Sheepscot Valley Chorus St. Cecilia Chamber Choir

Linda Blanchard, Director



Mary Sullivan, Soprano Andrea Graichen, Mezzo-Soprano David Myers, Jr., Tenor Benjamin Pugh, Treble

Saturday, April 25th, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 26th, 3:00 p.m. St. Patrick Church, Newcastle







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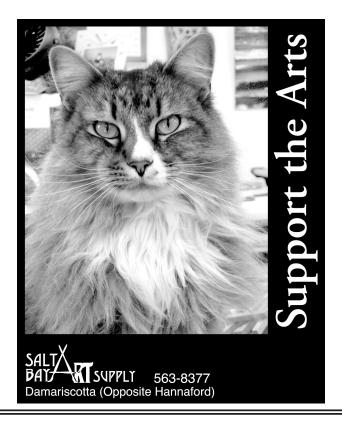
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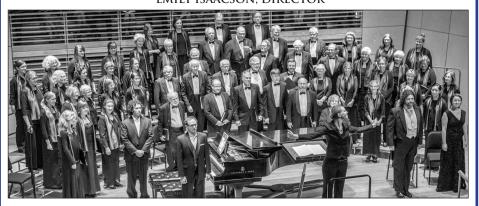
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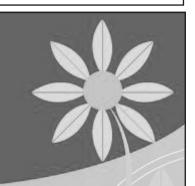
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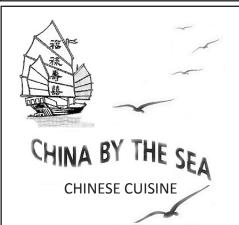
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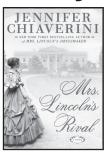
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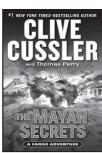
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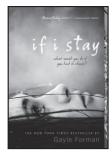
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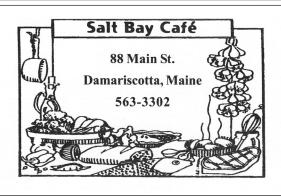


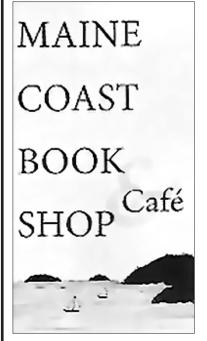
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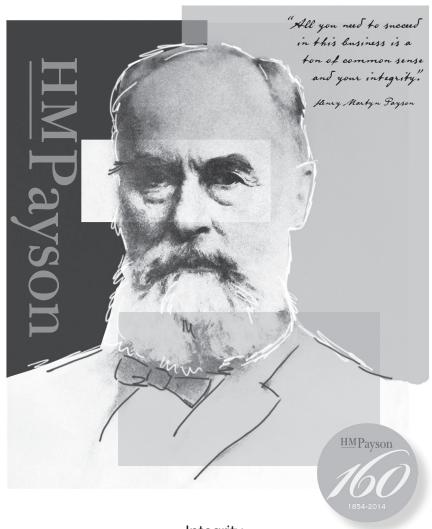
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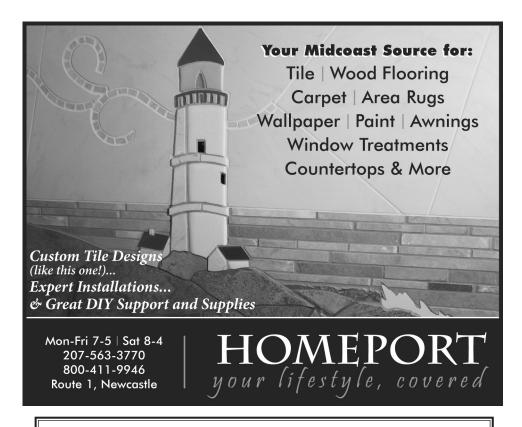


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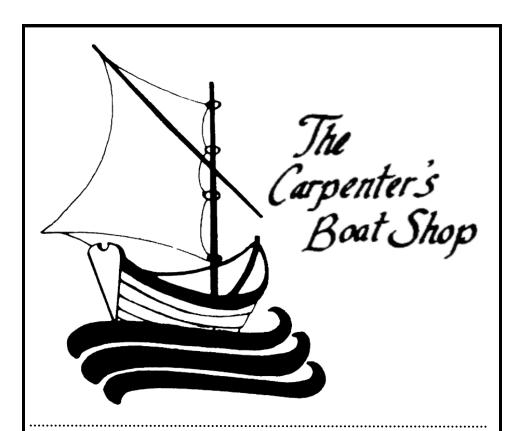
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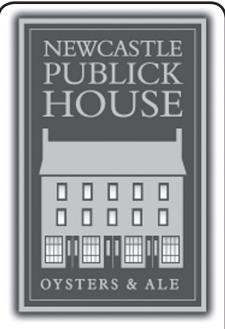
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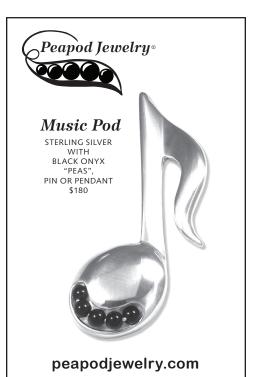
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Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

FIRST PART

Introduction

Elijah

Overture

Chorus: Help, Lord!

