

# Napa Valley Chorale

---

Jan Lanterman, Artistic Director & Conductor  
Mark Teeters, Conductor

Post Office Box 2774  
Napa, CA 94558  
(707) 261-6165  
[Jannapa@aol.com](mailto:Jannapa@aol.com)

Contact: Jan Lanterman  
(707) 255-4662

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 14, 2003

## **NAPA VALLEY CHORALE: A ROYAL CELEBRATION**

In celebration of its fortieth anniversary, the Napa Valley Chorale presents two performances of its Spring Concert, A Royal Celebration, on Sunday, May 4, 2003, at Mont La Salle Chapel in Napa.

In keeping with the royalty theme, the concerts feature Handel's Coronation Anthems and Mozart's Coronation Mass. Artistic Director and Conductor Jan Lanterman will conduct the Mozart Mass, and Conductor Mark Teeters will lead the chorus, orchestra, and soloists in the Handel anthems.

The Mass in C (Coronation) by Mozart was written in 1779. The designation "Coronation" was apparently given due to some association with the annual crowning of a statue of the Virgin Mary near Salzburg. Mozart was musically precocious and composed his first piece at the age of five. The range and extent of Mozart's genius is so vast that it is almost bewildering. He took the musical small change of his day, learned from childhood in the courts of Europe, and transformed it into a mint of gold. His sense of symmetry seems to have been innate, and much of his craftsmanship was instinctive as well. His prodigious outpouring included operas; ballet music;

symphonies; concertos; choral/orchestral works; a cappella choral works; solo voice/orchestral works; string trios, quartets and quintets; flute, oboe, horn and piano quartets and quintets, sonatas; piano solos and duets; organ sonatas; and art songs. He also composed additional accompaniments to several works by Handel.

Handel's Coronation Anthems were written for the coronation of King George II and Queen Caroline which took place in Westminster Abbey on October 11, 1727. Written at a critical point in Handel's career, the four Coronation Anthems heralded a new direction in composing for him: oratorio. In oratorio, the chorus was put on an equal footing with the solo singers. Although the Coronation Anthems were not his first choral works with English texts, nothing preceding them was conceived on such a grand and heroic scale, nor so enthusiastically received. The four anthems are entitled "Zadok the Priest," "The King Shall Rejoice," "My Heart is Inditing," and "Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened."

Soloists soprano Twyla Whitaker of San Jose, contralto Theresa Cardinale of San Francisco, tenor William Gorton of Napa, and bass Peter Atherton of Los Angeles will join with the Chorale to present these monumental choral works. A chamber orchestra and organist Dane Burg of Lodi will accompany the performance.

Napa Valley Chorale, Napa's premier community chorus, provides the opportunity for the study and performance of major choral literature in the Napa Valley. Concerts are presented in December and May each year, and singers are selected by audition at the beginning of each season. The Chorale meets weekly during the fall and spring seasons for stimulating rehearsals with Artistic Director and Conductor Jan Lanterman, Conductor Mark Teeters, and Accompanist Ellen Patterson.

The Chorale is intergenerational—with singers ranging in age from mid-teens to senior citizens. A number of parents and their teenage sons and daughters are singing in the chorus. Along with its intergenerational aspects, the Chorale represents a microcosm of the entire community. Singers are engaged in a variety of vocations. There are high school and college students, public and private school teachers, administrators, full-time parents, retirees, nurses and doctors, music teachers, attorneys, graphic designers, social workers, office managers, accountants, business men and women, music therapists, speech therapists, artists, linguists, and many others.

The Napa Valley Chorale is an independent nonprofit organization governed by a Board of Directors headed by President Bernhard Krevet. In addition the Chorale is set apart by its prestigious Honorary Advisory Board which consists of noted composer, arranger, and conductor of Minnesota's Concordia Choir René Clausen; Henrique de Curitiba, composer and retired professor of music in Londrina, Paraná, Brazil; New York composer William Hawley; former San Francisco Symphony Chorus conductor Louis Magor (now of Seattle); Tom Illgen, executive director of the Napa Valley Symphony; Marin County composer, arranger, and trumpeter Doug Morton; southern California conductor Granville Oldham; Melodious Accord conductor, composer, and arranger Alice Parker of New York and western Massachusetts; Maestro Asher Raboy, music director of the Napa Valley Symphony; André Thomas, composer, arranger, and professor of choral conducting at Florida State University; and internationally known composer, arranger, and conductor Carlton Young now residing in Nashville.

The Chorale's recent past performances have included, among others, Morton Gould's Serenade of Carols, Carl Orff's Carmina Burana; René Clausen's Crying for a Dream; the Christmas Oratorio by Camille Saint-Saints; Christmas Cantata by Marc-Antoine Charpentier;

Handel's Messiah; the world premiere of Henrique de Curitiba's In Vino Veritas; the world premiere of Doug Morton's Merry Millennium; Dave Brubeck's mass To Hope; and a concert version of Gilbert and Sullivan's Trial by Jury.

The public is cordially invited to attend the Royal Celebration at Mont La Salle Chapel, 4405 Redwood Road, in Napa. Tickets and information for the May 4 performances may be obtained by calling (707) 261-6165 or online at [www.napavalleychorale.org](http://www.napavalleychorale.org)

-end-