



Harmonia Choir of Eastern-Ottawa

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Director
Nicholas Piper, Apprentice Director
James Fraser, Accompanist

with Ottawa composer

James Wright, piano
and special guests

Cross Town Youth Chorus

Present

"Songs of Canada"

*an all Canadian programme, featuring the
Premiere of*

"Sing Unto the Lord" by James Wright

Sunday, May 15th, 2005, 3 pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church, 2345 Alta Vista Drive

CROSS TOWN YOUTH CHORUS

Fourth Season 2005-2006

Junior Choir Ages: 6 - 10

Senior Choir Ages: 11-16

Come out and Join us this fall!

Rehearsals -- Tuesday Evenings, 6:15 - 7:30

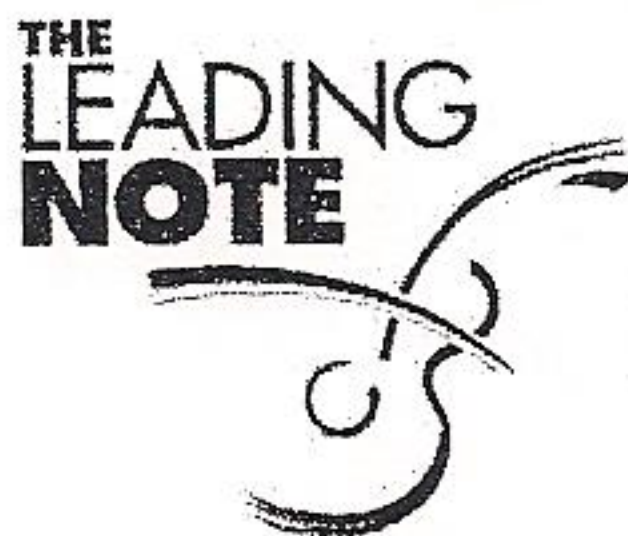
All welcome - No auditions

Information:

Lynne Stacey or Marta Nuijten

824-0828

www.ctyc.ca



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<i>Sat</i>	<i>: 10:00 - 5:00</i>
<i>Sun</i>	<i>: closed</i>



Ottawa Regional Youth Choir Auditions

If you are between the ages of 15 and 23 and would like to become part of this award winning ensemble, please contact the choir manager, Mrs. Ala-Kantti during office hours at (613) 833-2575 to arrange an audition or email us at oryc@canada.com

Info: (613) 833-2575 www.oryc.on.ca

Dr. James Wright, Ph.D.



James Wright has pursued a broad-ranging career as a composer, pianist, musicologist, and choral director. He is perhaps best known as a composer of choral music whose works have been commissioned, performed, and recorded by choirs across North America. Since 2000 he has been Director of Music at the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, Ottawa.

A recipient of the Governor-General's Gold Medal from McGill University for his musicological research, Dr. Wright has taught at McGill University, the University of Ottawa, and Carleton University, where he is an Assistant Professor in the School for Studies in Art and Culture.

His music is published by Warner-Chappell Music of Miami, Leslie Music of Oakville, and Songwright Music of Ottawa.

Cross Town Youth Chorus

The Cross Town Youth Chorus was formed in Orleans in September 2002 by Lynne Stacey, and was first directed by Tracy Annand-Robichaud. With the lack of choirs, and music, in the schools, it was felt there was a need for a local community choir for young people. CTYC is an un auditioned choir that provides

an opportunity for children and youth, 6 to 16 years of age, from the east end of the City of Ottawa and surrounding area, to join together in friendship and song. It consists of two choirs, the Junior Choir, ages 6-10, and the Senior Choir for ages 11-16. They present two concerts of their own each year, in December and May, while also taking part in other community events.

Kurt Ala-Kantti



Kurt and Asst. Director & Mascot Alex

Kurt Ala-Kantti is the founder and director of Harmonia, a choir he started in 2003 to promote and perform the music of Canadian composers, their compositions and arrangements, in addition to traditional choral music.

Mr. Ala-Kantti is also Choirmaster at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Cumberland, is Assistant-Director of the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir and director of their Men's Chorus, was named the director of the Cross Town Youth Chorus this season, and has recently been hired as Interim Director for the Cumberland Community Singers. Kurt has studied vocal performance with Charlotte Stewart and choral conducting Dr. Lisette Canton. He has a keen interest in choral performance and excellence and has been a member of several local choirs; currently a member of the critically acclaimed Ottawa Bach Choir, with which he performed Messiah in Mexico City December 2003.