The People

Duet and Chorus: Lord, bow Thine ear to our prayer

The People, Angels

Recitative: Ye people, rend your hearts

Obadiah

Air: If with all your hearts ye truly seek Me

Obadiah

Chorus: Yet doth the Lord see it not

The People

Recitative and Chorus: As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth

Elijah, Ahab, The People

Chorus: Baal, we cry to thee

Priests of Baal

Recitative and Chorus: Call him louder

Elijah, Priests of Baal

Recitative and Chorus: Call him louder!

Elijah, Priests of Baal

Recitative and Air: Draw near, all ye people

Elijah

Chorus: Cast they burden upon the Lord

Angels

Recitative: O Thou, who makest Thine angels spirits

Elijah, The People

Air: Is not His word like a fire

Elijah

Recitative and Chorus: O man of God, help thy people!

Obadiah, Elijah, The People, The Youth

Chorus: Thanks be to God

The People

SECOND PART

Air: Hear ye, Israel

Soprano

Chorus: Be not afraid

Chorus

Recitative and Chorus: The Lord hath exalted thee

Elijah, Jezebel, Courtiers

Chorus: Woe to him!

The People

Recitative: Man of God

Obadiah, Elijah

Air: It is enough!

Elijah

Recitative: See, now he sleepeth

Tenor

Chorus: Lift thine eyes

Angels

Chorus: He, watching over Israel

Angels

Recitative: Arise, Elijah

An Angel, Elijah

Air: Oh, rest in the Lord

An Angel

Chorus: He that shall endure to the end

Chorus

Recitative: Night falleth round me

Elijah, An Angel

Chorus: Behold, God the Lord passed by!

Chorus

Air: For the mountains shall depart

Elijah

Chorus: Then did Elijah the prophet break forth

Chorus

Air: Then shall the righteous shine forth

Tenor

Recitative: Behold, God hath sent Elijah the prophet

Soprano

Chorus: And then shall your light break forth

Chorus

Joshua Miller as Elijah • Mary Sullivan, Soprano Andrea Graichen, Mezzo-Soprano • David Myers, Jr., Tenor Benjamin Pugh, Treble

SOLOISTS



Joshua Miller is a Baritone from Southwest Harbor Maine. He studied vocal performance at the University of Southern Maine with Ellen Chickering and Judith James. He now lives in New York City but he returns to Maine every summer to help grow Maines classical music scene. Joshua is passionate about getting young people excited and involved with Opera and so he and a group of young singers have been putting on shows in the greater Portland area to expose people to the joys of this music. Joshua would like to thank Mr. Fleming and the chorus for the opportunity to sing this great work!

Soprano **Mary Sullivan** has appeared as a soloist with numerous ensembles in New England, including the Oratorio Chorale, Cantemus, the Concord Women's Chorus, and the Lincoln Festival Chorus. Other recent appearances include the Messiah sing hosted by the Downeast Singers under Artistic Director Anthony Antolini, and the King's Chapel



concert series in Boston. She has been presented as a recitalist at Bowdoin College's Studzinski Recital Hall with pianist and Artist in Residence George Lopez, and was a featured soloist at the PORTopera gala fundraising dinner this past spring.

Ms. Sullivan is the Artist in Residence with the Oratorio Chorale under Artistic Directory Emily Isaacson, for which she presented a solo recital as part of their concert season this past January. She is also the resident soloist at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Portland, with organist Herbert Taylor; and she has been a guest soloist at St. Andrew's in Newcastle with organist

Sean Fleming. In the summer of 2015, she will appear with Sean Fleming and the Maine Friends of Music in their series of chamber music concerts in the Midcoast area. She is featured on composer Steven Finch's CD *An Apple Gathering*, and has sung world premieres of works by Mr. Finch and also by Boston-area composer Ruth Lomon. Ms. Sullivan is the producer on several CDs of classical vocal and instrumental music; two of the selections on the most recent CD, composer Graham Gordon Ramsay's *The Sacred Voice* were nominated for Grammy awards by Albany Records. Ms. Sullivan studied voice with celebrated soprano Nancy Armstrong and mezzo soprano Pamela Dellal, and maintains a private voice studio in Brunswick, Maine.



Andrea Graichen is a frequent soloist in the Greater Portland area, performing a wide variety of alto and mezzo-soprano repertoire. She is a longtime member of The Choral Art Society and the St. Mary Schola early music ensemble. Last month Andrea sang the role of Mother Jeanne in the Portland Symphony Orchestra's presentation of Poulenc's opera *Dialogues of the Carmelites*.

