano; Sean Arnold, tenor; Ryan Kuster, bass-baritone; the New Jersey MasterChorale

Intermission

Giuseppe Verdi (1813 – 1901)

“Recordare” from *Requiem*

Michelle B. Johnson, soprano, and Olivia Vote, mezzo-soprano

“Ingemisco” from *Requiem*

Zach Borichevsky, tenor

“Confutatis” from *Requiem*

Nicholas Masters, bass

“Offertorio” from *Requiem*

Michelle B. Johnson, soprano; Olivia Vote, mezzo-soprano; Zach Borichevsky, tenor; Nicholas Masters, bass

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847)

“Gott sei mir gnädig” from *Paulus*

Zachary Nelson, bass-baritone

“Denn also hat uns der Herr geboten” from *Paulus*

Viktor Antipenko, tenor; Zachary Nelson, bass-baritone

François Joseph Fétis (1784 – 1871)

“Pieta, Signore”

Taylor Stayton, tenor

Theodore Dubois (1837 – 1924)

“Pater, in Manus Tuas” from *Les Septs Paroles du Christ*

Noah Van Niel, tenor, and the New Jersey MasterChorale

Georges Bizet (1838 – 1875)

“Agnus Dei”

Viktor Antipenko, tenor

John Musto (1954 -)

“Litany” from *Shadow of the Blues*

Christopher Bolduc, baritone

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

“Antiphon” from *Five Mystical Songs*

Steven LaBrie, baritone

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

“Coronation Anthem” from *Zadok the Priest*

AVA Resident Artists and the New Jersey MasterChorale

FACT SHEET

The Academy of Vocal Arts
**Jubilate! A Concert of Sacred Music
 and Oratorio Masterpieces**

David Antony Lofton, Music Director and Conductor

Program includes selections from Dvořák's *Stabat Mater*, Verdi's *Requiem*, plus works by Handel, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and contemporary composers Lofton and Musto.

AVA Resident Artists
The AVA Opera Orchestra
 New Jersey MasterChorale, Wayne Richmond, Artistic Director

PERFORMANCE DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATIONS

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square
 Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 7 p.m.

Proclamation Presbyterian Church, 278 Bryn Mawr Ave. Bryn Mawr, PA
 Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Haddonfield United Methodist Church, 29 Warwick Road, Haddonfield, NJ
 Sunday, March 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.,

TICKETS

Adults \$33 / Seniors \$23 / Students \$15
 Group Discounts available

For tickets or more information, contact
215-735-1685 or www.avaopera.org

THE ACADEMY OF VOCAL ARTS

The mission of The Academy of Vocal Arts, founded in 1934 by Helen Corning Warden, is to provide tuition-free vocal and opera training of the highest quality, and financial support during training, to exceptionally talented and committed young singers who have the potential for international stature, and to present them in professional performances that are accessible to a wide community.

Gifted singers come from throughout the world to seek the exceptional guidance and training that The Academy of Vocal Arts offers. AVA's four-year program is unique, not only because it is a fully tuition-

free institution that focuses solely on operatic training, but also because it has established a niche as an organization that produces opera. Admission is determined by competitive annual auditions, with an average of 8 to 10 singers admitted each year. The total roster of resident artists is purposely kept low and averages 25-30 in total. Those who are accepted receive training equivalent to more than \$70,000 per year. A faculty of individuals who are among the finest in their fields provides intensive training in voice, acting, stage combat, repertoire, languages, and other related subjects necessary for an operatic career.

Over the past seven decades, outstanding singers of international stature have attended AVA, including David Adams, Lando Bartolini, Gwendolyn Bradley, Thomas Carson, Elizabeth Carter, Richard Clark, Dominic Cossa, John Darrenkamp, Joyce DiDonato, Harry Dworchak, Ryan Edwards, Wilhelmina Fernandez, Allan Glassman, Vernon Hartman, Nancy Fabiola Herrera, Luis Ledesma, James Morris, Stuart Neill, John Packard, James Pease, David Poleri, Julien Robbins, Valerian Ruminski, Jane Shaulis, Hugh Smith, Ruth Ann Swenson, Indra Thomas, Richard Troxell, Victoria Vergara, Stephen West, Beverly Wolff, and currently making their mark in the opera world, recent graduates Burak Bilgili, Stephen Costello, Ellie Dehn, Michael Fabiano, Jesus Garcia, Othalie Graham, Eglise Gutierrez, Angela Meade, Latonia Moore, Ailyn Pérez, Dongwon Shin, and James Valenti.



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