Harmonia Choir of Eastern-Ottawa

Harmonia Choir, which has grown to 42 voices this season, was formed in 2003 to give singers in the east end of the "new" City of Ottawa an opportunity to perform fun and challenging choral music from Canada and around the world. The result is a group of singers with a wide range of choral experience from around the city, and around the globe, performing a broad range of repertoire with a focus on promoting Canadian composers and compositions.

Harmonia Choir's first season included three concerts: "*Hodie Christus Natus Est*", a Christmas concert featuring Christmas music from around the world, a Valentine's concert "*Songs on the theme of LOVE*", and the final concert "*Around the World and through the Ages: Sacred and Secular*". This season, with the theme "Here's to Song", they will have presented 4 concerts, repeating the highly successful Valentines and Spring concerts, this year titled "*Songs of Love*" at the Orleans Theatre and "*Songs of Canada*", at St. Thomas the Apostle, with guests the Cross Town Youth Chorus, and Ottawa composer James Wright on piano. They also presented a Remembrance Day Concert "*Songs of War and Peace*", at St. Barnabas, A&M with the Choir of St. Barnabas, and renowned Ottawa Organist Wesley Warren, a 2 performance Christmas concert in collaboration with the Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, as well as various community events including the Third Annual Cumberland Community Carol Sing, Song for Heart, and a Fundraiser for Tsunami Relief.

"Songs of Canada"

Harmonia Choir of Eastern-Ottawa

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Director - Nicholas Piper, Apprentice Director

with special guests

James Wright - piano

The Cross Town Youth Chorus

Combined Choirs

Pie Jesu

James Wright

Harmonia Choir

Ut Queant Laxis

James Wright

Sing to the Lord

Premiere!

James Wright

This setting of Psalm 95 (Venite Exultemus Domino) is dedicated

"to the Harmonia Choir of Ottawa, and their director, Kurt Ala-Kantti."

Liturgical Motets for Feasts of Our Lady Healey Willan

Nicholas Piper, conductor

I Beheld Her

Fair in Face

Rise Up My Love

Thou Shalt Know Him

Mark Sirett

Cross Town Youth Chorus

A Song for Canada

James Wright

Harmonia Choir

Freedom Trilogy

James Fraser, piano

Mike Essoudry and Gilles Assigbé, percussion

Paul Halley

~ INTERMISSION ~

Combined Choirs

Miq Maq Honour Song

Tamara Beaudoin, percussion

Lydia Adams

Three Canadian Landscapes

Scorned as Timber

Nicholas Piper, conductor

Bright Land

Snow

James Wright

Cross Town Youth Chorus

Foggy Birthday Shuffle

Stephen Hatfield

Harmonia Choir

Les Raftsmen

Germaine Bertrand

Stars are With the Voyager

Eleanor Daley

All For Me Grog

Stephen Hatfield

Combined Choirs

Song for Canada

Paul Halley

The Members of Harmonia Choir of Eastern Ottawa

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Director

Nicholas Piper, Apprentice Director James Fraser, Accompanist

Sopranos (1 & 2)

Marilyn Ala-Kantti	Tracy Annand-Robichaud	Jimena Bordes
Sheila Clark*	Ineke De Jong	Carol Fairbrother
Joanne Griffin	Deborah Hodgins*	Joanne Hodgins*
Claire Laver	Tara Lockhart	Derry Neufeld*
Janice Ritchie	Sarah Rooney*	Susan Scott
Margaret Smale	Connie Strickland	Sylvia Tauvette
Cassandra Yantha		

Altos

Carla Ala-Kantti	Deborah Arnold	Chris Beasley
Jennifer Hirst	Sharon Kuder	Shona Milne
Hilary Myron	Anita Netherton	Barbara Pennie
Karen Pinkoski	Kate Stoudt	Karen Webb

Tenors

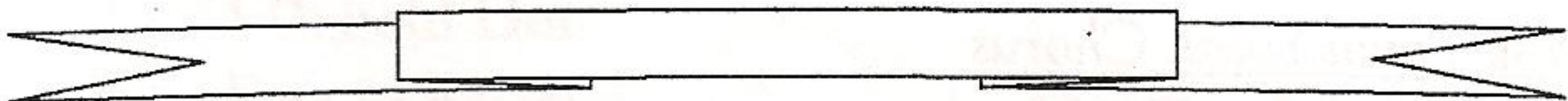
Jan De Jong	Jason Hirst	Phil Nagy*
Blake Smale	Bliss Tracy	

