

Spring 4-18-2009

Marshall University Music Department Presents
The Marshall University Choral Union, presents,
Arthur Honegger's King David, A Symphonic
Psalm, In Three Parts, After a drama by, Rene
Moraz, with, The MU Chamber Choir and
Orchestra

David Castleberry

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DEPARTMENT of MUSIC

The Marshall University Choral Union

Presents

**Arthur Honegger's
King David**

A Symphonic Psalm

In Three Parts

After a drama by

Rene Morax

With

**The MU Chamber Choir
And Orchestra**

David Castleberry, conductor

8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 18th

Program

King David

Arthur Honegger
(1892-1955)

Jeffrey Pappas, Narrator

First Part

Introduction

The Song of David the shepherd

Psalm: "All Praise to Him"

Fanfare and Entry of Goliath

Song of Victory

March

Psalm: "In the Lord I put my faith"

Psalm: "Oh had I wings like a dove"

Song of the Prophets

Psalm: "Pity me, Lord!"

Saul's Camp

Psalm: "God the Lord shall be my light"

Incantation of the Witch of Endor

March of the Philistines

Lament of Gilboa

Melanie Griffiths, soprano

Adam Stephenson, tenor

Leeah Weber, soprano

Mitchell Spurlock, tenor

Mark Smith, tenor

Burcu Korkmaz, Barbara Ladner, sopranos

Second Part

Song of the Daughters of Israel

The Dance before the Ark

Leeah Weber, soprano

Burcu Korkmaz, soprano

Third Part

Song: "Now my voice in song up-soaring"

Song of the Handmaid

Psalm of Penitence

Psalm: "Behold in evil I was born"

Psalm: "Oh, shall I raise my eyes"

The Song of Ephraim

March of the Hebrews

Psalm: "Thee will I love, o Lord"

The Crowning of Solomon

The Death of David

Melanie Griffiths, soprano

Michael Sidoti, tenor

Linda Dobbs, soprano

Burcu Korkmaz, soprano

Notes on Arthur Honegger's King David

Composer Arthur Honegger (1892-1955) was elevated to prominence when, in 1921, the Swiss playwright Rene Morax engaged him to write incidental music for his play *Le Roi David*, whose intended venue was the reopening of his Theatre du Jorat in the Swiss Alps. Honegger was chosen upon the recommendation of conductor Ernest Ansermet and completed his "Symphonic Psalm" in just two months. He used Morax's narrative to link the musical sections for soloists, chorus, and orchestra. The original scoring heard in this performance calls for sixteen players, used in a variety of combinations to highlight individual instrumental timbres, while the chorus is used in unison and in counterpoint. Sections are lean, colorful, and alternately dramatic and lyrical. Honegger later re-orchestrated the work for larger forces.

Associated with that group of composers called *Les Six*, who included his friend Darius Milhaud and Francis Poulenc, Honegger was particularly prolific during the years between World War I and World War II. His writing throughout his career is characterized by a sure master of counterpoint, vigorous use of rhythm, a keen ear for harmonic and instrumental color, and a high regard for the architectural aspects of composition. Among his best-known works are *Pacific 231* (1923), a depiction of a steam locomotive, his dramatic oratorio *Jeanne d'Arc au bucher* (1935), and *A Christmas Cantata* (1953), his last composition.

David Castleberry

Marshall University Choral Union

Nathanael Aylestock	John Hubbard	Patricia Pierce
Joe Barnett	Mindy Kelle	Frances Plemitch
April Bennett	Burcu Korkmaz	Beth Rankin
Mary Beth Brown	Edward Jeffery	Graham Rankin
Melody Cook	Bill Jennings	Joe Rubin
Leslie Counts	Barbara Ladner	Momoko Shiki
Ruth Crowe	Victoria Lamont	Joseph Smith
Kenny Duthie	Charlie Lewis	Lou Spears
Amber Ferguson	Margaret Ann Lewis	Gertrude Spurlock
S. Ashley Gallaher	Marjorie McKee	Adam Stephenson
Maria-Tulia Gomez	Jack Meador	Susan Tams
Tessa Gore	Maria Teresa Miller	Carla Rae Terry
Melanie Griffiths	Joan Molnar	Caroline Thomas
Sarah Hall	Sarah Nichols	Joyce Wilcox
Jennifer Honaker	Sue Parker	Jocelyn Williams
Gwenyth Hood	Rachel Parlock	Paul Winters
Jeanne Hubbard	James Payne	Heather Wood

Marshall University Chamber Choir

Sopranos	Angelina Browning	Michael Sidoti
Kelsey Anderson	Erin Corbitt	Mitchell Spurlock
Jennifer Billups	Brittany Kimball	Adam Stephenson
Jeseca Bragg	Briana McElfish	Justin Wiget
Kaitlin DeSpain	Rachel Parlock	Basses
Jessica Kline	Tenors	David Hines
Halley Kurtz	Edward Brown	John Hurley
Aurelia Ward	Michael Elmore	David Patrick
Leeah Weber	John Galloway	William Richards
Altos	Andrew Lowers	Arnold Rispress
Staci Arthur	Matthew Pritt	Matthew Sparks
Rachel Bartram	Michael Rose	Fred Workman

Orchestra

Wendell Dobbs, Callie Huff, flutes
Jenny Morris, oboe/English horn
Ann Marie Bingham, Robert Heath, clarinets
Kay Lawson, bassoon
Martin Saunders, Josh Richardson, trumpets
Nick Amis, horn
Michael Stroehrer, trombone
Mark Smith, Justin Wiget, pianos
Cynthia Puls, cello
Rebecca Harrison, bass
Ben Miller, Steve Hall, Levi Billiter, percussion

This program is presented by the College of Fine Arts through the Department of Music, with the support of student activity funds. For more information about this or other music events, please call (304) 696-3117, or view our website at www.marshall.edu/cofa/music.