Recital appearances include performances of Mozart's *Parto! Ma* tu ben mio from La Clemenza di Tito and Schubert's Lachen und Weinen, Erlafsee, and Der Hirt auf dem Felsen (The Shepherd on

Andrea Graichen (cont'd)

the Rock). In concert operas Andrea has sung the roles of Venere in Monteverdi's *Il Ballo delle Ingrate*, Dido in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Venus in Blow's *Venus and Adonis*, and Ninfa and Messaggiera in Monteverdi's *Orfeo*. Solo appearances include Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*; Poulenc's *Gloria*; Stravinsky's *Mass*; Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*; Bach's *Mass in B minor*; Handel's *Messiah*; Vivaldi's *Gloria*; Beethoven's *Fantasy in C minor*; Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*; Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, *Regina Coeli*, and *Requiem*; plus many smaller works, among them Strozzi's *Lagrime Mie*, Ballio's *The Old Bridge at Florence*, and Monteverdi's *Lamento d'Ariana*. Andrea graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a B.S. in Nutrition. She studies voice with Kathleen Grammer. Andrea and her husband Dana reside in Arundel.

David Myers, Jr. performs as a tenor and baritone soloist with various choral and theater groups in Midcoast Maine. His most recent portrayals include Jesus in the Down East



Singers production of Delmar Dustin Small's oratorio *As it Began to Dawn*, both the drunken monk and the roasted swan in Lincoln Arts Festival's production of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, and tenor soloist in the Down East Singers Latin American Christmas concert, "Navidad Nuestra", showcasing work by Ariel Ramirez. He will be featured as the Evangelist in Bowdoin Chorus' production of J.S. Bach's *St John Passion* this spring. David is currently serving as vice president on the Down East Singers board of directors.

Originally from Clear Spring, Maryland, David holds a music degree from Frostburg State University where he studied voice with Dr. Karen Soderberg-Sarnaker and Mr. Allen Emerick. He now resides in Waldoboro, Maine, where he builds darkroom materials for wet-plate collodion photographers and advises clients on collodion processes.



Benji Pugh is a 7th grader at Great Salt Bay school. Music is an important part of his life. He plays trumpet for the school band and jazz band and sings in the school and church choirs. He enjoys swimming and cross country running. His other interests include computer programming, electronics and do-it-yourself projects.

Music Director **Linda Blanchard** earned her MA in Choral Conducting from University of Michigan School of Music, Ann Arbor, and her BA in Music from Bowdoin College. She is recipient of the Susan Winchell Burnett Music Prize, the Abraham Goldberg Prize for theatrical directing and the St. Botolph Emerging Artist Award. She studied orchestral conducting with Gustav Meier and Zae Munn, and choral conducting with Theodore Morrison, Jerry Blackstone, and Robert Greenlee. Ms. Blanchard is founding director of St. Cecilia Chamber Choir, directs the Sheepscot Valley Chorus and is Director of Choirs at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Newcastle. She has worked as a festival adjudicator and clinician, directed the Bowdoin College Chamber



Choir, University of Michigan Residential College Choirs and Orpheus Singers, worked in Maine and Michigan as a church organist and choir director, taught junior high and high school chorus in Maine, taught voice at Bowdoin College, and worked extensively as a musical theater director.

Sean Fleming performs regularly with the Bowdoin Chorus, Coastal Chorale, Down East Singers, Lincoln Academy Lincolnaires, Lincoln Festival Chorus, Maine Friends of Music, Midcoast Community Chorus, St.

Cecilia Chamber Choir, Sheepscot Valley Chorus, and Tapestry Singers. He is also the music director for the Hearts Ever Young Chorus, and he regularly accompanies many high school and junior high festivals. He has worked with Ann Arbor Camerata, Bowdoin Chamber Choir, Bowdoin Summer Music Festival Chorus, Colby College Chorale, Maine Pro Musica, Oratorio Chorale, Renaissance Voices, University of Michigan Gilbert and Sullivan Society, University of Southern Maine Chorale, University of Southern Maine Chamber Singers, and Vox Nova Chamber Choir.

Sean has directed or accompanied over sixty-five musical theater productions nationwide. Most recently he was the music director for "Fiddler on the Roof", "Godspell", and "Sunday in the Park with George" with Heartwood Regional Theater Company, and "Shrek", "Aida", and "Little Shop of Horrors" at The Waldo Theater.

An organ recitalist who has performed thoughout the United States, Sean studied organ and piano with Ray Cornils, John Doney, Michael Lindsey, and Gerald McGee. For the past nineteen years he has served as organist at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Newcastle.

He was the recipient of a 2009 St. Botolph Club Foundation grant award for achievements in music.

