



Happy Holidays!



T u t t i

November 29, 2004

A Newsletter by and for the La Jolla Symphony Chorus Association

Volume 9, Number 3

Chorus Tour - Old Mexico/Old California - July, 2005 ... Beda Farrell

La Jolla Symphony Chorus will be on the move again next July. It will be two years since our awesome visit to the Kingdom of Bhutan, and time for us to stuff those black dresses and abbreviated tuxedo "uniforms" into our suitcases and duffel bags. All previous tours, with the exception of the choral festival/competition in Powell River, BC, Canada in 1992, have been pretty far afield from San Diego County. We decided it's time to share our music a little closer to home; in Mexico and in northern California. Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico, and Mendocino, California, USA. Why *Old Mexico/Old California*? We have remarkable contacts in both places, we perform the same music in both places; and both places are historically linked.

The History Lesson

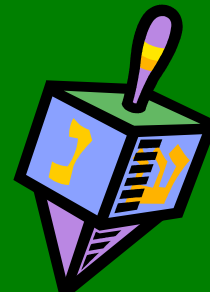
The Spanish Virrey Don Antonio de Mendoza, the first Viceroy of New Spain (Mexico), founded the city of Morelia in 1541, calling it "Valladolid" after the city of the same name in Spain. Following Mexico's War of Independence, the city was renamed to honor one of its greatest heroes born there, Jose Maria Morelos. Mendocino County, California derives its name from Cape Mendocino, which lies northward of its northern boundary. Cape Mendocino was given its name by the Portuguese navigator (for Spain) Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo. Cabrillo named it in 1542 while on a voyage of discovery along the Pacific Coast and named it in honor of Don Antonio de Mendoza, the first Viceroy of New Spain and the patron of the voyage. See the connection? This is the same Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo who "discovered" San Diego Bay in 1542 (though he named it San Miguel for the patron saint whose feast day was celebrated on the day of discovery). *Old Mexico/Old California*

The Tour

Sunday, July 10 - Sunday, July 24, 2005
Morelia, Michoacan, Mexico from 07/10 to 07/17
Mendocino, CA from 07/17 to 07/24

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Old Mexico

The first half of the choral tour takes us south of the border to the Mexican state of Michoacán. We will spend a week in the fascinating city of Morelia, a beautiful Spanish colonial city, founded in the mid-1500s. The old buildings are wonderfully preserved, and as a UNESCO Cultural World Heritage Site, Morelia has one of the cleanest city centers in the world. Performing with organizational support of the Morelia International Music Festival (the actual festival is now held in November), we will give one major concert in the city's magnificent baroque cathedral along with members of the Morelia International Music Festival Orchestra. Our major work is Vivaldi's *Gloria*, with other works by Latin American composers from the baroque era to modern times. We will also give short, informal concerts in the beautiful courtyards around the city, including a collaboration with the delightful local chorus, *Aire Fresca*. Lupita Baeza, conductor of *Aire Fresca*, is a protégé of our friend Maria Guinand, one of Latin America's premiere choral conductors.

While in Mexico the chorus will stay in the beautiful Hotel Villa Montaña, a resort in the hills overlooking Morelia. When not singing, we'll have opportunities to visit colonial towns surrounding Morelia, including Pátzcuaro (great arts & crafts), Santa Clara del Cobre (famous for copperware), and perhaps Tzintzuntzan (*Place of the Hummingbirds*), home of the ancient Tarascan or Purépecha Indian civilization.

Several websites have information about Morelia and Michoacán. The following sites have links with photos:

http://www.mexconnect.com/mex_/michoacan/moreliasectur.html

<http://www.mexperience.com/guide/colonial/morelia.htm#About>

Old California

The second half of our tour takes us to Mendocino, the beautiful village on the Northern California coast. Founded in 1852 by a shipwrecked German immigrant, it's famous for its rugged coastline, unique shops and galleries, Victorian buildings and in recent years, nearby vineyards and wineries. A National Preservation District, Mendocino has been the backdrop for numerous films from "East of Eden" to "Forever Young." It is also the home of the Mendocino Music Festival which draws crowds of locals and tourists every July. The festival features symphonic and choral music, jazz, chamber music, opera, and special guest artists. We'll repeat the Vivaldi *Gloria* and other works from the Morelia concerts in the Music Festival's giant white tent. We'll have an opportunity to sing with a local chorus, and give smaller concerts in the community. Check out the website: <http://www.mendocinomusic.com/>

