

Singing City

Jeffrey Brillhart, Music Director

and

Bucks County Choral Society

Thomas Lloyd, Artistic Director

present

Songs for Brazil

July 1-12, 2009

James Batt, pianist



Program

Hark I Hear the Harps Eternal	arr. Alice Parker (b. 1925)
Muié Rendera	Carlos Alberto Pinto da Fonseca (b. 1933)
She'll be Coming Round the Mountain	Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)
Amazing Grace	Jennifer Higdon (b. 1962)
Balaio	Villa Lobos (1887-1959)
I Bought Me a Cat	Aaron Copland (arr. Irving Fine)
Ave Maria	Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)
Efesios em Samba	Craig Curry, arr. Jonathas Matias
All the Things You Are	Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)
I'll Build a Stairway to Paradise	George Gershwin, arr. Robert Page
A Red, Red Rose	James Mulholland
Meditação	Jobim (1927-1994)
Desafinado	Jobim
True Light	Keith Hampton
This Little Light of Mine	Moses Hogan (1957-2003)
Sweet Home	Wendell Whalum (1931-1987)
Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory	Roscoe Gill
Stan' Still Jordan	arr. Thomas Lloyd
My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord	Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Singing City: History and Mission

Singing City was founded as an integrated choir in 1948 in Philadelphia by Dr. Elaine Brown. The Choir was born out of the Fellowship House movement, which believed that differences between races, religions, and cultures could be bridged by people coming together in shared activities.

Singing City continues to bring choral music to the under-served, performing not only in concert halls, but also in homeless shelters and nursing homes in and around Philadelphia. Singing City's nationally recognized schools residency program, *Singing City in the Schools*, has brought music rudiments, choral singing, and composition techniques to children in the Philadelphia public schools and to some private schools in the area. *Singing City in the Schools* was taken to a new level with the launching of the *Singing City Prize for Young Composers* in 2003. This is a national choral composition competition for high school and college students.

Jeffrey Brillhart, Music Director

Appointed in 1999, Jeffrey Brillhart directs the Singing City Choir and oversees all aspects of Singing City's musical initiatives. Jeffrey is also Director of Music and Fine Arts at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Bryn Mawr and is recognized as one of the foremost musicians working in the Presbyterian Church. He has won national recognition for his abilities in organ improvisation, organ performance, and conducting. His church ensembles have performed for national conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the American Choral Directors Association. Mr. Brillhart has presented master classes at the Curtis Institute of Music, the University of Iowa, Drake University, and the Eastman School of Music. He served as chorus master for The Philadelphia Orchestra's Martin Luther King Tribute Concert in January 2004. In January 2005, he joined the music faculty of Yale University to teach organ improvisation.

James A. Batt, Pianist

James A. Batt is Assistant Conductor and Accompanist of Singing City Choir and Young Audiences and is currently on staff as Associate Musician at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. He is also the Associate Organist at Reform Congregation Beth Or in Maple Glen and serves as Musical Director for Concert Operetta at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. Mr. Batt has participated in world premieres of two major choral/instrumental works and is also recorded on Arkay Records. He is on the roster as accompanist for Columbia Arts Management and accompanies professional vocalists and instrumentalists throughout the Tri-State area.

Bucks County Choral Society

Founded in 1973, the **Bucks County Choral Society** is an auditioned volunteer choir based in Doylestown, PA, near Philadelphia. Under the direction of Artistic Director Thomas Lloyd, the 100-voice choir performs in venues throughout Bucks County, and is widely recognized as the area's premiere large choral ensemble. In addition to its annual four-concert subscription series, BCCS serves the community through scholarship programs and solo performance opportunities for young singers, as well as through its acclaimed *Singing for Seniors* program, involving hundreds of local seniors in choral singing over the past five years under the leadership of Thomas Lloyd and the renowned children's choir director Helen Kemp.

Thomas Lloyd, Artistic Director

Thomas Lloyd has served as Artistic Director of the Bucks County Choral Society since the 2000-2001 season. He is also an Associate Professor of Music at Haverford College, where since 1996 he has directed the combined vocal and choral studies program for Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges. His choirs have performed in Latin America, Europe, and Africa, all involving close collaborations with a large number of local choirs. Lloyd has appeared as a conductor and presenter at ACDA and PMEA festivals and conventions. He has also written several extended articles for the *Choral Journal* on topics such as teaching sacred music in secular contexts, contradictions in the reception history of the African-American Spiritual, vocal and conducting technique. Further links to articles and compositions can be found at www.haverford.edu/music/faculty/lloyd.php.

Singing City

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