

A scenic view of a rocky coastline with blue water and a clear sky. The rocks are layered and weathered, with waves crashing against their base. The sky is a pale, clear blue.

Live in Australia and New Zealand

Toronto Children's Chorus

Jean Ashworth Bartle • Founder/Music Director

*Come, Ye Makers  
of Song*

# Toronto Children's Chorus

Tour to Australia and New Zealand, July 12 - August 5, 1999

Sydney – Melbourne – Adelaide – Christchurch – Wellington – Auckland

## COME YE MAKERS OF SONG

### Toronto Children's Chorus Tour Choir

Jean Ashworth Bartle, C.M., O.Ont., Founder/Music Director

Ruth Watson Henderson, Accompanist

- |   |   |         |
|---|---|---------|
| 1 | Come, Ye Makers of Song – Ruth Watson Henderson (b. 1932) †<br>SYDNEY SINGS FESTIVAL • SSA: Warnèr/GVT  | 2:42    |
| 2 | Freedom Trilogy – Paul Halley (b.1952) †<br>SYDNEY SINGS FESTIVAL • SSA: Pelagos<br>Laura Hartenberger, percussion,<br>Robynne McKinlay, Sarah Hicks and Lauren Simmons, soloists | 8:05    |
|   | Dixit Dominus – Baldassare Galuppi (1706-1785)<br>WELLINGTON • SSAA: Roger Dean   | (10:05) |
| 3 | 1. Dixit Dominus  | 3:13    |
| 4 | 2. Juravit Dominus  | 3:43    |
| 5 | 3. Judicabit in Nationibus  | 3:04    |
|   | Psalm Trilogy – Srul Irving Glick (b. 1934) † ‡<br>SYDNEY SINGS FESTIVAL • Manuscript   | (12:59) |
| 6 | 1. Psalm 92   | 4:35    |
| 7 | 2. Psalm 47   | 3:12    |
| 8 | 3. Psalm 23   | 5:02    |
- SBS Television and Radio Youth Orchestra

**Stabat Mater – Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710-1736) (14:56)**

AUCKLAND • SA: Hinshaw

- |    |                             |      |
|----|-----------------------------|------|
| 9  | 1. Stabat mater dolorosa    | 3:16 |
| 10 | 2. Quae maerebat et dolebat | 2:34 |
| 11 | 3. Fac, ut ardeat cor meum  | 2:27 |
| 12 | 4. Inflammatus et accensus  | 2:15 |
| 13 | 5. Quando corpus            | 2:54 |
| 14 | 6. Amen                     | 1:11 |

**15 Agnus Dei – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) 3:04**

CHRISTCHURCH - from Mass in C "Coronation", K. 317 • Unison: Kjos

**16 Laudate Pueri – Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) 3:40**

CHRISTCHURCH • SSA: E. C. Schirmer

**17 Lift Thine Eyes – Felix Mendelssohn 1:46**

CHRISTCHURCH • SSA: E. C. Schirmer

**18 Ave Maria – Gustav Holst (1874-1934) 5:20**

MELBOURNE • SSSSAAAA: E. C. Schirmer

**19 Prayer of St. Francis – Michael Hurd (b. 1928) 3:09**

AUCKLAND • SSA: Novello

Sarah Hicks, soloist

**Petites Voix – Francis Poulenc (1899-1963) (05:16)**

AUCKLAND • SSA: Editions Salabert

- |    |                           |       |
|----|---------------------------|-------|
| 20 | 1. La petite fille sage   | 1:26  |
| 21 | 2. Le chien perdu         | 0:55  |
| 22 | 3. En rentrant de l'école | 0:301 |
| 23 | 4. La petite garçon       | 1:35  |
| 24 | 5. Le hérisson            | 0:39  |

25 Glory to Thee, My God This Night – Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

2:39

SYDNEY SINGS FESTIVAL • Canon: Oxford

SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra

† *Canadian Composer*

‡ *World Premiere*

*Producer's Note:*

All of the performances included here capture the excitement, energy and spirit of a live concert presentation. Audience noises, occasional coughs and traffic sounds may be present. Some post production editing has been undertaken to eliminate the most obtrusive noises. The performances were recorded using a pair of Neumann microphones, feeding an E.A.A. Professional Stereo Pre-Amplifier and a SONY D100 DAT recorder. Performances from the Sydney Opera House were recorded through the co-operation of Peter Bell and Max Keogh of 2MBS FM in Sydney.