Sheepscot Valley Chorus and St. Cecilia Chamber Choir

			CHORUS		
	Sopranos		Altos cont'd		Basses
С	Cally Aldrich	V	Lauren Liberman	V	Kent Cooper
V	Barbara Belknap	V	Drew Porter	V	Jim Crowley
V	Linda Blomquist	C	Nadine Raley	V	Sandy Falconer
V	Cindee Chances	V	Marie Sacks	C	Kit Hayden
С	Ann Creamer	C	Anna Shaw	C	Richard Kinney*
V	Marjorie DiVece	V	Colleen Teerling	V	Terry Lowd
V	Clara Fagan	C	Georgi Thompson	V	Tom Pierpan
V	Kim Hatt	V	Suzanne Hedrick	V	Thomas Porter
V	Lynn Kimball	C	Cathy Johnson	C	Andy Sherrill
С	Lili Pugh			C	Stephen White
	Cheryl Dilts	V V	Tenors Richard Bates Mal Briggs Carol Cragin Jody Lunt Del Merritt	С	David Wright * Student Member
V Marty Grant C Sidney Harvey C George Shaw C Steve Ward C - St. Cecilia Chamber Choir V - Sheepscot Valley Chorus					

ORCHESTRA

Violin I

Ferdinand Liva, *Concertmaster* Kathryn Pillsbury Kate Gray

Violin II

Lydia Forbes Lorel Nazarro Susan Vold

Viola

Rocco Havelar Louise Huntington Jon Luoma

Cello

Myles Jordan Richard Francis Evan Pillsbury

Double Bass

Chuck McGregor

Flute

Nan White

Oboe

Kristen Fox

Clarinet

Judy Falconer Sean Fleming

Bassoon

Lara Bailey

Horn

Carolyn Kanicki

Trumpet

Allen Graffam

Trombone

Anita Jerosch

Timpani

Quinn Gormley

PROGRAM NOTES

Mendelssohn's Elijah

This oratorio was composed in the spirit of Mendelssohn's Baroque predecessors Bach and Handel, whose music he loved. In 1829 Mendelssohn organized the first performance of Bach's *St Matthew Passion* since the composer's death and was instrumental in bringing this and other Bach works to widespread popularity, which continues to our day. *Elijah* is modeled on the oratorios of these two Baroque masters. Mendelssohn originally composed the work to a German text. However on being commissioned by the Birmingham Festival to write an oratorio Mendelssohn had the libretto translated into English and the oratorio was premiered in the English version.

The oratorio tells of several pivotal events in the life of the prophet Elijah, as narrated in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) book of 1 Kings. Elijah lived during the 9th century BCE (the 800s B.C.) in the northern part of what we today call Israel. Elijah has been called one of the most dynamic of Israel's religious leaders, who shaped the history of his day, and dominated Hebrew thinking for centuries to come. Unlike the prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Amos, among others, Elijah left no written record. Instead, an unnamed editor of the book of Kings has included a number of events from his life that provided Mendelssohn with plenty of exciting material around which to compose his oratorio.

Elijah's life-long struggle as a prophet was against his government that was willing to be rather more lax in its observation of the Hebrew law than Elijah believed was right, chiefly its willingness to allow, even encourage, temples dedicated to the Canaanite god, Baal. Israel's king at the time, Omri, arranged a marriage alliance between his son Ahab and princess Jezebel, a priestess of Baal and the daughter of the king of Sidon in Phoenicia. This brought security and economic prosperity to Israel for a time, but did not bring peace with the Israelite prophets, who were committed to a strict interpretation of Mosaic law. Under Ahab's kingship, these tensions were exacerbated. Ahab built a temple for Baal, and his wife Jezebel brought a large entourage of priests and prophets of Baal into the country. It is in this context that Elijah is introduced.

The oratorio begins with Elijah's prophecy of a drought which leads to the choir's first chorus, "Help, Lord." The next scene is the famous contest between the priests of Baal and those of God as to who will send down fire to engulf the sacrificial bull. The chorus, on the side of Baal, sings "Baal we cry to thee" followed by Elijah taunting them with "Call him louder." When there is no answer from Baal, there follows the calm, dignified prayer of Elijah ("Draw near,

all ye people"), followed by the beautiful chorale ("Cast thy Burden upon the Lord"). It is the moment of quiet before the storm which is to come. Elijah calls for the fire to descend upon the altar to consume the offering. Then in a spirit of good old-fashioned vengeance, the prophets of God slay all the priests of Baal. At that, the drought ends, to which we all sing: "Thanks be to God!" and bring the first half to an end.

The second half begins with solo and choral pieces that encourage trust in God and following God's commandments. The scene which follows is intensely dramatic. Elijah rebukes Ahab and condemns the worship of Baal. Jezebel fiercely accuses Elijah of conspiring against Israel, and the people in sharp, impetuous phrases declare ("He shall perish"), leading to the chorus ("Woe to him!"). Then Obadiah, in his recitative, "Man of God" counsels Elijah to flee to the wilderness before Jezebel can capture and kill him. In the next scene, Elijah is in the wilderness alone and fearful, and he prays for death. A few bars of tenor recitative tell us that the weary Elijah has fallen asleep. This introduces a beautiful series of pieces, representing the prayers of the angels who guard the sleeping Elijah, beginning with the beautiful, unaccompanied women's chorus, "Lift thine Eyes," a paraphrase of Psalm 121. This is followed by the Chorus ("He watching over Israel") At its close the angel awakes Elijah, and once more we hear his pathetic complaint ("O Lord, I have labored in vain . . . O, that I now might die!"). In response comes an aria, sung by the angel ("O rest in the Lord"). This is followed by the chorus encouraging Elijah with the words: "He that shall endure to the End."

