

Postcards to Our Friends

March 28 - April 4, 2021

LET US SING!

Johann Sebastian Bach: 'Gloria' we all are singing (from Cantata 140)

Felix Mendelssohn: Lerchengesang

Georg Philipp Telemann: Sonata No. 4 in b minor, Op. 2: Largo and Vivace
Alissa Roedig & Lars Johannesson, *Baroque flutes*

J. S. Bach: Trotz dem alten Drachen (from *Jesu, meine Freude*)
The Jubilate Orchestra

COMFORT & CONTEMPLATION

J. S. Bach: Bete aber auch dabei (from Cantata 115)
The Albany Consort
Rita Lilly, *soprano*
Caitlin Cribbs, *violin*
Amy Brodo, *viola da gamba*
Jonathan Salzedo, *organ*

Alice Parker: Durme, durme

G.P. Telemann: Fantasia 1, mov't. 1
John Dornenburg, *viola da gamba*

Gabriel Fauré: Cantique de Jean Racine
Steven Bailey, *piano*

REJOICING IN COMMUNITY

Thomas Morley: Sing we and chant it

George Frideric Handel: Alleluia (from *The King shall rejoice*)
The Jubilate Orchestra

Aaron Copland: Zion's Walls
Steven Bailey, *piano*

Moses Hogan: Good News, the Chariot's Coming

SF BACH CHOIR : : March 28, 2021

“POSTCARDS TO OUR FRIENDS”

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

LET US SING!

WACHET AUF, mov't 7 (JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH)

“Gloria” we all are singing

From earth and heav'n our voices ringing,

with harp's and cymbal's glorious tone.

Twelve bright pearls adorn your portals,

Where you have gathered your Immortals,

With angels, high around your throne.

No eye has ever seen,

No ear has ever heard, such rejoicing!

Our praises flow, lo io

forev'r in dulci júbilo.

-- Philipp Nicolai, English translation, from Cantata 140: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*

LERCHENGESANG (FELIX MENDELSSOHN)

Wie lieblicher Klang,

O Lerche, dein Sang!

Er hebt sich, er schwingt sich in Wonne.

Du nimmst mich von hier,

ich singe mit dir,

wir steigen durch Wolken zur Sonne

-- Johann Ludwig Uhland (1787 - 1862), stanza 1

What a lovely sound,

O lark, is your song!

It rises and vibrates with joy

Take me from here --

I will sing with you

and we will climb through the clouds to the sun!

JESU, MEINE FREUDE, mov't 5 (JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH)

Trotz dem alten Drachen,

trotz des Todes Rachen,

trotz der Furcht dazu!

Tobe, Welt, und springe;

ich steh hier und singe

in gar sichrer Ruh!

Gottes Macht hält mich in acht;

Erd und Abgrund muß verstummen,

ob sie noch so brummen.

-- Johann Franck (1618-1677) from Motet 3: *Jesu, meine Freude*, vs 3

I defy the old Dragon!

I defy the jaws of Death!

I defy fear as well!

Rage, world, and spring to attack:

Here I stand and sing

In securest repose.

God's might watches out for me.

Earth and Abyss must fall speechless,

However much they keep growling.

COMFORT & CONTEMPLATION

BETE ABER AUCH DABEI, mov't 4 (JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH)

Bete aber auch dabei mitten in dem Wachen!

Pray continuously as you keep your vigil

-- J. B. Freystein (1671-1718) from Cantata 115: *Mache dich, mein Herz, bereit*

DURME, DURME (ALICE PARKER, arr.)

Durme, durme hijiko de Madre,

Durme, durme s'in ansio y dolor;

Sienti joya palavrikas de tu Madre.

Las palavras di Shema Yisrael.

Durme, durme hijiko de Madre,

con hermozura de Shema Yisrael.

Sleep, sleep mother's little one

free from worry and grief

Listen, my joy to your mother's words,

the words of Shema Yisrael.

Sleep, sleep mother's little one

with the beauty of Shema Yisrael.

-- Ladino lullaby

CANTIQUE DE JEAN RACINE (GABRIEL FAURÉ)

Verbe égal au Tres-Haut, notre unique espérance,
Jour eternal de la terre et des cieux
De la paisible nuit, nous rompons le silence.
Divin Sauveur jette sur nous les yeux!

Word, equal to the Most High, you, our only hope,
Eternal day of the earth and the heavens
And in the peaceful night, we break the silence.
Divine Saviour, cast your eyes upon us!

Répands sur nous le feu de ta grace puissante,
que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix.
Dissipe le sommeil d'une ame languissante,
qui la conduit a l'oubli de tes lois.

Pour over us the fire of your powerful mercy
that all hell flee at the sound of your voice.
Dispel the sleep of a languishing soul
which leads it to forget your laws.

O Christ, sois favorable a ce peuple fidele
pour te bénir maintenant rassemblé,
Reçois les chants qu'il offre a ta gloire immortelle
et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé!

O Christ, be benevolent to your faithful people
who gather now to praise you.
Receive the songs they offer to your immortal glory
and the gifts which they offer back from your bounty.

-- Paraphrase, by Jean Racine, of a Latin hymn from the Breviary "Consors Paterni luminis"

REJOICING IN COMMUNITY

SING WE AND CHANT IT (THOMAS MORLEY)

Sing we and chant it,
While love doth grant it. Fa la la...
Not long youth lasteth,
and old age hasteth,
Now is best leisure,
To take our pleasure. Fa la la...

All things invite us,
Now to delight us. Fa la la...
Hence care be packing,
No mirth be lacking,
Let spare no treasure,
To live in pleasure. Fa la la...

--attributed to Michael Drayton (1563-1631)

THE KING SHALL REJOICE, mov't 4 (GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL)

Alleluia!

ZION'S WALLS (AARON COPLAND)

Come fathers and mothers, come sisters and brothers,
Come join us in singing the praises of Zion.
Oh fathers don't you feel determined to meet within the walls of Zion
We'll shout and go round the walls of Zion.

--Revivalist Song

GOOD NEWS, CHARIOT'S COMING (MOSES HOGAN)

Good news, chariot's coming,
Good news, chariot's coming,
Good news, chariot's coming,
And I don' want it to leave me behind.

There are long white robes in the heaven, I know
There are long white robes in the heaven, I know
There are long white robes in the heaven, I know
And I don' want it to leave me behind.

Good news, the chariot's coming,....

There are starry crowns in the heaven, I know
There are starry crowns in the heaven, I know
There are starry crowns in the heaven, I know
And I don' want it to leave me behind.

Good news, the chariot's coming,....

There are silver slippers in the heaven, I know
There are silver slippers in the heaven, I know
There are silver slippers in the heaven, I know
And I don' want it to leave me behind.

Good news, the chariot's coming,....
-- African American Spiritual