

Dear Friends:

After performing two popular and well-received choral works—Haydn's *The Creation* and Beethoven's *Ninth* (as the North Shore Choral Society did last season), what comes next, especially during this, the year of our 70th birthday celebration? Our choice has been to turn our attention to music that will not only delight audiences but also challenge them with new and unfamiliar listening experiences. Our holiday concert features the renowned English handbell ensemble, The Agape Ringers, joining both the chorus and the audience in seasonal pieces. For our second concert—in addition to the warhorse *Carmina Burana*, Brahms' elegant *Liebeslieder-Wälzer*, Op. 52, is on the program. In May, we join the Northbrook Symphony Orchestra to celebrate Shostakovich's 100th birthday with a performance of his *Second Symphony* in its Chicagoland premiere. Finally, we return to Pick-Staiger Concert Hall to perform Schumann's beautiful but little-known work, *Das Paradies und die Peri*.

As always, the Society looks forward to preparing these pieces for your enjoyment. And I look forward to working with our singers and instrumentalists to bring you the kind of exceptional programs for which the North Shore Choral Society is known. Please join us on this unique adventure as we enter our 70th year.

Donald Chen, Music Director



Music Director Donald Chen begins his twenty-second season with the Society. He is Associate Professor of Music and Resident Conductor of the Roosevelt University Orchestra and Director of Music at Village Presbyterian Church, Northbrook.



Our accompanist Sharon Rich Peterson is accompanist of the Chicago Symphony Chorus, its Resident Ensembles, and the Chicago Symphony Singers. She is organist at North Park Covenant Church and North Park Theological Seminary.

Celebrate...the beginning of another joyful holiday

season when the North Shore Choral Society welcomes **The Agape Ringers**, Chicago's premier English handbell choir.

Featured choral selections include *Ring Out, Ye Crystal Spheres* by K. Lee Scott and *Ave Rex* by William Mathias. Enjoy the unique pleasure of singing along with the chorus, accompanied by bells, brass, organ, and percussion.



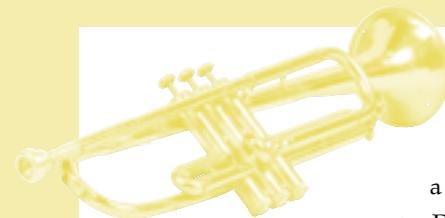
Sunday, December 4, 2005 2:30 PM
Saints Faith, Hope & Charity Church
191 Linden Street (at Hill Road), Winnetka, IL

Celebrate...the return of an old favorite, Carl

Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Set to 13th century poems from the Benediktbeuern monastery, this work speaks of fate, spring, wanton pleasures, and rowdy tavern life. In contrast, Johannes Brahms' charming *Liebeslieder-Wälzer*, Op. 52, captures the elegance and sophistication of nineteenth-century Vienna.



Sunday, March 12, 2006 7 PM
The Unitarian Church of Evanston
1330 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL



Celebrate...the 100th

birthday of Dimitri Shostakovich in a performance of his *Second Symphony*,

sung in Russian. On the heels of last May's

performance of Beethoven's *Ninth* with the Chicago Philharmonic, this work—our first collaboration with the Northbrook Symphony Orchestra—presents a series of brilliant episodes that capture a variety of moods and meanings. Conducted by Lawrence Rapchak.

Sunday, May 7, 2006 4 PM

Glenbrook North High School Auditorium
2300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, IL

Celebrate...the discovery of a new

treasure: Robert Schumann's *Das Paradies und die Peri*, a work not performed in the Chicago area in over 30 years. Based on an epic poem, this work weaves opera and oratorio to recount a Persian folktale in which heroism, love and repentance finally gain heavenly joy. With its exquisite romanticism, it is often considered the work that established Schumann's reputation during one of music's golden ages.



Sunday, June 11, 2006 3 PM

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall
1977 South Campus Drive, Evanston, IL

Order your tickets now and save!

Tickets at the door will be: Regular \$25, Senior \$22, Youth \$15 (December & March concerts); Regular \$35, Senior \$32, Youth \$25 (June concert). Comparable single tickets for the May 7 concert may be available from the Northbrook Symphony.

Season subscription to all four concerts

Regular admission _____ @ \$85 \$ _____
Senior (age 65 and over) _____ @ \$75 \$ _____

Single tickets in advance

Regular _____ December 4 _____ March 12 @ \$22 \$ _____
Senior (age 65+) _____ December 4 _____ March 12 @ \$20 \$ _____
Youth (12 & under) _____ December 4 _____ March 12 @ \$12 \$ _____

June 11 Concert Regular _____ @ \$31 \$ _____
Senior (age 65+) _____ @ \$27 \$ _____
Youth (12 & under) _____ @ \$22 \$ _____

Please add a contribution and become a NSCS sponsor. \$ _____
Name as you would like it to appear in the program: _____

Send check payable to **North Shore Choral Society**,
Box 103, Evanston, IL 60204-0103 **Total** \$ _____

Name: _____

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Tickets will be mailed in October 2005.
Thank you for joining us for this 2005-2006 season.

Become a Sponsor!

Help make the music happen.

Principal Benefactor	\$1,000 or more
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Please indicate your sponsorship level on the ticket order form and mail with your check. Contributions are deductible to the extent allowable by law.



The North Shore Choral Society is supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, an agency of the State of Illinois.

Join the Chorus!

Regular Tuesday rehearsals begin on September 6 at 7:30 PM, at The Unitarian Church of Evanston, 1330 Ridge Avenue, Evanston. Auditions for new members are at 6:30 PM before the rehearsals on September 6 and 13. We welcome any singer who has the desire and commitment to learn and perform great choral music. For an audition appointment, contact Len Barker at lenpbarker@aol.com or 847-272-2351.

www.northshorechoral.org



The North Shore Choral Society explores, studies, and performs a wide range of choral music for the enrichment and enjoyment of its singers and audiences.

“When you sang ‘Thanks be to God’ at the end of the first part [of Mendelssohn’s *Elijah*] it was a good thing that the ceiling is high or the roof would have been raised!”

— Audience member

“The sound of the 150-voice chorus...arrived like a great storm, moving through the hall with extraordinary force. When it made the dramatic upward modulation [in Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony*], the effect was spine-tingling... prepared to perfection by Donald Chen...It was a crowning achievement for the North Shore Choral Society.”

— Dorothy Andries, *Pioneer Press*

“This was an inspired occasion—everything worked! To me, this concert was a paragon of what musical performance is all about.”

— Audience member

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Celebrate

Our 70th Anniversary

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NORTH SHORE CHORAL SOCIETY
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2005 - 2006

Celebrate

Our 70th Anniversary

- ★ Holiday Music with The Agape Ringers
- ★ Orff: *Carmina Burana*
Brahms: *Liebesslieder-Walzer*
- ★ Shostakovich: *Second Symphony*
with the Northbrook Symphony
- ★ Schumann: *Das Paradies und die Peri*