Program Notes

Antonio Caldara (1670–1736) was a noted Italian composer of the latter part of the Baroque period, particularly popular in his own time for his operas. The Magnificat which we will perform this afternoon demonstrates several of his virtues, most of which are typical of the Italian composers of the period: energetic, rhythmic writing for the strings; a mix of homophony (all parts singing the same words at the same time) with relatively brief periods of polyphony; straightforward harmonic writing without much use of chromatics.

The only copy of the Magnificat that exists today is in the hand of J.S. Bach, who apparently liked the piece enough that he wrote out a copy of the full score and parts for his own chorus. The third movement of the piece, a fugue in the “stile antico,” was composed by Caldara for chorus and continuo alone. Bach felt that the movement could use additional ornamentation and wrote two obligato violin parts to accompany the movement. Needless to say, we will perform the work this afternoon with Bach’s additions.

Josef Haydn (1732–1809) is one of the two great composers of the Classic period (along with his friend, W.A. Mozart). Haydn spent most of his career employed by the Eszterházy family, where he had the good fortune to work for people who loved music and appreciated his talent. In 1790, however, the death of Prince Nikolaus led to a new head of the household who had no interest in music and dismissed the estate orchestra. Haydn was awarded a pension and asked to write one mass each year for performance on the estate—otherwise, he was free to live wherever he wanted. This led to an enormously successful visit to London, and eventually Haydn’s relocation to Vienna. Meanwhile, the six symphonic masses that Haydn wrote for the Eszterházy family remain among his greatest works.

The centerpiece of this afternoon’s concert is Josef Haydn’s Missa in angustiis (“mass in time of fear”), universally known as the “Nelson Mass.” This work was written over a six-week period in the summer of 1798, when the monarchies of Europe were absolutely terrorized by word of Bonaparte’s fleet escaping the British blockade. The French general’s victories over the armies of the surrounding monarchies had already made him the most powerful man in Europe, and the prospect of his gaining control over the Mediterranean as well had the noblemen seeing visions of the guillotine. When Admiral Nelson cornered the French fleet near Alexandria and blew it to pieces, the rest of Europe breathed a sigh of relief, and Haydn dedicated the mass to the Admiral.

No less an authority than H.C. Robbins Landon—universally regarded as the most important Haydn scholar of this century—has described the Nelson Mass as “arguably Haydn’s greatest single composition.” This is quite a statement, since Haydn wrote 104 symphonies, six symphonic masses (of which this is one), The Creation and The Seasons, two of the finest oratorios ever written, and hundreds of chamber pieces. Music that Robbins Landon had personally seen and catalogued.

The unusual orchestration of this work—strings, trumpets, timpani and organ (no woodwinds or low brass)—provides a stark, angular quality to the work. Normally, the mass is set in five movements in musical settings, but in this symphonic mass, Haydn breaks the Gloria and Credo into smaller movements to extend the composition.
Program

Magnificat

1. Magnificat
   Anna Klebanov, soprano
   Michael Maicher, tenor
2. Deposuit potentes
   K. Rebecca Oehlers, alto
3. Suscepit Israel
4. Sicut erat

Missa in angustiis (Nelson Mass)

1. Kyrie
2. Gloria
3. Qui tollis
4. Quoniam tu solus
5. Credo
6. Et incarnatus
7. Et resurrexit
8. Sanctus
9. Benedictus
10. Agnus Dei
11. Dona nobis pacem

Translations

Magnificat
My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit exults in God my Savior
For He has regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
Behold, all generations will call me blessed
For He that is mighty has magnified me and holy is his name
And his mercy is on them that fear Him, throughout all generations
He has showed strength with his arm,
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He has put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped His servant Israel, remembering His mercy.
As He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.
Glory to the Father, Glory to the Son, Glory to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now and always, world without end. Amen.