The next scene is one of the most dramatic in the oratorio. Elijah no longer prays for death; he longs for the divine presence. The angel who instructs Elijah to stand before the Lord to witness God's glory ("Arise now, get thee without, stand on the Mount before the Lord; for there His glory will appear and shine on thee!") With sudden strength the chorus announces ("Behold! God the Lord passed by") a mighty wind, an earthquake, and a fire, but the Lord was not in any of these. In the silence that follows these momentous natural events, God is perceived in a "still small voice."

Once more Elijah goes on his way, no longer dejected, but clothed with "the strength of the Lord." His aria ("For the Mountains shall depart") prepares us for the final climax. The chorus announces "Then did Elijah the Prophet break forth like a Fire; his Words were like burning Torches". Here Elijah, like Moses before him, is described as going to Mt. Sinai. But whereas Moses was given the law (10 commandments) at Sinai, Elijah hears of God's judgments in the future. This chorus also gives a vivid picture of the arrival of a fiery chariot and a whirlwind by which Elijah was taken up into heaven. The oratorio closes with a majestic chorus in praise to God.

TEXT

FIRST PART

INTRODUCTION

Elijah:

As God the Lord of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

OVERTURE

CHORUS: Help, Lord!

The People

Help, Lord! wilt Thou quite destroy us? The harvest now is over, the summer days are gone, and yet no power cometh to help us! Will then the Lord be no more God in Zion?

The deeps afford no water, and the rivers are exhausted. The suckling's tongue now cleaveth for thirst to his mouth. The infant children ask for bread, and there is no one breaketh it to feed them.

DUET AND CHORUS: Lord, bow Thine ear to our prayer

The People Lord, bow Thine ear to our prayer.

Two Women Zion spreadeth her hands for aid, and there is neither help nor

comfort.

RECITATIVE: Ye people, rend your hearts

Obadiah

Ye people, rend your hearts and not your garments. For your transgressions, the prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye: forsake your idols, return to God; for He is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil.

AIR: If with all your hearts ye truly seek Me

Obadiah

'If with all your hearts ye truly seek Me, ye shall ever surely find

Me.' Thus saith our God.

Oh! that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence!

CHORUS: Yet doth the Lord see it not

The People

Yet doth the Lord see it not, He mocketh at us; His curse hath fallen down upon us, His wrath will pursue us till He destroy us.

For He, the Lord our God, He is a jealous God, and He visiteth all the fathers' sins on the children to the third and the fourth generation of them that hate Him. His mercies on thousands fall on all them that love him and keep his commandments.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS: As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth

Elijah As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth, before whom I stand, three

years this day fulfilled, I will show myself unto Ahab; and the Lord will then send rain again upon the earth.

Ahab Art thou Elijah? Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

The People Thou art Elijah, thou he that troubleth Israel!

Elijah I never troubled Israel's peace: it is thou, Ahab, and all thy

father's house Ye have forsaken God's commands, and thou hast

followed Baalim.

Now send, and gather to me the whole of Israel unto Mount Carmel; there summon the prophets of Baal, and also the prophets of Baal, and also the prophets of the groves who are house feasted at Jezebel's table. Then we shall see whose

God is the Lord.

The People And then we shall see whose God is the Lord.

Elijah Rise then, ye priests of Baal; select and slay a bullock, and put no

fire under it; uplift your voices and call the god ye worship, and I will call upon the Lord Jehovah; and the god who by fire shall

answer, let him be God.

The People Yea, and the God who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

Elijah Call first upon your god, your numbers are many. I, even I only,

remain one prophet of the Lord. Invoke your forest gods, and

mountain deities.

CHORUS: Baal, we cry to thee

Priests of Baal Baal, we cry to thee, hear and answer us! Heed the sacrifice we

offer! Hear us, Baal!

Hear, mighty god! Baal, oh answer us! Baal, let thy flames fall

and extirpate the foe!

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS: Call him louder

Elijah Call him louder, for he is a god! He talketh, or he is pursuing, or

he is in a journey; or, peradventure, he sleepeth: so awaken him!

Call him louder, call him louder!

Priests of Baal Hear our cry, O Baal! Now arise! Wherefore slumber?

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS: Call him louder!

Elijah Call him louder! He heareth not. With knives and lancets cut

yourselves after your manner. Leap upon the altar ye have made, call him and prophesy! Not a voice will answer you: none will

listen, none heed you.

Priests of Baal Baal! Hear and answer, Baal! Mark how the scorner

derideth us! Hear and answer!

RECITATIVE AND AIR: Draw near, all ye people

Elijah Draw near, all ye people: Come to me!

