

# *SHEPHERD SINGERS*

*THOMAS JABER,*  
*conductor and organist*

*Sunday, February 26, 1989*  
*8:00 p.m. in the*  
*Rice Memorial Chapel*

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music



## GREAT BRITTEN!

*A Program of Works for Chorus by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)*

### Festival Te Deum, Op. 32

*Kristen Baker, soprano*

*We praise Thee, O God, we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting. To Thee all Angels cry aloud, the Heavens and all the Powers therein. To Thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry, Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory. The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee. The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise Thee. The noble company of Martyrs praise Thee. The Holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee the Father of an infinite majesty, Thine honorable, true, and only Son; Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father. When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man, Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's Womb. When Thou had'st overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers. Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that Thou shall come to be our judge. We therefore pray Thee help Thy servants Whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood. Make them to be numbered with Thy Saints in glory everlasting. O Lord save Thy people and bless Thine heritage. Govern them and lift them up forever. Day by day we magnify Thee and we worship Thy name ever world without end. Vouchsafe O Lord to keep us this day without sin, O Lord have mercy upon us, O Lord, as our trust is in Thee. O Lord in Thee have I trusted. Let me never be confounded.*

### Hymn to St. Cecilia, Op. 27 (W.H. Auden)

*Dawn Sheridan, soprano*

*Paula Blackmon, mezzo-soprano*

*Jack Sanchez, tenor*

*John Krueger, bass*

*I. In a garden shady this holy lady with reverent cadence and subtle psalm, like a black swan as death came on poured forth her song in perfect calm: and by ocean's margin this innocent virgin constructed an organ to enlarge her prayer, and notes tremendous from her great engine thundered out on the Roman air. Blonde Aphrodite rose up excited, moved to delight by the melody, white as an orchid she rode quite naked in an oyster shell on top of the sea; at sounds so entrancing the angels dancing came out of their trance into time again, and around the wicked in Hell's abysses the huge flame flickered and eased their pain. Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions to all musicians, appear and inspire: translated Daughter, come down and startle composing mortals with immortal fire.*

*II. I cannot grow; I have no shadow to run away from, I only play. I cannot err; there is no creature whom I belong to, whom I could wrong. I am defeat when it knows it can now do nothing by suffering. All you lived through, dancing because you no longer need it for any deed. I shall never be different. Love me. Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions to all musicians, appear and inspire: translated Daughter, come down and startle composing mortals with immortal fire.*

III. *O ear whose creatures cannot wish to fall, O calm of spaces unafraid of weight, where Sorrow is herself, forgetting all the gaucheness of her adolescent state, where Hope within the altogether strange from every outworn image is released, and Dread born whole and normal like a beast into a world of truths that never change: restore our fallen day; O re-arrange. O dear white children casual as birds, playing among the ruined languages, so small beside their large confusing words, so gay against the greater silences of dreadful things you did: O hang the head, impetuous child with the tremendous brain, O weep, child, weep, O weep away the stain, lost innocence who wished your lover dead, weep for the lives your wishes never led. O cry created as the bow of sin is drawn across our trembling violin. O weep, child, weep, O weep away the stain. O law drummed out by hearts against the still long winter of our intellectual will. That what has been may never be again. O flute that throbs with the thanksgiving breath of convalescents on the shores of death. O bless the freedom that you never chose. O trumpets that unguarded children blow about the fortress of their inner foe. O wear your tribulation like a rose. Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions to all musicians, appear and inspire; translated Daughter, come down and startle composing mortals with immortal fire.*

**Rejoice in the Lamb, Op. 30 (Christopher Smart)**

*Paula Blackmon, mezzo-soprano*

*Trudy Bent, mezzo-soprano*

*Dixon Printz, tenor*

*Richard Teaster, baritone*

CHORUS

*Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues; give the glory to the Lord, and the Lamb. Nations, and languages, and every Creature, in which is the breath of Life. Let man and beast appear before him, and magnify his name together. Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter, bind a Leopard to the altar, and consecrate his spear to the Lord. Let Ishmael dedicate a Tyger, and give praise for the liberty in which the Lord has let him at large. Let Balaam appear with an Ass, and bless the Lord his people and his creatures for a reward eternal. Let Daniel come forth with a Lion, and praise God with all his might through faith in Christ Jesus. Let Ithamar minister with a Chamois, and bless the name of Him, that cloatheth the naked. Let Jakim with the Satyr bless God in the dance. Let David bless with the Bear—The beginning of victory to the Lord—to the Lord the perfection of excellence—Hallelujah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.*

TREBLE SOLO

*For I will consider my Cat Jeoffry. For he is the servant of the Living God, duly and daily serving him. For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East he worships in his way. For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant quickness. For he knows that God is his Saviour. For God has blessed him in the variety of his movements. For there is nothing sweeter than his peace when at rest. For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty, from whom I take occasion to bless Almighty God.*

ALTO SOLO

*For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour. For—this is a true case—  
Cat takes female mouse—male mouse will not depart, but stands threat'ning and  
daring. .... If you will let her go, I will engage you, as prodigious a creature as  
you are. For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour. For the Mouse  
is of an hospitable disposition.*

TENOR SOLO

*For the flowers are great blessings. For the flowers have their angels even the  
words of God's Creation. For the flower glorifies God and the root parries the  
adversary. For there is a language of flowers. For flowers are peculiarly the poetry  
of Christ.*

CHORUS

*For I am under the same accusation with my Savior—for they said, he is besides  
himself. For the officers of the peace are at variance with me, and the watchman  
smites me with his staff. For Silly fellow! Silly fellow! is against me and belongeth  
neither to me nor to my family. For I am in twelve HARDSHIPS, but he that was  
born of a virgin shall deliver me out of all.*

RECITATIVE (BASS SOLO) AND CHORUS

*For H is a spirit and therefore he is God. For K is king and therefore he is God.  
For L is love and therefore he is God. For M is musick and therefore he is God.  
For the instruments are by their rhimes. For the Shawm rhimes are lawn fawn  
moon boon and the like. For the harp rhimes are sing ring string and the like.  
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well toll soul and the like. For the flute rhimes  
are tooth youth suit mute and the like. For the Bassoon rhimes are pass class and  
the like. For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place beat heat and the like. For the  
Clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like. For the trumpet rhimes are sound  
bound soar more and the like. For the TRUMPET of God is a blessed intelligence  
and so are all the instruments in HEAVEN. For GOD the father Almighty plays  
upon the HARP of stupendous magnitude and melody. For at that time malignity  
ceases and the devils themselves are at peace. For this time is perceptible to man  
by a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.*

CHORUS

*Hallelujah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, and  
from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.*

## SHEPHERD SINGERS

Soprano

*Kristen Baker  
Diane Barton-Brown  
Johanna Bonno  
Marlene Feser  
Dawn Sheridan*

Mezzo-Soprano

*Paula Blackmon  
Trudy Bent  
Diana Burson  
Alyssa Clark  
Cheryl Crosby  
Rebecca Garfein  
Patty Grose  
Kandi Wiley*

Tenor

*Francisco Almanza  
Steven Bomgardner  
Dixon Printz  
Jack Sanchez  
James White*

Bass-Baritone

*Robert Ames  
Chris Baker  
Jerry Chew  
John Krueger  
Joseph Staples  
Richard Teaster  
Douglas Yates*