

A CONCERT BY THREE LINKERS

31 AUGUST 2008

7:00PM

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

Johann Sebastian BACH (1685-1750)

Pièce d'Orgue, BWV 572

[10 min]

John LINKER, organ

Constantijn HUYGENS (1596-1687)

[10 min]

From *Pathodia sacra et profana*:

Psalm 139:22-23, *Proba me Deus*

Psalm 130:1-3,6, *De profundis*

Psalm 121:1-3, *Laetatus sum*

Psalm 12:2-4, *Usquequo, Domine*

Valeria BOERMISTROVA, mezzo-soprano

Georg BÖHM (1661-1733)

Partita on *Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend*

[10 min]

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART (1756-1791)

Fantasia I f-moll, K 594

[12 min]

Henk LINKER and John LINKER, organ

Alphons Diepenbrock (1862-1921)

Ave Maria

Valeria BOERMISTROVA, mezzo-soprano

Hendrik ANDRIESSEN (1892-1981)

Toccata per organo

[11 min]

Henk LINKER, organ

Hendrik ANDRIESSEN

[10 min]

Maria zart von edler Art

Magna res est amor

George Frideric HANDEL (1685-1759)

[5 min]

Largo; Allegro

Henk LINKER and John LINKER, organ



VALERIA BOERMISTROVA LINKER was born in Moscow, (Russia). Her musical career started at the age of eight when she first enlisted in music school. At the age of ten her innate musical ability and vocal talent gained her a spot in the prestigious children's choir "Wesna", a choir famous for its superb performances of only the greatest composers. The choir won numerous awards including the Grand Prix in Paris, France. Valeria has made many trips through the Soviet Union and Europe, and has been heard on TV and radio. This choir performed only in the greatest concert halls together with the most renowned soloists, orchestras, and conductors in the Soviet Union.

Valeria sang until her sixteenth year in "Wesna", after then she went to the Musical College in Moscow, where she studied choral conducting and graduated with distinction.

At the same time she studied the subject Singing at the Musical Institute, also in Moscow, a student of A. Misjenko (soloist of the Bolsjoj Theatre) and A. Shitikova (soloist of the Opera Theatre in Moscow).

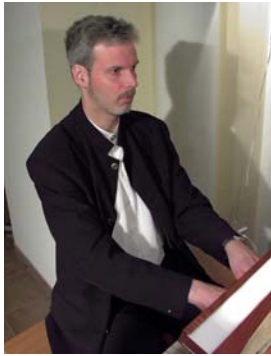
Valeria and some other associate students were united in forming an early music ensemble. Later on she took part in The Russian Consort, a group of professional soloists from the Philharmonie dedicated to performing early music. The Russian Consort gave many concerts in the greatest concert halls in the Soviet Union, Switzerland, and Italy, as well as CD recordings and radio broadcasts.

After three years singing with The Russian Consort, Valeria married with organist Henk Linker and moved to the Netherlands. She resumed her study and became a student of Richard Levitt at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Basel (Switzerland), the academy for Old Music in Europe, a famous school that attracted many world famous soloists. There she studied with Evelyn Tubb, Dominique Vellard, Jessica Cash and Jard van Nes.

Today Valeria enjoys a growing reputation as mezzo soprano soloist and ensemble singer. Her repertoire contains hundreds of pieces from the Middle Ages up to and including contemporary music. Valeria participates in the ensemble of soloists "Cantores Martini" of the Domchurch in Utrecht, under the baton of Remco de Graas. As solo singer she also works with the instrumental ensemble "Il Concerto Barocco", an ensemble that uses authentic period instruments, under the leadership of Andrew Reed.

In 2002 Valeria formed the ensemble "Pulchra Mundi", a new ensemble united in the cause of performing early music. As an accomplished conductor, she conducted a wide variety of choral ensembles including church choirs. Since 1995 she makes a pair with the organist (and also her

husband since 1993) Henk Linker. They are giving concerts in The Netherlands and abroad with programs featuring music from the 14th through 21st centuries. Recently they performed in Switzerland, Germany and Russia.



HENK LINKER studied organ and church music at the Conservatory in Enschede (The Netherlands), an organ student of Gijs van Schoonhoven, and participated in master classes with Klaas Bolt, Jean-Claude Zehnder, Hans van Nieuwkoop en Marc Schäfer. He also took part in different organ competitions.

To extend his art of improvisation he studied a few years with Hayo Boerema, the present organist of the Laurenschurch in Rotterdam. His musicpractice is extensive: he is working as organist in the Grote Kerk (protestant church) in Vriezenveen, as organist/conductor in the St.Georgiuschurch (roman catholic) in Almelo and as second organist in the protestant church in Ootmarsum, where stands a very beautiful early-baroc organ from the builder Berner (1781). This is the onliest instrument of Berner in the Netherlands. The pipes are much older than 1781 which means that this organ sounds like an early 17th-century instrument on which can be played the best music from Northern-German composers like Scheidt, Scheidemann, Bruhns, Buxtehude and also the young J.S. Bach).

He also works as a conductor, gives private-organlessons and has a large concert-practice as a soloist and as accompanist of soloists and choirs. With different kind of solo-programs he gave concerts except in The Netherlands also in Germany, Bulgary, Russia and Switzerland. In 2003 and 2005 he gave masterclasses in Moscow.