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, this day let it be known that Thou art God, and that I am Thy servant! Lord God of Abraham! Oh show to all these people that I have done these things according to Thy word. Oh hear me, Lord, and answer me! Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, oh hear me and answer me, and show these people that Thou art Lord God. And let their hearts again be turned!

CHORUS: Cast thy burden upon the Lord

Angels Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee. He never will suffer the righteous to fall: He is at thy right hand.

Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heavens. Let none be made ashamed, that wait upon Thee!

RECITATIVE: O Thou, who makest Thine angels spirits

Elijah O Thou, who makest Thine angels spirits; Thou, whose

ministers are flaming fires; let them now descend!

The People The fire descends from heaven! The flames consume his offering!

Before Him upon your faces fall! The Lord is God, the Lord is God! O Israel hear! Our God is one Lord: and we will have no

other gods before the Lord.

Elijah Take all the prophets of Baal, and let not one of them escape

you. Bring them down to Kishon's brook, and there let them

be slain.

The People Take all the prophets of Baal and let not one of them escape us:

bring all and slay them!

AIR: Is not His word like a fire

Elijah Is not His word like a fire, and like a hammer that breaketh the

rock into pieces?

For God is angry with the wicked every day. And if the wicked turn not, the Lord will whet His sword; and He hath bent His

bow, and made it ready.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS: O man of God, help thy people!

Obadiah O man of God, help thy people! Among the idols of the

Gentiles, are there any that can command the rain, or cause the heavens to give their showers? The Lord our God alone can do

these things.

Elijah O Lord, Thou hast overthrown Thine enemies and destroyed

them. Look down on us from heaven, O Lord; regard the distress of Thy people: open the heavens and send us relief: help, help

Thy servant now, O God!

The People Open the heavens and send us relief: help, help Thy servant now,

O God!

Elijah Go up now, child, and look toward the sea. Hath my prayer been

heard by the Lord?

The Youth There is nothing. The heavens are as brass, they are as brass

above me.

Elijah When the heavens are closed up because they have sinned against

Thee, yet if they pray and confess Thy Name, and turn from their sin when Thou didst afflict them: then hear from

heaven, and forgive the sin! Help! send Thy servant help, O God!

The People Then hear from heaven, and forgive the sin! Help! send Thy

servant help, O God!

Elijah Go up again, and still look toward the sea.

The Youth There is nothing. The earth is as iron under me!

Elijah Hearest thou no sound of rain? Seest thou nothing arise from the

deep?

The Youth No, there is nothing.

Elijah Have respect to the prayer of Thy servant, O Lord my God!

Unto Thee will I cry, Lord, my rock; be not silent to me; and

Thy great mercies remember, Lord!

The Youth Behold, a little cloud ariseth now from the waters; it is like a

man's hand! The heavens are black with clouds and wind: the

storm rusheth louder and louder!

The People Thanks be to God for all his mercies!

Elijah Thanks be to God, for He is gracious, and His mercy endureth

forevermore!

CHORUS: Thanks be to God

The People

Thanks be to God, He laveth the thirsty land! The waters gather, they rush along; they are lifting their voices! The stormy billows are high; their fury is mighty. But the Lord is above them, and Almighty!

SECOND PART

AIR: Hear ye, Israel

Soprano Hear ye, Israel; hear what the Lord speaketh: 'Oh, hadst thou

heeded my commandments!' Who hath believed our report: to

whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?

Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and His Holy One, to him oppressed by tyrants: thus saith the Lord: 'I am he that comforteth; be not afraid, for I am thy God, I will strengthen

thee. Say, who art thou, that thou art afraid of a man that shall die; and forgettest the Lord thy Maker, who hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the earth's foundations? Be not afraid, for I, thy God, will strengthen thee.'

CHORUS: Be not afraid

Chorus

'Be not afraid,' saith God the Lord, 'be not afraid, thy help is near.' God, the Lord thy God, sayeth unto thee, 'be not afraid!'

Though thousands languish and fall beside thee, and tens of thousands around thee perish, yet still it shall not come nigh thee.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS: The Lord hath exalted thee

Elijah

The Lord hath exalted thee from among the people, and o'er His people Israel hath made thee king. But thou, Ahab, hast done evil to provoke Him to anger above all that were before thee; as if it had been a light thing for thee to walk in the sins of Jeroboam. Thou hast made a grove and an altar to Baal, and served him and worshipped him. Thou hast killed the righteous, and also taken possession.

And the Lord shall smite all Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water; and He shall give Israel up, and thou shalt know He is the Lord.

Jezebel Have ye not heard he hath prophesied against all Israel?

Courtiers We heard it with our ears.

Jezebel Hath he not prophesied also against the king?

Courtiers We heard it with our ears.

Jezebel And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord?

Doth Ahab govern the kingdom of Israel while Elijah's power is

greater than the king's?

The gods do so to me, and more; if by tomorrow about this time, I make not his life as the life of one of them whom he hath

sacrificed at the brook of Kishon!

Courtiers He shall perish!