Matthew Baird *recording producer and engineer*

## REGARDING OUR PROGRAMME

The Toronto Children's Chorus repertoire ranges from sacred music of the Renaissance to challenging contemporary works from many cultures. Our music is selected above all to offer the children an opportunity to perform the great music of our heritage including, on this tour, Tallis, Byrd, Pergolesi, Bach, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Poulenc, and Holst. In addition, the Chorus has maintained a twenty-year tradition of presenting the treble works of Canada's finest composers to audiences throughout the world. While on tour in Australia and New Zealand, we presented many of the outstanding compositions of Canada's finest composers, including the world premiere of Srul Irving Glick's *Psalm Trilogy*.

From more than sixty works that the choristers prepared for this tour, from twelve recorded concerts representing 13 hours of material, the Toronto Children's Chorus has assembled two compact discs of highlight performances from the tour. ***Come Ye Makers of Song*** presents some classic literature for treble choirs, from the Renaissance through the 20th century. ***Songs of the Lights*** draws its repertoire largely from folk, jazz and popular music genres. Together the discs present a broad spectrum of the repertoire and versatility of the Toronto Children's Chorus.

*Come, Ye Makers of Song* was a gift to Jean Ashworth Bartle from TCC accompanist Ruth Watson Henderson on the occasion of Ms. Bartle's 50th birthday, on March 7th, 1997. The text is adapted from a birthday ode written in 1694, when Henry Purcell paid tribute to Queen Mary.

Paul Halley, a native of England whose childhood was spent in our nation's capital, Ottawa, now works in the United States as composer, arranger, teacher, and conductor. Halley received his Master's degree from Trinity College, Cambridge, with prizes in composition and performance. He was for many years associated with the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, and as a member of the Paul Winter Consort. He demonstrates his great contrapuntal skill in the work *Freedom Trilogy*. It cleverly weaves together the *Kyrie* from the 16th century *Missa de Angelis, Haleluya!, Pelo tsa rona* and

*Siyahamba* from the South African musical tradition, and *Amazing Grace* from "Virginia Harmony", 1831.

The Venetian composer Baldassare Galuppi spent much of his career in musical theatre, as a composer of opera buffa. He travelled widely, and was viewed by his contemporaries to be among the four best opera composers of the age. Galuppi also wrote a good deal of sacred music, much of it as *maestro di capella* at St. Mark's in Venice. The setting of *Dixit Dominus* (edited here by David Larson) was one of more than 20 choral works written for the girls at the Conservatory of the *Ospedale degli Incurabili*, whom he referred to as his "Nightingales."

Srul Irving Glick is one of Canada's most prolific composers, having written in all media – ranging from chamber music to oratorio. He also worked with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for many years. The Toronto Children's Chorus was delighted to give the world premiere of his *Psalms Trilogy* at Sydney's Opera House, culminating the Sydney Sings International Children's Choir Festival. These settings of Psalms 23, 47 and 92 were commissioned by Mr. and Mrs. Ian Epstein, in honour of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Gabi, a member of this Tour Choir.

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi died of tuberculosis at just 26 years of age. He might have slipped into musical obscurity were it not for the immediate popularity of a few of his works: the comic opera *La serva padrona*; the *Salve regina*; and his *Stabat mater*. The latter work was originally set for two solo voices and strings and poignantly describes Mary weeping at the foot of Christ's cross. Of the twelve sections that comprise the complete work, the five included in this treble choir arrangement are particularly well suited to the range and sound of children's voices.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart always recognized a good tune when he wrote one. The *Agnus Dei* from his 1779 Coronation Mass was re-used nearly intact in the third act of the opera *The Marriage of Figaro* ("*Dove sono i bei momenti*"). Mozart explained his quotation by saying that the Countess is not only evoking the first flutterings of her heart, but also her innocent youth.

*Laudate pueri* is the second of three motets for women's voices and organ that comprise Felix Mendelssohn's Opus 39. It was written for the women at the Trinità dei Monti convent in Rome, while Mendelssohn was travelling in Italy. Another trip, to England, produced one of Mendelssohn's greatest triumphs. The oratorio *Elijah* was premiered at the Birmingham music festival in 1846. Mendelssohn had become familiar with the oratorio form by conducting the works of Handel and Haydn. After the success of his first great biblical drama, *St. Paul*, he turned next to the story of the prophet *Elijah*, a narrative that would allow him to portray a great range of characters and emotions. The unaccompanied trio *Lift Thine Eyes* comes from part two, as Elijah is about to embark on his journey for 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness. He is visited by three angels who urge him to put his faith in God.

