

# White Rock Concerts *Presents*

The Elmer Iseler Singers



Friday, April 19, 2002

# Our Next Concert: Andrew Dawes & Jane Coop



Friday, October 18, 2002

# **Meet your Executive Committee**

Rick Gambrel, President Erika Bennedik, Vice President George Zukerman, Artistic Director Doreen Harvey, Treasurer Anne Helps, Secretary Emerson Reid, Membership Martha Gambrel, Publicity

#### **Board Members:**

David Cann Cheryl Steinhauer Val Martin Olive Moffett Linda Gronert Eileen Reid Joan Marsh Monika Tusnady

# Programme

Zadok the Priest
I Will Sing Unto the Lord

The Glory of Mozart

Graduale: Sancta Maria

Ave Verum Regina Coeli

The Lady Motets

I Beheld Her, Beautiful as a Dove

Fair in Face

Rise Up, My love, My Fair One

Due West

Prairie Lullaby

Wasps Sunset

Train

Chickadee

G. F. Handel

Imant Raminsh

W. A. Mozart

Healey Willan

Stephen Chatman

trad., arr. Gary Ewer

trad., arr. Carolynne Godin

trad., arr., Donald Patriquin

James Rankin, arr. Stuart Calvert

Allister MacGillivray, arr., L. Adams

Lydia Adams

John Greer

# Intermission

Song for Canada

Paul Halley

The Blackbird

Lori Reid and Nelson Lohnes,

soloists

Mi'kmaq Honour Song The Red River Valley

J'entends le Moulin Fare Thee Well, Love

All Around the Circle

Here's to Song

Kimberley Briggs and Michael Thomas, soloists

We Rise Again

Leon Dubinsky, arr., L. Adams

# **Elmer Iseler Singers**

The Elmer Iseler Singers, a twenty-voice professional chamber choir based in Toronto, has built an enviable international reputation through its concerts, broadcasts and recordings since its debut performance in 1979. Founded by the late Dr. Elmer Iseler, and now conducted by Lydia Adams, this justly celebrated choir makes numerous appearances annually throughout Canada and the United States and on the international concert stage.

Known for the unique beauty of their sound and wide interpretive range, the **Elmer Iseler Singers** bring to life exciting repertoire that spans 500 years of great choral music. Champions of contemporary choral repertoire, The **Elmer Iseler Singers** regularly commission and perform new works and have performed 18 world premieres in the past two seasons. The choir is frequently involved in radio and television broadcasts and a wide variety of recording projects.

The Elmer Iseler Singers won the Grand Prix du Disque (Canada) for "Serenade in Harmony" with the Netherlands Chamber Choir, and again for "Welcome Yule" and "Laudate Dominum".

The Elmer Iseler Singers have made many festival appearances including the Canada In Holland Festival, the Joy of Singing International Choral Festival in Toronto, and most recently, Festival 500, Sharing the Voices Festival in Newfoundland. The Elmer Iseler Singers are highly valued for their contributions to master classes and workshops for schools and community choirs, and are the current professional Choir-In-Residence at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Music.

Season 2000/2001 saw a triumphant tour to Atlantic Canada as well as the performance of 24 highly successful concerts in the United States. In June 2001 the **Elmer Iseler Singers** hosted over 400 delegates from the United States and Canada at the 2001 Chorus America 24<sup>th</sup> annual conference held in Toronto at the Royal York Hotel.

In this current season, in addition to the Toronto based series of concerts, the **Elmer Iseler Singers** embark on four major tours including Northern Ontario, The Atlantic Provinces, Western Canada and the United States. In August 2002 the **Elmer Iseler Singers** took pride in representing Canada at the Sixth World Symposium On Choral Music in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

# Lydia Adams, Conductor

Lydia Adams, one of Canada's most distinguished conductors, received her musical education at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick and at the National Opera Studio and the Royal College of Music, both in London, England.

Since being appointed Artistic Director and Conductor of the Elmer Iseler Singers in 1998, Ms. Adams has taken the choir from coast to coast and has had the distinct honour, along with the Elmer Iseler Singers, of recording choral music of Canadians Harry Somers and Louis Applebaum in commemorative albums. Under her direction, the choir has received rave reviews for their Toronto concert series and for their extensive touring performances throughout the United States and Canada. In this current season, Ms. Adams and the Elmer Iseler Singers embark on four major tours including Northern Ontario, the United States, Western Canada and Atlantic Canada

Ms. Adams has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Sir Adrian Boult Conducting Award, the Ontario Choral Federation Distinguished Service Award, the Award for Outstanding Achievement presented by the Women's Intercultural Network of Toronto and the 1997 Scarborough Bi-Centennial Civic Award of Merit. Most recently, Ms. Adams was the recipient of the Charles Frederick Allison Award, the Mount Allison University Distinguished Alumni Award for the year 2000.