Jezebel Hath he not destroyed Baal's prophets?

Courtiers He shall perish!

Jezebel Yea, by the sword he destroyed them all!

Courtiers He destroyed them all!

Jezebel He also closed the heavens!

Courtiers He also closed the heavens!

Jezebel And called down a famine upon the land.

Courtiers And called down a famine upon the land.

Jezebel

So go ye forth and seize Elijah, for he is worthy to die; slaughter him! do unto him as he hath done!

CHORUS: Woe to him!

The People

Woe to him! He shall perish; for he closed the heavens! And why hath he spoken in the Name of the Lord? Let the guilty prophet perish! He hath spoken falsely against our land and us, as we have heard with our ears. So go ye forth; seize on him! he shall die!

RECITATIVE: Man of God

Obadiah

Man of God, now let my words be precious in thy sight. Thus saith Jezebel; 'Elijah is worthy to die.' So the mighty gather against thee, and they have prepared a net for thy steps; that they may seize thee, that they say slay thee. Arise then, and hasten for thy life; to the wilderness journey. The Lord thy God doth go with thee: He will not fail thee, He will not forsake thee. Now begone, and bless me also.

Elijah

Though stricken, they have not grieved. Tarry here my servant: the Lord be with thee. I journey hence to the wilderness.

AIR: It is enough!

Elijah

It is enough! O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers! I desire to live no longer: now let me die, for my days are but vanity.

I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts, for the children of Israel have broken Thy covenant, and thrown down Thine altars, and slain all Thy prophets, slain them with the sword. And I, even I only am left: and they seek my life to take it away! It is enough! O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers. Now let me die, Lord, take away my life.

RECITATIVE: See, now he sleepeth

Tenor

See, now he sleepeth beneath a juniper tree in the wilderness, but the angels of the Lord encamp round about all them that fear Him.

CHORUS: Lift thine eyes

Angels

Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved, thy keeper will never slumber.

CHORUS: He, watching over Israel

Angels

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps. Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.

RECITATIVE: Arise, Elijah

An Angel Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey before thee. Forty days

and forty nights shalt thou go to Horeb, the mount of God.

Elijah O Lord, I have labored in vain; yea, I have spent my strength for

nought! O that Thou wouldst rend the heavens, that thou wouldst come down; that the mountains would flow down at Thy presence, to make Thy name known to Thine adversaries, through the wonders of Thy works! O Lord, why hast Thou made them to err from Thy ways and hardened their hearts

that they do not fear Thee? O that I now might die!

AIR: Oh, rest in the Lord

An Angel Oh rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him, and He shall give

thee thy heart's desires. Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in

Him, and fret not thyself because of evildoers.

CHORUS: He that shall endure to the end

Chorus He that shall endure to the end, shall be saved.

RECITATIVE: Night falleth round me

Elijah Night falleth round me, o Lord! Be Thou not far from me! Hide

not Thy face, o Lord, from me, my soul is thirsting for Thee, as a

thirsty land.

An Angel Arise now, get thee without, stand on the mount before the

Lord: for there His glory will appear, and shine on thee!

Thy face must be veiled, for He draweth near.

CHORUS: Behold, God the Lord passed by!

Chorus Behold, God the Lord passed by! And a mighty wind rent the mountains around, brake in pieces the rocks, brake them before

the Lord. But yet the Lord was not in the tempest.

Behold, God the Lord passed by! And the sea was upheaved, and

the earth was shaken. But yet the Lord was not in the

earthquake.

And after the earthquake there came a fire. But yet the Lord was

not in the fire.

And after the fire there came a still small voice. And in that still

voice onward came the Lord.

AIR: For the mountains shall depart

Elijah For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but

Thy kindness shall not depart from me; neither shall the

covenant of Thy peace be removed.

CHORUS: Then did Elijah the prophet break forth

Chorus Then did Elijah the prophet break forth like a fire; his words appeared like burning torches. Mighty kings by him were

overthrown. He stood on the mount of Sinai and heard the

judgments of the future, and in Horeb its vengeance. And when the Lord would take him away to heaven, lo! there came a fiery chariot with fiery horses; and he went by a whirlwind to heaven.

AIR: Then shall the righteous shine forth

Tenor

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm. Joy on their heads shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away for ever.

RECITATIVE: Behold, God hath sent Elijah the prophet

Soprano

Behold, God hath sent Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children unto their fathers; lest the Lord shall come and smite the earth with a curse.

CHORUS: And then shall your light break forth

Chorus

And then shall your light break forth as the light of morning breaketh: and your health shall speedily spring forth then: and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you. Lord, our Creator. how excellent Thy Name is in all the nations! Thou fillest heaven with Thy glory.

Amen.

Sources: Exodus, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Joel, Deuteronomy, Job, Psalms, 2 Chronicles, Isaiah, Ecclesiasticus*, 1 Samuel, Matthew, Malachi.

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^{*} Note that Ecclesiasticus is a book in the Apocrypha, not Ecclesiastes.

