"From the Americas to the Baltics"

Siskiyou Singers Ashland, Oregon, U.S.A.

Mark Reppert — Music Director Mikiko S. Petrucelli — Accompanist

Program

Hope in Hearts (Morse)

Soloist: Jay Morse

Written by our own Jay Morse; to the tune of America the Beautiful, he expresses the diversity of our American music

The Water is Wide (American folk song, arr. Zaninelli)

An old song expresses the sorrow of lost love

El Mambi (Romero, Lavilla, arr. Abril)

The Cuban revolutionary gains more passion for his cause and country because his love is killed in battle

Fuyugeshiki (Japanese folk song, arr. Reppert)

The three verses paint a picture of morning, noon, and night of a winter's day

Erev Ba (Hebrew folk song, arr. Reppert)

The quiet beauty of the time of dusk

Elijah Rock (African-American spiritual, arr. Hairston)

A famous spiritual praising God, the prophet Elijah's "rock"

Keep Your Lamps (African-American spiritual, arr. Thomas)

This spiritual tells the Bible story of the bridesmaids preparing for the groom's arrival

Soon Ah Will Be Done (African-American spiritual, arr. Dawson)

Slaves dream of the time they will see their loved ones in heaven

The Boatmen's Dance (American minstrel song, arr. Copland, Fine)

When the boatmen arrive in town they get in trouble, but when they float away down the river their life is wonderous

The Little Horses (Copland)

Soloist: Marilyn Reppert

A dear little lullaby about the little horses

Long Time Ago (Copland)

Soloist: Derek Rosenlund

A story of lost love

Emerald Stream (Houston)

We are the stewards of the earth; if we do not do our job, "God's wrath" will rain down on us

Kas Tie Tadi (Latvian folk song, arr. Sametz)

The "orphans" weep at sunset, subject to a cruel master

Butterfly (Cotton)

This new work eulogizes the heroism of Chiune Sugihara, a diplomat in Lithuania who wrote visas to save the lives of more than 6.000 Jews in 1940

Oh! Susanna (Foster, arr. Parker, Shaw)

Soloists: Katie Anderson, Laura Barlow, Elizabeth Bingham, Scott Nelson

A funny song letting Susanna know I'm coming home from Alabama with a banjo on my

No Time (American camp meeting song, arr. Brumfield)

The speaker has no time for things of the world because he is on his journey Home

How Can I Keep From Singing? (Quaker hymn, arr. Walker)

Because I can dream of a new world order, how can I keep from singing?

The story of "Butterfly" by I'lana Cotton

Siskiyou Singers commissioned "Butterfly" to commemorate our concert tour of the Baltic states. It is the story of Chiune Sugihara, the World War II Japanese diplomat who saved thousands of Jews fleeing Nazi-occupied Poland. They came to Lithuania seeking transit visas that would allow them passage across Russia and into Japan, en route to final safe destinations. Sugihara made the agonizing but courageous decision to defy the Japanese Empire and write visas for the refugees. It is estimated that Sugihara issued visas for about 6,000 Jews and that some 40,000 descendants of those refugees are alive today because of his actions.

About the Chorus

Siskiyou Singers is an all-volunteer community chorus based in Ashland, Oregon, an arts-loving mountain community in the Western United States. Formed in 1982, the chorus is currently composed of about 70 auditioned singers. It presents two concert series each year (one in early December, another in spring) and performs at community events, retirement centers, and local schools. The chorus' repertoire, although focused mainly on Western classical compositions, also includes music representing a wide variety of genres, from folk to modernist, as well as songs from around the world.

About the Director

Mark Reppert has been director of Siskiyou Singers for 10 years. He earned his undergraduate degree in Music History from the University of Southern California and his master's degree in Piano Performance from California State University. He has soloed with the Shasta Symphony and the Paradise Symphony. For almost five decades Mr. Reppert has taught instrumental and vocal music to children and adults. He has served as music director for numerous school and community musical theatre productions.

About the Accompanist

Mikiko S. Petrucelli is in her eighth season as principal accompanist for Siskiyou Singers. She received her undergraduate degree in Piano Performance from the Mushashino Academia Musicae in Japan and a performance degree from Hochschule für Musik in Germany. After moving to the United States, she earned a master's degree in Music from Baylor University and a doctorate in Piano Performance from the University of Nebraska. Dr. Petrucelli has performed concerts in Germany, the Netherlands, and the United States.



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