In addition to conducting the Elmer Iseler Singers, Ms. Adams also conducts the Amadeus Choir and is a widely sought guest conductor. Ms. Adams has been invited to conduct the prestigious National Youth Choir of Canada in May 2002.

#### **Claire Preston**

Claire Preston graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Melbourne and also holds her Licentiate in Music Performance from the Australian Music Examination Board.

In Australia, Ms Preston accompanied the *Victorian Boys' Choir* and the *Australian Festival Singers*. She was the music director of the *Savoy Singers* and assistant conductor of the *Ashton Smith Singers*. She has worked with many international artists and conductors to prepare concerts with the *Australian Pops Orchestra*, and has participated in international choral tours as both conductor and accompanist. Ms Preston has also held various teaching positions.

Claire is currently Assistant Conductor with the *Toronto Children's Chorus* and accompanist of the *Elmer Iseler Singers*, the *Canadian Children's Opera Chorus* and the *MacMillan Singers*. She also teaches at Kingsway College School.

#### ELMER ISELER SINGERS

Lydia Adams, Conductor and Artistic Director Claire Preston, Piano

#### SINGER LIST - WESTERN CANADA TOUR

#### Soprano

Kimberley Briggs Donna Colley Linda Tsatsanis Kathleen Tapp Mock Katherine Zekulin-Partridge Tanya Turner

#### Alto

Marsha Goold Carolyn Kirby Lori Reid Alison Roy

#### Tenor

Eric MacKeracher Carmine Lappano Edward Wiens Stephen Powell

#### Bass

Esteban Cambre John Dodington Dennis Caines David King Michael Thomas Nelson Lohnes

Jessie Iseler, Company Manager

CDs of the Elmer Iseler Singers will be for sale in the lobby at Intermission

This tour is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, which enables Canadian audiences to discover artists from other regions and provinces.

Cette tournée est soutenue par le Conseil des Arts du Canada, qui permet aux auditoires canadiens de découvrir des artistes des autres régions et provinces.



Canada Council Conseil des Arts for the Arts du Canada

# A Message From the President

The response at our last concert to the opening up of renewals for next season was ruly overwhelming. I can tell you that we have over 500 paid subscriptions for ext season – a record number at this point in the season. This just confirms our place as the most successful community concert series in the country. It also confirms that demand for tickets for next year is higher than ever, so please renew tonight, to avoid disappointment. Our volunteers are in the lobby to help you.

Some more information about the remarkable artists on tap for next season:

Andrew Dawes and Jane Coop will perform Beethoven Violin & Piano Sonatas from their Juno nominated album. The ceremonies were earlier this week. Celebrated as "one of the most distinguished violinists Canada has ever produced", Mr. Dawes was a founding member of the Orford String Quartet. Mr. Dawes also played with the Tokyo String Quartet as their first violinist. As a concerto soloist, Ms. Coop has worked with eminent conductors and prestigious orchestras at home and abroad.

The Borealis String Quartet has been heralded by Tara Wohlberg of the Georgia Straight as "Vancouver's best kept secret" and Lloyd Dykk of the Vancouver Sun as "bringing together four of the biggest young talents in Canadian music".

Susan Platts, mezzo-soprano, will be performing New York's Lincoln Center in October as a featured artist in their Great Performers Series.

With the Gryphon Trio, Annalee Patipatanakoon has been awarded the use of the 1717 Windsor-Weinstein Stradivarius violin, won in competition from The Canada Council for the Arts Musical Instrument Bank. Roman Borys has also won the use of the 1824 McConnell-Gagliano cello.

Our Artistic Director and Bassoonist par excellence, George Zukerman, is soon to be on an extensive concert tour of South Africa, Mauritius, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

This week, the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra is recording an album with CBC Records, and the featured works are by British composers Walters, Warlock, Williams, and Walton.

My thanks go out to our remarkable Artistic Director and our hard-working and dedicated Board for another stunning season.

I can hardly wait until October. I hope that you will join us.

Rick Gambrel President, White Rock Concerts

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