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THE HEEPSCOT VALLEY CHORUS

was founded in 1980. The society would become an amateur adult community chorus of 40 to 60 members and a conventional, if amateur, orchestra of strings, woodwind, brasses and percussion. Today, Sheepscot Valley Chorus is a thriving Community Chorus, presenting programs with professional chamber orchestras, singing for community events and showcasing talented local students in our concerts.

The chorus is a non-profit organization. We are funded by paid advertising from businesses located in the Lincoln County community, the generous contributions of Benefactors and you, the communities, as you listen to the beautiful music we as a Chorus so love to bring to you.

If you would like to come and share your voice with us, we would love to have you! Please, Join us! We perform 2 concerts per year, Christmas & Spring. Our rehearsals are on Tuesday nights 7:00 to 9:00 at the Congregational Church in Wiscasset.

Student Music Awards

The Sheepscot Valley Chorus Music Award is a prize given annually to a student from each of our three local high schools: Boothbay Regional School, Wiscasset High School, and Lincoln Academy. Music teachers from each school are asked to identify the student who has contributed most to their school's music program and/or excelled in their musical studies, either vocal or instrumental. Award recipients will perform (usually as soloists) with the Sheepscot Valley Chorus in our spring concerts, receiving a stipend of \$250.

Sheepscot Valley Chorus - Spring, 2015

Director

Linda Blanchard

Accompanist

Sean Fleming

Sopranos

Barbara Belknap Linda Blomquist Cindee Chances Marjorie DiVece Clara Fagan Kim Hatt

Lynn Kimball

Altos

Taylor Briggs Zibette Dean Marty Grant Suzanne Hedrick Lauren Liberman Drew Porter Marie Sacks Colleen Teerling

Tenors

Carol Cragin Jody Lunt

Basses

Kent Cooper Jim Crowley Sandy Falconer Terry Lowd Tom Pierpan Thomas Porter



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The Mission of the St. Cecilia Chamber Choir is:

To present outstanding performances of the very **best choral repertoire**; To provide challenging musical **opportunities for gifted local youth**; To support our community with **outreach programs**; and To **support Maine composers** through the commissioning of new music.

Since the Choir's inception, **eighteen gifted young students** have sung with us, many continuing to study music in college and beyond. In recent years the Choir has twice provided scholarship grants to young members of the Choir going on to college.

Community outreach concerts have benefited the Damariscotta Baptist Church Steeple Fund, the Great Salt Bay School lunch program, Skidompha Library, Round Top Center for the Arts, the Kennedy Leadership Center at Kieve, the historic Old German Church in Waldoboro, the historic St. John's Church in Dresden, the Waldo Theater, Lincoln County Animal Shelter, and St. Andrew's Outreach, supporting 16 local groups.

To date, we have performed **sixteen new works by Maine composers**, ten of which were especially composed for the Choir.



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St. Cecilia Chamber Choir - Spring, 2015

DirectorLinda Blanchard **Accompanist**Sean Fleming

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Altos

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Basses Kit Hayden Richard Kinney* Andy Sherrill Stephen White David Wright

* Student Member



Richard Kinney of Waldoboro is a fourteen year old sophomore at Medomak Valley High School, where he is a member of the chorus, band and tennis team. In addition to singing with St. Cecilia, he works as an organist for local churches, sings with St. Andrew's Church Youth Choir, has performed in numerous shows, and plays several instruments. Richard is a First Class Boy Scout. He studies piano and organ with Sean Fleming.

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master bedroom suite and spacious bathroom and retained he old bathroom for use as a second facility.

When designing a new bath from the ground up, according to Bob, it's critically important to allow enough room for the accessibility of a walker or a wheelchair. For example, a pedestal sink will prevent access to users of walkers or wheelchairs. The Hardinas' new bath features a sink built into a long counter to include seating. Beneath the sink, there is nothing but space to accommodate a walker or wheelchair.

"Space is a big thing," says Bob. "We didn't want the new bath to look institutional, but needed functionality, spaciousness and easy upkeep." The shower stall is deep enough to turn around in, yet the faucets are easily accessible from the built in seat. Instead of the standard shower door, the Hardinas selected a

heavy shower curtain, knowing that people often use a door handle as a grab bar which cannot support much weight and is inherently unsafe.

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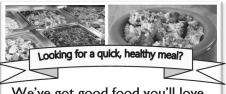
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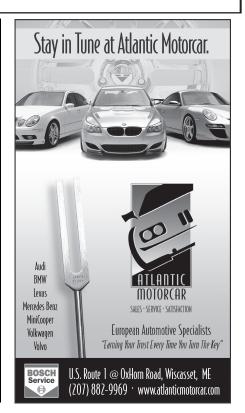
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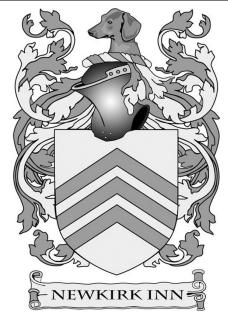
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