Basses

Christopher Askwith*	Nicholas Piper ¹	John Strickland
Neil Strickland	Tim Thompson	Jim Whitridge

* not performing in this concert

¹ Apprentice Director



The Members of Cross Town Youth Chorus

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Music Director

Junior Choir

Cheryl Kellar, Director & Lynne Stacey, Accompanist

Taylor Bisson	Katie Gratton	Erika Regnier
Didier Dagenais	Mackenzie Parks	Sophie Regnier
Sarah Fitzpatrick		

Senior Choir

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Director & Tamara Beaudoin, Accompanist

Sopranos	Altos	
Kellie Chapman	Therese Barrett	Amanda Pinhey
Mikayla Garnett	Ryan Chapman	Tiffany Kendal
Jessica Pinhey	Marlee Fitzpatrick	Katherine Regnier

A Few Notes About Our Programme...

Pie Jesu

Excerpted from the Requiem Mass, this piece is dedicated "to the memory of those who lost their lives in New York City, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C., September 11, 2001. It was first performed by the choirs of St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church on September 16, 2001.

Ut Queant Laxis

This short a cappella motet is dedicated to Frances Macdonnell "with thanksgiving and appreciation for her 23 years of music ministry at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa." Its text occupies a place of particular importance in music history. In about the year 1020, Guido d'Arezzo, the Benedictine monk, music theorist, and choir school director, first assigned names to the notes of the hexachord (the foundation of the medieval scale system) based upon the first syllables of each line from a hymn for the feast of Saint John the Baptist, composed by the Lombard priest and historian Paulus Diaconus (Paul the Deacon) in about 774: "UT queant laxis REsonare fibris MIra gestorum FAmuli tuorum: SOLve polluti, LABii reatum, Sancte Ioannes." ("That your servants might freely sing the wonders of creation with uplifted voices, cleanse all sin from our lips, Saint John").

Guido chose this hymn because it was believed to have healing qualities, and a rhythmic pulse that reflected the fundamental order of the universe. With the excep-

tion of the syllable "ut" (which has been replaced by do"), Guido's note names have been retained in modern-day solfège: Ut (do), re, mi, fa, sol, la, (ti).

Sing Unto the Lord

This setting of Psalm 95 (Venite Exultemus Domino) is dedicated "to the Harmonia Choir of Ottawa, and their director, Kurt Ala-Kantti."

Three Canadian Landscapes

These pieces are taken from a larger collection titled A Gallery of Song: Spirit of the Land, settings of poetic responses to the works of the Group of Seven (and Tom Thomson and Emily Carr) by young Canadian authors. A Gallery of Song was commissioned in 2003 by the Kanata Children's Chorus and first performed at the McMichael Canadian Art Gallery in Kleinburg, Ontario.

A Song for Canada

Written in collaboration with singer-songwriter Paul Hock, "A Song for Canada" received widespread radio airplay and media attention from coast to coast in late 1992, during the national referendum campaign.

Acknowledgements & Thanks

Harmonia Choir would like to extend a sincere thank you to Dr. James Wright for his wonderful compositions and dedication of "Sing to the Lord" to Harmonia Choir and Director Kurt Alakantti, in addition to accompanying us on the piano during this event and to all of the time that he volunteered in preparing for this concert.

Many thanks also go out to our guests the Cross Town Youth Chorus for bringing their special sound and brightness to these pieces, and to Mike Essoudry, Gilles Assigbé and Tamara Beaudoin for allowing us to use their percussive skills.

Harmonia Choir would like to thank members Anita Netherton and Sharon Kuder for all of their hard work and assistance with events, reminders, music distribution and practices throughout the year.

And finally, we extend our most sincere appreciation and thanks to all who have attended this concert as there nothing more special than having an appreciative audience to share our work and love of song with.

Thank you!

Volunteering & Information on Upcoming Concerts

If you would like to volunteer your services for one of our upcoming concerts, arrange an audition, be added to our e-mail information list, advertise in our programmes or provide us a donation please contact: info@harmoniachoir.com

Harmonia Choir of Eastern Ottawa thanks you for your attendance at this performance. It is the best form of support you can contribute!

Harmonia Choir PO Box 96, Cumberland, ON K4C 1E5

Join Us Next Season!

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Friday, November 11th, 2005

Concert Celebrating Black History Month

Friday, February 17th, 2006

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Sunday, May 14th, 2006

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Contact Carla Ala-Kantti

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