Gustav Holst was closely involved with choral music throughout his career, from his youth in Cheltenham through his work at St. Paul's Girls' School in Hammersmith, where he taught from 1905 until his death in 1934. Holst wrote this 8-part *Ave Maria* in 1900, in memory of his mother who had died when he was seven years old. Among the touring choristers of the TCC, this piece ranked among their very favourites for its complexity and beauty.

The contemporary English composer Michael Hurd has written a great deal of choral music for treble voices. Among his works are two children's operas, a *Missa brevis*, a set of canticles based on medieval carols and the popular *Jonah-man Jazz*. While his style is traditional, he shows great skill and lyricism in his marriage of words and music for the *Prayer of St. Francis*.

*Petites Voix* is one of the classics of the treble choir literature, written by Francis Poulenc in 1936. Poulenc chose the texts from several poems for children written by Madeleine Ley. Poulenc captures perfectly some innocent diversions of childhood. First, *The good little girl* performs her after school chores and then waits for the evening star to appear. Next comes a child's conversation with *The stray dog* and observations of nature *Coming home from school*. *The sick little boy* cries sadly to himself, listening to his friends frolic outside. The brief set concludes with the mysteries of a pet *Hedgehog*. Poulenc

makes no concession to children's voices in his characteristic harmonic shifts, and he conveys much of the mood of the scenes with the wordless vocalises that conclude three of the songs.

*Glory to Thee, My God This Night* is a setting of the famous canon written by Thomas Tallis in the 16th century, adapted here by Kenneth Brown. It is one of the oldest and most widely recognized tunes, used as a Doxology all over the world. Joining the TCC in this concluding work from the Sydney Sings Festival are the choristers of the Alaska Children's Choir, the Australian Children's Choir and Partners in Praise, and the SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra. It was a joy to prepare and present this music for our distinguished audiences in Australia and New Zealand and to have the chance to relive the tour through these recordings. We do hope that you enjoy this compilation of our nation's choral mosaic, just a glimpse into the rich and diverse cultural heritage which Canadians call their own!

## The Artists

Jean Ashworth Bartle, C.M., O.Ont.

Founder / Music Director

Jean Ashworth Bartle's contribution to the art of choral music for children has evolved over three decades into one of international eminence. Whether directing the Toronto Children's Chorus or sharing a wealth of knowledge with directors and choirs worldwide, she has demonstrated her dedication to Canadian choral excellence and has exerted a profound influence upon every musical life. Her work has been praised by Sir Andrew Davis, Simon Preston, the late Robert Shaw and Sir David Willcocks.

A native of Lancashire, England and graduate of the University of Toronto and Royal Conservatory of Music, Ms. Ashworth Bartle consistently produces music of the highest artistic standard with all children. She was the recipient in 1982 of the Sir Ernest MacMillan Memorial Prize, recognizing her distinctive conducting and teaching abilities. In May 1998, she was invested to the Order of Ontario and, in October, Governor General Roméo Leblanc presented



her with Canada's highest honour, the Order of Canada, for taking the children's choir movement and Canadian choral music to unprecedented heights.

Widely sought-after as lecturer, clinician, adjudicator and guest conductor, Ms. Ashworth Bartle has travelled throughout Europe, Israel, the Far East, the Pacific Rim and North America. Her expertise in developing and training choirs has attracted choral directors worldwide to study at her annual International Choral Conductors' Symposium.

Ms. Ashworth Bartle edits three music series, the Toronto Children's Chorus Choral Series (Warner Chappell), the Jean Ashworth Bartle Series for Treble Voices (Hinshaw), Music for Treble Voices (earthsongs), and is author of Lifeline for Children's Choir Directors. Fundamental to her achievements is a passionate pursuit of choral artistry and conviction that all children can learn to sing, prompting Canadian critic Urjo Kareda to say:

"The Toronto Children's Chorus is a jewel in this city's musical crown and, in terms of consistent pleasure, perhaps even the brightest. Since the creation of the chorus 20 years ago, the invaluable Jean Ashworth Bartle has shaped the artistry of several generations of young choristers, urging them toward commanding musicality and interpretation."

