



Nebraska Choral Arts Society

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PRESS RELEASE

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“Reflections”

First concert in “Kaleidoscope” 2008-2009 NCAS season lineup

For Immediate Release
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WHAT: **Nebraska Choral Arts Society concert – “Reflections”**
Featuring NCAS adult choir Masterworks, Nebraska Children’s Chorus choir Bel Canto and CAST (Choral Arts Society Teens)

WHEN: **Saturday, October 18, 7 p.m.**

WHERE: UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center – 63rd and Dodge Streets

Cost: Advance Tickets - \$10 Adults, \$8 students/seniors
Day of Concert - \$12 Adults, \$10 students/seniors

For more information and tickets: www.choirmusic.org 402.342.6753

MEDIA RSVP: Cameras encouraged. Please contact Marjorie Maas at 402.991.1560 to confirm attendance and/or to arrange interviews.

Photos and more detailed program information available upon request

Omaha, Neb. – Nebraska Choral Arts Society presents “Reflections” Saturday, October 18 at 7 p.m. at the UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center, the first program in its “Kaleidoscope” season lineup. The NCAS Masterworks adult chorus will perform along with the Nebraska Children’s Chorus choir Bel Canto and CAST (Choral Arts Society Teens).

The “Kaleidoscope” season symbolically compares the means in which song can transport a listener to the ways a kaleidoscope alters the visual reality. This concert, “Reflections,” uses Johannes Brahms’ “Liebeslieder Waltzer” as its focal point and also includes music evoking strong emotional, and even humorous, responses.

Regarding Masterworks’ performance of the Waltzes, conductor Tim Marsden notes how the choir has “fallen in love with this great composition. The music is not only challenging but really fun to listen to and perform.” Additionally he mentions, “If our audiences’ reactions are anything like ours have been in our preparations, people are bound to be leaving smiling, humming, and waltzing out to their cars.”

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“Liebeslieder Waltzer” are Brahms’ tribute to Johann Strauss II, “The Waltz King,” and both of their genuine affection for dance. Written for and performed with piano duet, the German piece has 18 brief movements Marsden characterizes as, “full of instantly memorable melodies and great dancelike rhythms matched with intriguing lyrics.” He notes the main sentiments of the poetry, written by 19th century philosopher and poet George Friedrich Daumer, are the joy and rapture of love, printed in English for the audience.

CAST and Bel Canto compliment the “Reflections” theme in differing ways. As part of its lively program, CAST is performing a parody of the masterwork, titled “Liebeslieder Polkas,” by P.D.Q. Bach (also known as Peter Schickele). Bel Canto will concentrate on universal emotional themes through largely modern-day pieces. Works range from an operatic call to salvation by Stephen Paulus to an exploration of human love by Eric Whitacre.

For tickets and more information regarding “Reflections” in the “Kaleidoscope” series, visit www.choirmusic.org. Advance tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets cost \$2 more on the performance date. Questions can be directed to the NCAS offices at (402) 342-6743.

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The Nebraska Choral Arts Society, a non-profit organization founded in 1978, is the umbrella of the Masterworks Chorus, CAST (Choral Arts Society Teens) and the Nebraska Children’s Chorus. Its mission is to share the gift of great choral music, to inspire new generations with the love of singing and broaden its reach to all ages and cultures. Eight choirs make up the Nebraska Choral Arts Society, performing throughout the year in various venues in Omaha and across the country. The most advanced choirs of NCAS have performed internationally in choral music festivals and concerts in Central America, Europe, Asia and Africa. For more information, visit www.choirmusic.org.

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