

SINGERS & INSTRUMENTALISTS CAMMAC READING

Schubert: Mass in A flat

Date: SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2009

Time: 2 PM SHARP. Please arrive 15 minutes early to set up.

Conductor: ERIK GERO

Music: This mass can be regarded as the Missa Solemnis of Schubert. He spent three years, an unusually long time for Schubert, composing it. He planned to dedicate the piece to the Emperor in the hope of obtaining the position of court composer. On the advice to the Emperor by the leader of the court orchestra that "The Mass was good, but not composed in the Style which the Emperor likes", Schubert's application was declined and he decided not to dedicate the mass at all. This ended his hopes for a position for life. Schubert considered the work as one of his finest.

Biography: Erik Gero was born in Budapest, Hungary. He first studied engineering, then attended and graduated from the Franz Liszt Music Academy in Budapest. As a member of the *Franz Liszt Chamber Choir* he was involved in several recording projects, festivals and tours, amongst others a North American tour and participation in the *International Choral Festival* at Yale University in New Haven, CT. For a five year period, he was assistant conductor with the *Népszínház Opera Company* in Budapest where he conducted over 200 performances. In 1989, he moved to Canada and settled in Toronto with his family. Here, he worked as music director and organist at various churches. In 1998, he won first prize with his choral compositions at the *International Amadeus Choral Competition*. Erik moved to the Niagara Region, and from 2004 - 2007, he directed the *Peninsula Symphony Orchestra*. At present, he is conducting the *Scola Cantorum Chamber Choir* in Toronto.

Place: Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street (2 blocks north of St. Clair Avenue) in Elliott Hall (enter from Heath Street).

Orchestra Parts: The orchestration of the A flat major mass is for full orchestra: flute, oboe I & II, clarinet I & II, bassoon I & II, horn I & II, trumpet I & II, trombone I, II, & III and a pair of tympani, strings, organ, four soloists and a choir (SSAATTBB).

All players of above instruments are welcome. We encourage you to come and share the music.

Instrumentalists: Please register in advance with Kathleen Mackenzie, 416-283-7659, k_mackenzie@sympatico.ca so we can bring enough copies of the parts!

Contact/Information: For more information please contact Kathy Gallyas, 416-925-6182, kathy.gallyas@gmail.com

Contribution: CAMMAC members \$6; non-members \$10; students free. We are asking people to show their membership cards; so please try to remember to bring yours to readings.

Refreshments will be available for \$1 during the break.



Please bring your music stand!!