## Ruth Watson Henderson

Accompanist

Ruth Watson Henderson completed her Associate and Licentiate Diplomas at the Royal Conservatory of Music (Toronto) under Alberto Guerrero and subsequently studied at the Mannes College of Music, New York. Upon her return to Canada, she was active for ten years as a concert pianist and accompanist for the Festival Singers of Canada. A burgeoning interest in composition led to apprenticeships with Canadian composers Oskar Morawetz, Richard Johnson and Samuel Dolin.

Ms. Watson Henderson's association with the Toronto Children's Chorus since its inception in 1978 has resulted in many compositions for children's voices and international recognition as one of Canada's leading composers. She has written numerous works specifically for and premiered by the Chorus, including *The Last Straw* and *The Travelling Musicians*, and has completed commissions for the Guelph Spring Festival, Elora Festival, Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir and the Ontario Youth Choir, among others. A versatile musician, Ms Watson Henderson maintains a busy schedule as a teacher, composer, pianist and organist.

## Toronto Children's Chorus

The Toronto Children's Chorus has flourished to become one of the world's premiere choral ensembles for children, whose exceptional artistry inspires audiences and critics everywhere. Founded in 1978 by Jean Ashworth Bartle, the Chorus has recorded and toured extensively over five continents, garnering numerous first-place awards such as the International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales, the Healey Willan Award for Amateur Choirs, the Let the Peoples Sing International Choral Competition sponsored by the European Broadcasting Union, and six-time honours at the CBC Radio Competition for Amateur Choirs.

Over 300 Toronto-area children perform with the Chorus organization annually, ranging from 6-17 years of age and placed by training and maturity into the Toronto Children's Chorus and Training Choirs I, II & III. Some 65 children, demonstrating superior vocal and musical skills, are accepted each year to the choir's senior touring and recording ensemble, the Chamber Choir. Offering its children unique musical and educational experiences through the finest repertoire, the "TCC" proudly has celebrated over twenty years of outstanding choral artistry with distinguished children's choirs worldwide.

The Toronto Children's Chorus repertoire comprises an extensive range of genres, from sacred works of the Renaissance to challenging contemporary pieces of diverse cultures and traditions. In an effort to encourage and promote the exceptional choral music of Canadian composers, the choir commissions and premieres new works annually and features a large

number of Canadian compositions in its performance repertoire. Glenn Buhr, Howard Cable, Jean Coulthard, Robert Evans, Malcolm Forsyth, Harry Freedman, Srul Irving Glick, John Greer, Stephen Hatfield, Derek Holman, Chan Ka Nin, Donald Patriquin, Imant Raminsh, R. Murray Schafer, and Ruth Watson Henderson are but a few major Canadian composers who have written music specifically for the TCC.

The choir has also attracted many collaborations with world-renowned conductors such as Boris Brott, Sir Andrew Davis, Charles Dutoit, the late Dr. Elmer Iseler, Michael Lankester, Helmuth Rilling, Jukka-Pekka Saraste, the late Robert Shaw, Klaus Tennstedt, Bramwell Tovey and Sir David Willcocks, and frequently performs as guest artist for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, the Elmer Iseler Singers and at various civic and provincial events.

Frequent broadcasts and recordings carry the award-winning sound of the Chorus around the world, including John Rutter's *Dancing Day* (Marquis/EMI); a Benjamin Britten tribute, *Mostly Britten* (Marquis/EMI); a Christmas collaboration with the Toronto Symphony, *Adeste Fideles* (CBC); and *Along the Road to Bethlehem* (CBC) with celebrated Canadian tenor Ben Heppner. The critically acclaimed *My Heart Soars: A Canadian Celebration of Life, Laughter, Love and Praise* (Marquis/EMI) debuted as one of the first children's choir recordings solely of Canadian music. The choir's most recent disc, *A Boy was Born* (TCC), is a treasured archive of music-making with the late Lois Marshall as narrator and the collective voices of The Elmer Iseler Singers and University of Toronto MacMillan Singers.

The Toronto Children's Chorus stages its own subscription series and is in great demand to complete engagements throughout the world. To experience the joy and remarkable artistry of each child is an inspiration for all who hear the TCC, and a shining example of musical achievement through dedication and an uncompromising commitment to excellence.

