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**A Newsletter by and for the La Jolla
Symphony & Chorus Association**

Inside This Issue

- 1** The Director's Vision
 - 2** UCSD Dept. of Music:
Select May/June Events
 - 3** Composer Eric Stokes
Dies in Car Crash
 - 4** “Choral Arrangements:
Longevity in the Group”
 - 5** Enlarged Format
for ‘Fanfare’
 - 6** Recording Engineer
Sought
 - 7** The
Credits....

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"TUTTI"

“A VISION FOR NEXT SEASON”

"As we approach our May 15th and 16th performances, I'd like to thank all involved on this concert and throughout the year. In recollecting this year and anticipating the next, I'm tempted to issue a progress report on various 'housekeeping' items that concern us all. However, it might be better at this time of year to turn to some brief ruminations not on details but, rather, on the big picture to which they contribute. In short, it's time 'for the vision thing,' as President George Bush the First used to say.

"According to certain pundits and journalists, classical music is dead or moribund. Indeed, a recent book is entitled, Who Killed Classical Music? I always have to shake my head in disbelief whenever I encounter such assertions. From where I sit and from what I see and hear in our Chorus and Orchestra, classical music is alive, well, and fruitfully adapting to its environment. Certainly the music we perform is evolving. From a solid base of classical masterpieces our repertory is broadening to include music that was until recently dismissed as experimental or avant garde (JEFF NEVIN's Mariachi Concerto and the RAVI and ANOUSHKA SHANKAR sitar concerto come to mind). Programming such as this, which both respects and revitalizes our core repertoire, is not just satisfying to us and our adventurous audience: it is of tremendous significance *to music* in its ongoing evolution and relation to community life.

"In San Diego, our Association is solidly situated between the experimentalism of the UCSD Department of Music -- which plays to a small but dedicated audience -- and our city's larger 'play-it-safe' musical institutions. It is our role -- and a

unique one it is – to marry the best of adventurous programming with broad popular appeal. And when I think of just how special we are in this respect, I am inspired by a tremendous enthusiasm to both celebrate and strengthen the Association in its mission.

"I would assert (immodestly, you can bet!) that the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus Association is both San Diego's greatest performing arts treasure and its best-kept secret. How can this be? This *has* to change ... and it will! We have a dedicated and effective Board of Directors and staff, and as I work with them I'm both challenged and excited by their plans to raise public awareness of our activities. I invite every member of the Orchestra and the Chorus to participate in this process either directly with the Board or their representatives, or through the Orchestra's Players Advisory Committee or the Chorus's Section Leaders. With (1) good music (2) well played, we are already two-thirds of the way to bringing our organization the public recognition it both needs and deserves in order to fully get its message across at all levels.

"I look forward to exciting days ahead with you all on this 'final third' as well as on the musical projects that make it all worthwhile."



- Harvey Sollberger

UCSD Dept. of Music: Select May/June Events

Wednesday, May 12, 8 PM

Mandeville Auditorium

'Percussion Recital'

Steven Schick plays new new music and old new music. Admission: \$8/\$6.

Monday, May 17, 8 PM

Mandeville Auditorium

'UCSD Regents' Lecturer Concert'

Composer/pianist Muhal Richard Abrams presents recent compositions and improvisations for chamber ensembles with UCSD musicians, including Anthony Davis (piano) and George Lewis (trombone). Tickets at the door: \$10/\$8; admission is free for UCSD students.

Wednesday, May 19, 8 PM

Mandeville Auditorium

'Gospel Music Concert'

UCSD Gospel Choir, directed by Ken Anderson, sings spirituals. Tickets at the door: \$5/\$3.

Tuesday, June 1, 8 PM

Mandeville Auditorium

'Vocal Music Concert'

UCSD Singers, directed by Philip Larson. Tickets at the door: \$5/\$3.

