



Musica Spei (Music of Hope)

presents

As Beautiful as a Dove

MARIAN CHORAL MUSIC OF THE RENAISSANCE

COLLEEN LIGGETT, guest soprano

FEBRUARY 4 at 4:00 PM

St. Louis Church
Buffalo

FEBRUARY 11 at 4:00 PM

Saint Anne Church
Rochester

MUSICA SPEI

AS BEAUTIFUL AS A DOVE

Lilium floruit

Twelfth century

The lily has blossomed in the verdant fields. Thus the fountains of Lebanon, with their cleansing waters, warm and comfort, as does the blowing zephyr.

Eia, eia, eia! The flock plays in the most fertile pasture. And let the throng stream after the lamb among the lilies, who became a shepherd by taking up the cloak of flesh, and who crushed the demon through the mystery of the cross, bringing healing to sinners.

The presence of the bridegroom revisits the bridal chamber, he who flew above the cherubs with wondrous power, foreseeing all hidden things. Eia, eia, ...

Colleen Liggett, soloist

Vidi speciosam

Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

I saw her, as beautiful as a dove, rising over streams of water, in whose clothing was a fragrance beyond measure; and, as in springlike days, she was surrounded by roses and lilies of the valley.

Who is she, who comes out of the desert like a pillar of smoke of aromatic spices, of myrrh and frankincense? And, as in springlike days, she was surrounded by roses and lilies of the valley.

De Sancta Maria: O viridissima virga

Hildegard von Bingen (1098 - 1179)

Hail, O greenest branch, sprung forth in the airy breezes of the prayers of the saints. The time came that your own branch brought forth blossoms. Hail, hail to you, because the heat of the sun has exuded from you like the aroma of balm. In you, the most beautiful flower blossomed, giving all parched perfumes their aromas. Now they spring forth in fullest green! Whence, the heavens give dew to the grass and the whole Earth rejoices because her womb brought forth abundance of grain and on its stalks and branches the birds nest. And, there was harvest ready for Man and great rejoicing by those gathered around the table. And so in you, O gentle Virgin, is every fullness of joy, everything that Eve rejected. Now let there be praise to the Most High!

Colleen Liggett, soloist

Kyrie (from *Missa de Beata Virgine*)

Gregorian chant

Jacob Arcadelt (c. 1500 - 1568)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Salve, sancta parens**William Byrd (1543 - 1623)**

Hail, holy Mother, who brought forth the King who rules heaven and earth forever. Alleluia.

My heart overflows with a goodly theme. I will speak of my deeds to the King. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Caritas (with Magnificat)**Hildegard von Bingen**

Loving kindness abounds in all of creation. It beams from the immensity of the universe above the most excellent and loving actions to all of creation, and brings from the highest Magnificence the kiss of peace.

Magnificat: My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior because he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed because he who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is his name; his mercy is from generation to generation toward those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. He has put down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things and the rich he has sent empty away. He has given help to Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy, as he promised our father Abraham and his descendants forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Loving kindness abounds.....

Colleen Liggett, soloist**Sanctus (from *Missa de Beata Virgine*)****Gregorian chant
J. Arcadelt**

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, *Son of Mary*, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ave dulcissima Maria**Carlo Gesualdo (c. 1561 - 1613)**

Hail, most sweet Mary, true hope and life, sweet coolness! Oh, Mary, flower of virgins, pray for us to Jesus.

De Sancta Maria: Ave Maria**Hildegard von Bingen**

Hail Mary, O founder of life. In renewing salvation you have overthrown death and trampled down the serpent to whom Eve raised herself, her head held high with the swelling of pride. You trampled the serpent underfoot when you gave birth out of heaven to the Son of God, whom the Spirit of God breathed into you. O sweetest and most loving mother, hail! You have given to the world your Son sent from heaven, whom the Spirit of God breathed into you. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, whom the Spirit of God breathed into you.

Colleen Liggett, soloist

Agnus Dei (from *Missa de Beata Virgine*)

**Gregorian chant
J. Arcadelt**

Lamb of God, You who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You who take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Ave, virgo sanctissima

Francisco Guerrero (1528 - 1599)

Hail, most holy Virgin, most loving Mother of God, brightest star of the sea. Hail, ever glorious, priceless pearl, as beautiful as the lily, shining and giving fragrance like a rose.

Ave Maria

Ludwig Senfl (c. 1486 - 1543)

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, serene Virgin. Hail, thou whose conception, full of solemn joy, fills the heavens and earth with new joy. Hail, thou whose birth was our solemnity, as the light - dawn's light - heralds the true Son.

Hail, true humility, made fruitful without man, whose annunciation was our salvation. Hail, true virginity, spotless chastity, whose purification was our cleansing. Hail, foremost among all angelic virtues, whose assumption was our glorification.

O mother of God, remember me. Amen.

Please refrain from applause until the end of the program.

Translations: Liliun floruit by Leo Treitler, De Sancta Maria: O viridissima virga by Colleen Liggett, Caritas by Dana Maiben and De Sancta Maria: Ave Maria by Kathryn Argetsinger.

Musica Spei

Jeanne Beddoe, Jim Blake, Lynette Blake, Joe Finetti, Susan Fischer, Thomas Grande, Jim Holden, Stephen Marcus, Jenny Saffran, Richard Sauvain

Musica Spei (Music of Hope) is a newly-formed group of non-professional singers living in Rochester who are dedicated to exploring the vast but largely unfamiliar and rarely performed repertoire of sacred, unaccompanied choral masterworks of the 15th, 16th and early 17th centuries. The goal of Musica Spei, one of few concert groups of its kind, is to bring this music to life and to share its magnificence and beauty with contemporary audiences in the natural church setting for which it was intended. Musica Spei is very grateful to the parish community of Saint Anne Church for its support and encouragement.

Colleen Liggett, guest soprano, is a leader of the early music scene in Rochester and is well known as both instrumentalist and singer from numerous performances throughout this area. She is president of the International Society of Early Music Singers and a founding member of both Early Music America and the Genesee Early Music Society. She earned degrees from Douglass College of Rutgers University and the Eastman School of Music and has been a highly regarded teacher at the Hochstein School of Music for over 10 years; she also directs the Tridentine Latin Mass in Rochester. She has performed from coast to coast and recently recorded two albums of Shaker songs with Mitzie Collins.