While in Mendocino we'll stay at Mendocino Hotel and its sister hotel Hill House. As for sightseeing around Mendocino, we'll have opportunities to hike or ride horses along the beach, visit the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens and perhaps take a ride on the "Skunk Train" through the redwood forest from Fort Bragg to Willits. Visit the official county visitors' website: <http://www.gomendo.com/>

Tour Price

Unknown at this point, but it will be MUCH LESS than the Bhutan tour. As in the past, the chorus tour is organized by our friends at Adventures in Learning, Inc., Drs. Brenda Montiel and Ted Kilman. They will give a tour presentation, a.k.a. "dog 'n' pony show," in B210 on Mon., Nov. 29 at 9:30 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the tour is invited to attend.

Contributors:

Barbara Peisch, Ed.

Beda Farrell

Lerina Barczys

Michael Schaffer

Vicki Heinz-Shaw



Our Multi-National Association (Part 2)

Lerina Barczys – Chorus Soprano

Hello, everyone, my name is Lerina Barczys and I am a soprano in the LJSC Chorus. I grew up in Frankfurt, Germany. Before moving to San Diego, I attended the Music Academy in Frankfurt where I studied oboe and piano. I was a piano and oboe teacher there, and also was an orchestra member in one of Frankfurt's Musical Theaters playing oboe or piano for shows like "My Fair Lady," "Into the Woods," "Little Shop of Horrors," "Anything Goes," "La Cage Aux Folles," and "Nine." I moved to San Diego in 1995 because I got married here. San Diego is such a wonderful place to live, I am very happy here, and I really enjoy having the ocean close by. That's something I was always missing in my childhood, that any ocean was at least a day's drive away.

I have been a soprano with the LJSC Chorus since 1997. I enjoy singing with the group very much. There are so many talented singers. In Frankfurt, there is a similar choir, but they don't have an orchestra like we do, and I always enjoy our performances with the orchestra. I have also played the oboe with many orchestras here in San Diego, amongst them the UCSD Wind Ensemble. I'm always very interested in hearing from other musicians interested in chamber music projects, so if anyone is interested, please don't hesitate to contact me at 619-246-1194.

Michael Schaffer – Orchestra Bass

I was in born and grew up in West Berlin. Many people don't realize that Berlin was not divided because the West-East German border happened to run through it, but that West Berlin was actually an island in the middle of East Germany. It was the only place from where you would go East in all directions!

Growing up in that city in the '70s was probably a unique and strange situation, but for us it was entirely normal. West Berlin was technically not completely a part of the Federal Republic of Germany; it was a "special zone." On our travel documents, it said "preliminary passport." There were US, French and British troops in the Western part of the city. They were not perceived as occupiers, but as friends who helped keep the Eastern block from swallowing us up. I lived just minutes from where the US troops lived with their families. We had exchange programs between my school and the American high school. Among my friends were many American kids who had all the cool Star Wars toys before they even came out in Germany.

The East Germans were not seen as enemies either, but just as people who happened to be on the wrong side of the wall, had crappy noisy plastic cars and badly fitting colorless clothes, and were not allowed to travel freely.

I was not in Berlin the day the wall finally fell. Although in reality, it didn't "fall," nor was stormed by the people like it was made to look on international TV stations. What actually happened is that they had decided to announce freer travel regulations just to calm the people down - but without any intent of actually implementing these any time soon.

**Need to contact the
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But the gentleman whose job it was to hold the press conference wasn't briefed properly and thought the new regulations would become effective immediately. Once the announcement had been made, there was no way back.

On that day, I was in Western Germany with the State Youth Orchestra. When we came back to Berlin three days later, the city was already noticeably transformed. Less than one year later, Germany was finally reunited.