Nelson Mass
1. Kyrie: Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.
2. Gloria: Glory be to God on high and on earth peace to men of good will. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, We adore Thee, we glorify Thee. We give Thee thanks for Thy great glory. O Lord God! O heavenly King! O God, the father Almighty! O Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son! O Lord God! Lamb of God! Son of the Father.
3. Qui Tollis: O Thou, who takest away the sins of the world! have mercy upon us. receive our prayer.
4. Quoniam tu solus: For Thou art Lord, Thou alone art most high, O Jesus Christ! together with the Holy Ghost in the glory of God the father. Amen.
5. Credo: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of the Father before all ages. God of Gods, Light of Light, True God of true god; Begotten, not made; consubstantial to the father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our Salvation, came down from heaven,
6. Et incarnatus: And He became incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified also for us; suffered death and was buried.
7. Et Resurrexit: And on the third day He arose again according to the Scriptures. And He ascended into heaven, to sit at the right hand of the Father. And He is to come again, with glory to judge both the living and the dead; of whose kingdom there shall be no end. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord the Giver of life; Who preceedeth from the Father and the Son; who, with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. I believe in one baptism for remission of sins. And I expect the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.
8. Sanctus: Holy is the lord God Sabaoth. Heaven and earth ar full of Thy Glory. Hosanna in the highest!
9. Benedictus: Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!
10. Agnus Dei: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us,
11. Dona nobis pacem: Grant us peace.
Drexel Chorus
Dr. Steven Powell, director
Brian Dilts, accompanist

**Soprano**
Vanessa Anderson .................................. Music Industry
Marielle des Etages ................................. Business
Jillian Giblin .......................................... Music Industry
Stefanie Gonnella ................................. Business Administration
Kristin Imhoff ......................................... Mechanical Engineering
Anna Klebanov ....................................... Business/Higher Education
Nancy Lan ............................................... Communications
Teresa Lepak ........................................... Screenwriting & Playwriting
*Johanna Mikitka ................................. Architectural & Civil Engineering
Marielle Octaviano ................................ Information Systems
*Kimberly Rushing .............................. Business Administration
Jamie Tijerina ......................................... Biology/Pre-Med
Alison Toback ......................................... Biology/Pre-Med

**Alto**
#Mahallani Bandong ................................. Mechanical Engineering
Madison Eggert-Crowe ............................. History & Politics
Sharona Gonen ........................................ Design and Merchandising
Katelin Kloberg ..................................... Interior Design
Heather Le ............................................ Business
Erica Louth ........................................... Interior Design
Chelsea Meyer ........................................ Graphic Design
*Kate Sherlock ........................................ Music Industry
#Kristen Sherlock ................................. Teacher Education

**Tenor**
Jeff Arlen ............................................... Biology/Pre-Med
Mike Byro ............................................. Music Industry
Brian Grahn ........................................... Mechanical Engineering
David Humes ......................................... Music Industry
Michael Jeffers ...................................... Engineering
*Michael Maicher ................................. Commerce and Engineering
#Brian Summers ................................. Computer Science
Jordan Turkenkopf ................................. Music Industry
Jayson Verdibello ................................. Music Industry

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Jayson Verdibello ................................. Music Industry
• Chris Barron ........................................ Computer Science
Ray Canzanese ........................................ Computer Engineering
Ben Guez ........................................ Business
Kyle Jones ........................................ Architectural Engineering
Ryan Ketner ........................................ Computer Engineering
Von López-Jacobs ........................................ Civil Engineering
Jason McGovern ........................................ Communication
Thomas Peed ........................................ Music Industry
Rob Rehner ........................................ Music Industry
Matt Ridgway ........................................ Civil & Architectural Engineering
Luke Rodgers ........................................ Computer Science
Devin Ruffner ........................................ Music Industry
Brandon Rutter ........................................ Music Industry
#Arin Sang-urai ........................................ Film & Video and Dramatic Writing
Matthew White ........................................ Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics

*Bass

Chamber Orchestra

Violin I
Taia Harlos
Jassamine Chen
Jessica Hoffman

Violin II
Nabih Bulos
Madeline Cabano
Diana M. Brown

Viola
Beth Dzwil
Melvyn Roundtree

Cello
Ronald Lipscomb
Megan Bird

Bass
Dennis Topper

Trumpet
Bryan Edgett
L. Curry Moyer

Timpani
Scott Bacon

Keyboard
Brian Dilts

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