# THE TOUR

## **Toronto, Canada**

Thursday, July 8, 1999

Lawrence Park Community Church

FROM HERE TO DOWN UNDER

## **Sydney, Australia**

July 13 - 18, 1999

Artist in Residence

SYDNEY SINGS FESTIVAL

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

GARRISON CHURCH

Friday, July 16, 1999

HOTEL MAJESTIC

Sunday, July 18, 1999

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

Alaska Children's Choir

Australian Children's Choir

Partners in Praise

SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra

Janet Stotts, Music Director

Curtis Bayless, Music Director

Julia Fahey, Music Director

## **Melbourne, Australia**

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Australian Boys' Choir

Australian Children's Choir

Berwick Children's Choir

Victorian Boys Choir

Young Voices of Melbourne

Noel Ancell, Music Director

Curtis Bayless, Music Director

Allison Harrigan, Music Director

Paul Forster, Music Director

Mark O'Leary, Music Director

**Adelaide, Australia**

**Friday, July 23, 1999**

**PILGRIM UNITING CHURCH**

**Adelaide Girls' Choir**

Deborah Munro, Music Director

**Christchurch, New Zealand**

**Wednesday, July 28, 1999**

**OXFORD TERRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Wellington, New Zealand**

**Friday, July 30, 1999**

**ST. ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE**

**Saturday, July 31, 1999**

**TE PAPA MUSEUM**

**Auckland, New Zealand**

**Tuesday, August 3, 1999**

**HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL**

**Auckland Youth Choir**

Terence Maskell, Music Director

**Wednesday, August 4, 1999**

**CENTRUM HOTEL**

# THE CHORISTERS

## SOPRANO I

Alexandra Airhart  
Alison Armstrong  
Rena Ashton  
Diana Chisholm  
Jessica Clague  
Ben Cruchley  
Cameron Dunkin  
Andrea Grant  
Jennifer Hansen  
Laura Hanson  
Kristin Haynes  
Heather Kinoshita  
Laura Kishimoto  
Katie Mann  
David Phillips  
Laura Redekop  
Andrew Rethazi  
Aaron Schwebel  
Matthew Sharp  
Heather Wilkie

## SOPRANO II

Darien Abbey  
Aleha Aziz  
Kimberly Bartle  
Alison Burkett  
Laura Cameron  
Christina Chabot  
Clare Frazer  
Heather Hurst  
Justine Iaboni  
Iris Krizmanic  
Jennie Morgan  
Kathryn Nestler  
Anita Ng  
Danielle Procnier  
Emily Shepard  
Naomi Shin  
Emily Stairs  
Nellie Stockhammer  
Anthea Tang  
Oriell Thomson

## ALTO

Erin Bobkin  
Julia Brown  
Sasha Cragg-Gore  
Rebecca Dodds  
Gabi Epstein  
Laura Hartenberger  
Max Henry  
Sarah Hicks  
Silvi Kuld  
Nicholas Kusiba  
Marion Malone  
Robynne McKinlay  
Samantha Phoenix  
Sofia Shumelda  
Leslie Siegrist  
Lauren Simmons  
Antonia Tsallas  
Carrie Tse  
Tristan Tye  
Vanessa Wiley Anderson

Head Choristers: Christina Chabot, Lauren Simmons, Vanessa Wiley Anderson

Head Chorister Emerita: Naomi Shin

**Toronto Children's Chorus** is supported by: The City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council; The Province of Ontario through the Ontario Arts Council and the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation. The choir gratefully acknowledges the many individuals and corporations that supported the choir's 20th anniversary season and the tour to Australia and New Zealand. The performances contained within this disc are our thanks to you for your generosity.

For further information regarding Toronto Children's Chorus tours, performances, workshops, auditions or the International Choral Conductors' Symposium, contact:

**TORONTO CHILDREN'S CHORUS**

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**Cover Photo "The Twelve Apostles":** Robin and Robert Barclay

**Cover Design:** Paul Kelly, gecko graphics

**Other Toronto Children's Chorus recordings on MARQUIS CLASSICS**

**Mostly Britten (81233) - Music by Benjamin Britten**

**Dancing Day (81235) - Christmas music by John Rutter and others**

**My Heart Soars (81199) - a Canadian collection**

**Songs of the Light (81253) -folk songs, live from Australia and NZ**

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