One element both parts of Germany had in common all the time was that music was (and still is) everywhere. Making music in orchestras and choirs is part of the German cultural heritage. Berlin alone has 8 fulltime professional concert and opera orchestras and several dozens of community, amateur, music school and youth orchestras of all kinds, as well as countless choirs and chamber music groups.

When I became interested in music, I first started playing the horn, then also the bass. I had bass lessons with a bass player who played in the Berlin Philharmonic for 42 years. Then shortly after the reunion, I went to study music with bass as main subject at the Academy in Weimar in (former) East Germany. I had also always been very interested in sound and cinema technology, and studied sound engineering as well. I played in the Staatskapelle (State Orchestra) Weimar and several other professional symphony and chamber orchestras, including my own chamber group in Berlin. At the same time, I also worked in cinema engineering. That became more and more predominant because people with knowledge and experience in that field are extremely rare and always much sought after...

A little less than 2 years ago, I responded to a job advertisement for a "Director of Engineering in warm, fun SoCal" on a website for cinema technology. I responded mostly out of curiosity and because I had become tired of the nasty weather in Berlin. I hadn't really thought that anything would come from it, but the company showed serious interest in me, so I spontaneously got on a plane, met my new boss, and so now I work here in that position for UltraStar Cinemas...

2004 Reader's Poll Results

Results are in for the "Best of San Diego Readers' Poll 2004".... from SignOnSanDiego.com (SD Union Tribune)

Classical Music Group

2004 Readers' Results
Ranked by Total Votes

1. San Diego Symphony
2. San Diego Opera
3. La Jolla Symphony & Chorus
4. San Diego Youth Symphony
5. San Diego Chamber Orchestra
6. Lyric Opera San Diego
7. Westwind Brass

What sorts of things would YOU like to know and read about?

Please direct any inquiries, comments, news, or story ideas to the Editor at barbara@peisch.com



Choral Arrangements ... Boda Farrell



Photo of Rose Williams, daughter of former LJS&C bass Bob Williams and wife Jill. The Williams' moved to Appleton, Wisconsin in July. Bob is an Assistant Professor of Education at Lawrence University.

"It would be so much less trouble to sit at home and watch television ..." submitted by Vicki Heins-Shaw

A quote from the book "How Can We Keep From Singing" by Joan Goldsmith

"... Always, always they will ask you to give more - more concentration, more purity of sound, better line, finer adagio. They will ask and you will ask it of yourself. You will especially ask yourself what you are doing here after a hard day's work at your day job, when you don't feel that good anyway, and your spouse is mad at you, and your kids say you never get anything right, and there isn't enough money to pay all of the bills. Then suddenly it flows - a bar, a phrase, perhaps even a whole movement - and you are the physical instrument of something higher.

Then you know again creation's assignment: to learn the notes, to find your music. The invisible instrument - the creative spirit - is the one instrument we must all learn to play."

Did you know that we now have recording samples of the LJS&C on the web site?

Check them out at...

[www.lajollasympny.com/
concerts/recordings/](http://www.lajollasympny.com/concerts/recordings/)



Editor's Corner ... Barbara Peisch



A new look

You've probably noticed that this issue of Tutti has a new look. There are a couple of reasons for that. One is that I have more control over the format since I started from scratch, but the main reason is to spread the use of color to cartridges other than cyan. I pretty much wiped out my cyan cartridge while printing the paper copies of the last issue. Besides, this is a holiday issue so it should be red and green, right?

This brings me to my next point. I'm now the one bearing the costs for printing the paper copies of Tutti. For at least the last year, the paper copies have really been meant for those who couldn't receive Tutti by e-mail, or don't have the means to view and/or print it. Up until the last issue, the paper copies have been printed at the University on University equipment. Since that is no longer the case, I hope you will help reduce my costs by only taking a paper copy if you really need one. If it's a matter of not having a reader for the PDF file, you can download one for free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>



Lighting the way

"It's dark down here!" A resourceful Debbie Peterson comes up with a creative solution for a dim situation. A good percentage of the lights in the rehearsal halls have been out since the season started.

