

# Da Camera Singers



*Music*

*Peace*

*Unity*

*June 17, 1995*

## ANNOUNCING OUR NEWEST ARRIVAL!

The excitement and exuberant rhythmic drive of Poulenc's Gloria and the rich, soothing warmth of Vierne's Messe Solennelle come to you on Da Camera Singers' new **Compact Disc** release:

### GLORIA Music of the French Cathedral

This outstanding recording is available now - get yours after the concert!! The price is \$20.00 (includes GST).

## BE A PART OF THE CHANGE!

As Da Camera continues to expand its musical horizons on the path of artistic excellence who is "minding the shop"? Until recently the singers have filled the roles of treasurer, secretary, publicity, librarian and so on. Now our part-time business manager will handle many of the administrative and operational matters. The Executive is evolving from task orientation to positions more involved with organization, vision and development of the choir.

Be a part of the change! Become a "board" member of Da Camera's governing body. Put your administration, finance, marketing or organization skills behind Da Camera's musical talent and help guide us along that path of artistic excellence.

For more information call Russ Wilkinson: 454-0387 (bus.) 436-9557 (res.)

Song of Peace .....Vincent Persichetti  
(b. 1915)

The Hour Has Come.....Srul Irving Glick  
(b. 1934)

- I. The Tone
- II. The Dance
- III. Wind Song
- IV. Infinite Delight
- V. The Hour Has Come

Conductor: Mel Unger

- Interval -  
15 minutes

Missa in Tempore Belli.....Franz Josef Haydn  
(1732-1809)

Kyrie  
Gloria  
Credo  
Sanctus  
Benedictus  
Agnus Dei

Eva Bostrand, Soprano  
Elizabeth Raycroft, Alto  
Milton Liska, Tenor  
Harold Wiens, Baritone  
Martin Riseley, Concertmaster

Conductor: John Hooper

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Please join us for a reception in the lower hall.

*Due to professional recording agreement, we request that no visual and/or audio equipment be used during the concert. Please turn off all watch alarms and pagers for the duration of the concert. Thank you.*

# PROGRAM

# DA CAMERA SINGERS

## Mel Unger

Born in Alberta, Mel Unger holds degrees in choral music from the Universities of Saskatchewan, Oregon, and Illinois. Dr. Unger also studied conducting as a scholarship student under well-known conductor and Bach specialist Helmut Rilling at the State Music Conservatory in Frankfurt. Dr. Unger has written a number of scholarly articles and music editions including a book on the choral music of Bach's contemporary, Johann David Heinichen. Most recently, he has completed a reference book translating and analyzing the text of each of Bach's 200 sacred cantatas. He is Professor of Music at North American Baptist College in Edmonton and was appointed music director of Da Camera Singers in 1981.

## Loretta Dueck

A native Albertan, Loretta completed her Bachelor of Music degree in piano at the University of Alberta with Professor Munn. Previous studies include a B.Ed. and a B.A. in music. In 1975, upon completion of her B. Ed. degree, Loretta taught high school music in Brisbane, Australia. In 1984, Ms. Dueck was employed by the University of Alberta as an accompanist in the voice studios and continued in that position until 1991. Loretta has also toured with the Alberta Opera Touring Association and is presently involved in teaching privately and accompanying. This is Loretta's tenth season as accompanist with Da Camera Singers.

## John Hooper

Dr. John Hooper is Director of Choral Music at Concordia College, Edmonton, where he directs the College Choir and Community Chorus. He holds music degrees from Arizona State University and James Madison University in Virginia. He has served on the faculty of several schools, both collegiate and secondary. He is active in Lutheran church music, conducting workshops and seminars in that area. His professional singing experience includes six years with the Phoenix Bach Choir.

Since its inception in 1961, Edmonton's Da Camera Singers has performed throughout Alberta, across Canada and most recently in Europe and Florida. While specializing in chamber masterworks of the classical choral repertoire, they also perform popular programs for a variety of events and audiences. Approximately 40 members in all, the chorus draws trained and experienced singers from a variety of vocations and musical backgrounds. Many of Da Camera's members are involved as conductors and choristers in schools and churches. Others are actively involved in professional music careers. The bond for the ensemble is the joy of singing and an aspiration to reach the highest level of musical artistry.

Under the direction of Mel Unger the choir has matured and coalesced into a blend of sound characteristically "Da Camera's". This has led to a cassette recording of selected Christmas carols entitled "A Christmas Celebration" which has been enthusiastically received. In 1989 the choir, along with world-renowned conductors and choirs, was invited to participate in the International Choral Festival in Toronto where they performed the Dvorak "Mass in D Major". For their thirtieth anniversary in April 1991, they performed *Vesperae Solennes De Confessore* (K. 339) with orchestra before a capacity audience in First Baptist Church. As part of MOZARTMANIA in December 1991, they collaborated with Greenwood Singers and Academy Strings to perform the "Vespers" again before an Edmonton audience at the West End Christian Reformed Church.

Da Camera Singers spent three weeks in Austria in 1992 where they performed as principal chorus-in-residence at the Classical Music Seminar-Festival in Eisenstadt. The highlights for the group included performances in the St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna and in the Haydnssaal of the Esterhazy palace where Joseph Haydn was employed for many years. One of the direct results of Da Camera's performances in Austria was an invitation to appear on the 1993-1994 concert season of Gloria Musicae, another chorus-in-residence and Florida's only professional choir. The 1994 season included a successful exchange with the Florida choir, with Da Camera Singers performing with Gloria Musicae in two concerts in the State of Florida, and two concerts in the Province of Alberta.

Da Camera Singers most recent venture has been the production of a Compact Disc entitled "GLORIA - Music of the French Cathedral." It includes *Gloria*, by Poulenc, featuring soprano Janet Smith and pianist Loretta Dueck and *Messe Solennelle* by Vierne, with organist Bruce Wheatcroft.