Wednesday, June 2, 8 PM

Mandeville Auditorium

'Jazz Concert'

Jimmy Cheatham leads the UCSD Jazz Ensembles. Tickets at the door: \$5/\$3.

Thursday, June 3, 8 PM

Mandeville Auditorium

'Wind Ensemble Concert'

Robert Zelickman conducts the season finale. Tickets at the door: \$5/\$3.

Saturday, June 5, 8 PM

Erickson Hall

'Voice Recital'

Students of Carol Plantamura sing a varied program. FREE admission.

DIES IN CAR CRASH

Eric Stokes, a Minneapolis composer whose experimental operas, orchestral and chamber music earned him national renown, died on March 16 in an auto accident in downtown Minneapolis. He was 68 years old.

Born in Haddon Heights, NJ, Stokes studied music at Lawrence College and the New England Conservatory and with DOMINICK ARGENTO and Paul FETLER at the University of Minnesota, where he received a Ph.D. in 1964. He began teaching at the university in 1961, and retired therefrom in 1988. He founded the university's electronic music laboratory and, in 1971, spearheaded its contemporary music ensemble known as the First Minnesota Moving and Storage Warehouse Band.

In the mid-1960s Stokes' style began to include collage, theater, and mixed-media pieces. His main influences, he often said, were the American composers CHARLES IVES, JOHN CAGE, and HENRY BRANT, chief exponents of what has been called the maverick wing of American composition. In later years Stokes developed a special interest in American jazz, hymns, and folksongs, and most recently in music for concert and marching band. At its most experimental, Stokes' music sought to reduce composition to its most basic elements: rhythm and pure sound.

Memorial gifts can be sent to the Eric Stokes Fund of the American Composers Forum, 332 Minnesota St., St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101. The fund is for composers who write about nature or the environment.

"CHORAL ARRANGEMENTS"

Who's got the most longevity in the Chorus? One of the oldest concert programs, recently uncovered, dates back to December 2, 1973, down in Sherwood Hall (i.e., pre-Mandeville days). Members included SALLY HUSCH (now DEAN); MARTHA RAMSEY (now NEAL-BROWN); CHUCK CARVER; VICKI HEINS-SHAW; one LUCY KILLEA (!); and the late THERESE HURST, the LJS&CA's benefactress. There's also a program from March 10-18, probably 1974, from "A Festival of the Americas," held in places of charm like the Revelle Cafeteria and 409 Matthews Campus.

A roster wasn't included, but people

who were there will remember this as the concert that got streaked! Results from our recent survey indicate that our other 'old-timers' include JUNE ALLEN, who goes back to '67 with founders PAT SMITH and TOM NEE; MARTY HAMBRIGHT (26 years); CAROLYN CHASE (24 years); and MARY ELLEN WALTHER (22 years). As for Chorus Manager BEDA FARRELL ... well, she's a relative newcomer, having joined the group - as a student - in '79.

FALL 'FANFARE' EXPECTED MID-OCTOBER

Board member DIRK METZGER has been recently appointed the new editor of 'Fanfare,' the LJS&C Association subscriber newsletter. He will be assisted in this capacity by former Board member THELMA PARRIS, and profiles may be expected from SHARON JONES. The 'Fanfare' format will be enlarged next year and will feature more variety. The editorial staff invites input from members of the ensembles, i.e., ideas about content, volunteer writers, etc. It hopes to schedule a planning meeting in June. Anyone interested should contact Thelma at (619) 595-0537.

DEPT. OF MUSIC SEEKS RECORDING ENGINEER

The UCSD Dept. of Music has a job opening for a "Recording Engineer," to provide recording services and technical support for live concert recordings and/or live sound reinforcement. Contact PETER OTTO, Director of Music Technology, at (619) 534-8502, or potto@ucsd.edu.

**PLEASE DIRECT ANY
QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR
STORY IDEAS TO THE EDITOR
AT 6534-3642, OR
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**THIS ISSUE OF 'TUTTI' HAS
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HARVEY

March 8, 1999