Since 1995 he makes a pair with the mezzosoprano (and also his wife since 1993) Valeria Boermistrova. They are giving concerts in The Netherlands with programs containing music from the 14-th up to and including the 20-th century. In the last years they also performed in Switzerland, Germany and Russia.



JOHN LINKER, a native of Princeton, Illinois, received a Bachelor of Music degree from Northern Illinois University (DeKalb) in 1997 where he studied organ with Robert Reeves and Richard Hoskins, and a Master of Music degree from the Chicago Musical College (Roosevelt

University) in 2003, an organ and harpsichord student of David Schrader. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Cincinnati (College-Conservatory of Music) where he is an organ student of Roberta Gary. At CCM Linker has served as staff accompanist for the University Men's Chorus, and has performed with the CCM Chorale, CCM Chamber Singers, and as organ soloist with the CCM Philharmonic. Linker was first place winner in the annual Strader Organ Competition at CCM in 2004.

In 2001 Linker was appointed Organist/Choirmaster of the Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal) in Lexington, Kentucky, where he leads a vibrant choir program of professional and volunteer singers. The choir maintains a rigorous rehearsal and service schedule, and sings two major concerts annually. Recent major works performed by the Choir include Maurice Duruflé, Requiem, Op. 9, J S Bach, Magnificat in D, BWV 243, Leonard Bernstein, Chichester Psalms, and Mozart, Requiem, K 626. The Choir has made two international tours under Linker's leadership, singing in Gloucester Cathedral in 2003 and in Lichfield and Durham Cathedrals in 2006. The Choir is scheduled to make appearances in New York in 2008 and Ely Cathedral (England) in 2009.

In addition to church work, Linker is increasingly busy as a recitalist and chamber musician. Linker is a past Dean of the Lexington Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and currently serves in the capacity of Registrar.

For a full listing of John's professional engagements and Good Shepherd Choir's activities, please visit: www.johnlinker.com.

TEXTS

Psalm 139:22-23

22 Proba me Deus, et scito cor meum:
interoga me et cognosce semitas meas.
23 Et vide si via in iquitatis est in me.
Et deduc me in via aeterna.

22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
* try me and know my restless thoughts.
23 Look well whether there be any wickedness
in me *
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Psalm 130:1-2,5

1 De profundis, clamavi ad te,
Domine: Domine exaudi vocem meam.
Fiant aures tuae intendentes in vocem
deprecationis meae.
2 Si iniquitates observaveris, Domine, quis
sustinebit.
5 Speravit anima mea in Domino.

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O
Lord; Lord, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my
supplication.
2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done
amiss, * O Lord, who could stand?
5 My soul waits for the Lord.

Psalm 13

1 Usquequo, Domine, usquequo oblivisceris
me in finem?
Usquequo avertis faciem tuam a me?
2 Quamdiu ponan consilia in anima mea
dolorem in corde meo per diem?
3 Usquequo exaltabitur inimicus meus super
me?
Respice et exaudi me, Domine Deus.

1 How long, O Lord?
will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?
2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my
God; *

Psalm 122:1-2

1 Laetatus sum in his quae dicta sunt mihi: in
domum Domini ibimus.
2 Stantes errant pedes nostril, in atriis tuis
Jerusalem,
3 quae aedificatur ut civitas.

1 I was glad when they said to me, *
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself.

Magna res est amor

Hendrik ANDRIESSEN

Magna res est amor, magnum omnino bonum,
quod solum leve facit omne onerosum, et fert
aequaliter omne in aequale. Nihil dulcius est
amore, nihil fortius, nihil altius, nihil latius,
nihil jucundius, nihil plenius, nec melius, in
coelo et in terra.

Love is big, love is everything that is good, and
only makes all _____, and makes all equal.
Nothing is sweeter as love, nothing stronger,
nothing higher, nothing wider, nothing more
joyful, nothing giving more fullness, nothing
_____, in heaven and in earth.

Quia amor ex Deo natus est nec potest nisi in Deo, super omnia create quiescere.
Magna res est amor, magnum omnino bonum, quod solum leve facit omne onerosum et fert aequaliter omne in aequale.

Because love is born out of God and is _____, and embraces all creation.
Love is big, love is everything that is good, and only makes all _____, and makes all equal

Maria zart von edler Art
Maria zart, von edler Art, ein Ros' ohn' alle Dornen Du hast mit Macht herniederbracht das vorlang warver loren durch Adams Fall.
Dir hat Gewalt Sankt Gabriel versprochen, hilf, dass nit wirt gerochen mein Sünd' und Schuld, erwirb mir Huld.
Denn kein Trost ist, wo Du nicht bist, Barmherzigkeit erwerben. Am letzten End.
Ich bitt, nit wend von mir im letzten Sterben.

Hendrik ANDRIESSEN
Sweet Mary, of noble birth, you brought to us on earth this rose without thorns, which was lost for a long time because of Adam's fall.
St Gabriel gave you might, help, that my sins and my guilt would not be seen, grant me devotion.
Because there is no comfort without your presence. Have mercy on me. At the end of life, I pray, turn not from me at my last hour.

Ave Maria

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum...