‘Pop’ Concert Set For Union

By RONNIE LOVLER

If you’re “feelin’ groovy” on Saturday, June 1, the Ohio Union South Terrace might be the place for you to go. The University Chorale will also be “feelin’ groovy” and will tell you about it in their pop concert beginning at 8 p.m.

This “cabaret” concert will not be anything like other School of Music presentations, according to David Chase, Education-3, director of the show.

The evening’s repertoire includes “Feelin’ Groovy,” “Scarborough Fair,” the theme from “The Graduate,” “Michelle,” “Cherish,” “Up, Up and Away” and “Goin’ Out Of My Head,” according to Chase.

A feature of the evening’s performance will be the Four Synthia, a faculty barbershop quartet.

The Chorale will not confine their efforts solely to singing, either, Chase said. Some choreography will be worked in with a few of their numbers.

Chase said the set will be psychedelic in nature. “The lighting effects we’ll use will result in something very close to a light show,” he said.

A night-club type atmosphere is being arranged for the audience, Chase said. The stage will be set on several different levels and the audience will be seated at tables.

Mini-skirted waitresses will serve refreshments throughout the evening, Chase said.

Tickets for the performance can be purchased for $1.50 at the University Music House and the School of Music.
Chorale entertains with variety

BY AMY WEIRAUCH
Lantern staff writer

Seven and a half weeks worth of work will be put to the test Sunday when the OSU Chorale performs its first concert of the quarter.

The 47-member group, under the direction of Maurice Casey, will perform at 8 p.m. in Weigel Auditorium.

Casey, who is in his 21st year as a professor of music and director of the Chorale at Ohio State, said the group is made up of both undergraduate and graduate students who are selected through tryouts.

Members receive class credit and meet daily to practice, Casey said. Only songs for this performance have been rehearsed this quarter.

"It’s a difficult repertoire because there are a lot of different singing styles and technical demands," he said.

"Liebeslieder Waltzes," a collection of love songs by Brahms, is a vocally challenging piece sung in German," said Brian Nabors, a junior from Columbus who has performed with the Chorale for the past two years, and is this year’s president.

"These pieces were originally written for solo voices," Casey said, "but over the years, I’ve found they’re much more electrifying if done by a choir."

Another piece scheduled for the concert is Corigliano’s "Fern Hill." Filled with "tender melodies and a beautiful text," it will feature soloist Mary Evans, Casey said.

This will be her first performance with the Chorale, said Evans, a junior from Westerville.

The entire choir will sing the song’s beginning and end, with her solo in the middle.

After "Fern Hill," the music will turn to the lively sounds of folklore, Casey said.

"We’ll close with five or six cheerful, happy things bound to please your appetite," he added.

The songs for Sunday’s concert are different from works Chorale members have done before, Casey said, so they have had to work a little harder to perfect them.

"I think all of the music on the program is very compelling and has improved their skills as far as singing together," he said.

Nabors said with practice Monday through Friday, and individual work, Chorale members have spent between five and eight hours a week learning the songs for this concert.

Evans, who has sung in church choirs and with the Columbus Symphony Choir, said the variety of ages and majors of the students has made an interesting combination and should provide an entertaining evening.

The attitude of these students is professional, Casey said. "They don’t know how good they can become, and that’s exciting."

The concert is free and open to the public.
Symphonic choir, chorale

By AMY WEIRAUCH
Lantern staff writer

The voices of more than 130 students who make up the OSU Symphonic Choir and the OSU Chorale can be heard on stage at 8 tonight in Weigel Hall Auditorium as the two groups perform their first combined concert of the '87-'88 season.

The Chorale, under the direction of Maurice Casey, will perform the first half of the concert and the Symphonic Choir, conducted by James Gallagher, will perform the second portion. The two groups will sing together for the last number in the concert.

Casey, who has conducted OSU's Chorale for the past 21 years, said the combination of the two groups into one concert is beneficial to the students. "They learn by hearing each other and seeing other directors work," he said.

The audience will also enjoy the combination because they will hear several different kinds of repertoire in one show, Casey said.

Gallagher, who has conducted the Symphonic Choir for four years, said the two groups usually perform one or two concerts together every year in addition to their individual shows.

This will be the first concert of the season for the Symphonic Choir. "It takes a while fall quarter to get everybody pulling up to one performance level," Gallagher said.

A lot of classroom time has been spent on vocal technique along with learning the music for this concert, he said.

The nine pieces being performed by the Choir will be "sacred and secular literature," Gallagher said, written by artists such as Philips, Tchaikovsky and Brahms. Most of the pieces will be acappella, but three will have accompaniment.

"They're both necessary for the students to develop choral technique," Gallagher said. Although instruments add support, singers must be certain their intonation coincides with the accompaniment, he explained.

The majority of songs performed by the Chorale will also be acappella.

Unlike the Symphonic Choir, the Chorale has already performed in concert this season. Casey said some of the songs being performed by the Chorale will be the same as the first concert.

"It's always good to have that opportunity (to repeat the same songs) because you work so long and so hard and have, most of the time, just one shot," Casey said. "When you're dealing with substantial literature, it's like reading a good book. The more you read it, the more you get out of it."

The two groups will combine to conclude the concert with John Rutter's "Gloria."

"(Gloria) is the kind of piece that just catches everybody up because it's rhythmic and very joyful and exciting," Gallagher said of the concert's finale.

The concert is free and open to the public.
Practice pitch

Brian Nabors, a junior from Columbus, and Carolyn Kauffman, a junior from Plain City, rehearse Gail Kubik's "Annie Laurie" in Weigel Hall. Nabors and Kauffman are in the OSU Choral, which will be performing "Annie Laurie" and other songs during their spring break tour in Florida.
ASO captures all the grandeur of Mahler's magnificent Eighth

By Derrick Henry
Classical music critic

"Imagine the universe beginning to ring and resound."

That's how Mahler described his monumental Eighth Symphony, one of the most ambitious musical works ever conceived.

Atlantans have their first opportunity since 1978 to experience the cosmic grandeur of this unique masterpiece in a powerful and propulsive rendition at Symphony Hall this weekend.

Such opportunities come seldom because of the logistics required to mount the piece: eight vocal soloists, three choruses and a huge orchestra.

While the ASO presentation falls about 350 musicians short of the 1,030 at the 1910 premiere, the sound impact of Thursday's performance was nonetheless staggering.

Mahler's Eighth poses immense interpretive problems, and not just because of sheer numbers and superhuman technical demands. The 80-minute piece consists of two parts of vastly dissimilar style and substance. Part 1, in Latin, sets the medieval hymn "Veni Creator Spiritus" ("Come, Creator Spirit") with enormous contrapuntal complexity, including a mighty double fugue. Part 2, in German, is an operatic treatment of the final scene from Goethe's "Faust."

Yet these parts are linked by a common theme: the power of redemptive love.

"Veni Creator Spiritus," a landmark of the early Christian Church, celebrates the descent of the Holy Ghost among the apostles at Pentecost. The conclusion of "Faust," that classic of romantic humanism, portrays the ascent of Faust's soul into heaven. Love, transfigured into spirit through divine intervention, conquers all in these two great testaments of faith.

Conductor Robert Shaw's way with this music will not suit everyone. Not for him is the tortured emotionalism of Leonard Bernstein, the nervous intensity of Sir Georg Solti, or the metaphysical probings of Klaus Tennstedt. Mr. Shaw, who turns 75 Tuesday, prefers to keep his personality in the background and let Mahler's music speak without undue interpretative interference. That doesn't mean his conception is any less deeply felt.

Indeed, it speaks to the heart.

Mr. Shaw was very well served by orchestra and singers.

The high quality of the vocal soloists (all are American) was all the more remarkable considering that five of the original eight canceled for one reason or another. Especially noteworthy were first soprano Deborah Voigt, who soared easily over the massed forces, generating protracted high B's and C's with spine-tingling aplomb; and soprano Heidi Grant, who provided an off-stage Mater Gloriosa (Mother of Glory) of heavenly purity.

Mr. Shaw, the world's foremost choral conductor, worked his perennial miracle with the 540 choristers: In a few days he welded disparate forces from three states (most of them amateurs) into a disciplined body capable not only of tremendous punch but also of uncommon nuance and tonal beauty.

With so many singers onstage, it would be easy to shortchange the orchestra's contribution. Don't. In just three exciting years the ASO has progressed to the point that it no longer plays in the shadow of Mr. Shaw's superlative choruses.

These musicians supplied the requisite brute strength — thrillingly so. But they also achieved meticulous refinement, as in the grippingly atmospheric introduction to Part 2. Strings sounded luminous, woodwinds full of character (flutes in particular).

An overwhelming final chorus led to four curtain calls (the last for Mr. Shaw alone) and five minutes of standing ovations.

The performance figures to get even better tonight and tomorrow. Those unable to get what now are the hottest tickets in town can take this solace: Telarc's recording is due out by the end of this year.
OSU Chorale to perform at Weigel Auditorium

Sunday afternoon gig to include modern, classical pieces

By Samantha Skaggs
Lantern arts writer

The Ohio State Chorale and Symphonic choirs will be performing at the Weigel Auditorium Sunday for an afternoon of musical harmony.

Chorale Studies Professor, Hilary Apfelstadt said that the 38-member chorale choir will sing a variety of songs from Bach to 20th century musical pieces.

"The chorale choir is a more advanced class," said Apfelstadt, comparing the chorale to the symphonic choir.

Both classes can either be taken for class credit or for the pure enjoyment of singing.

"About 75 percent of the chorale are music majors," said Apfelstadt. "The rest are graduate students and junior and seniors who have a strong background in the chorus."

The symphonic choir has about 80 members, all of whom are undergraduates learning the basics before entering the chorale. Requirements for the chorale are knowing how to read music and the ability to reach certain levels of notes.

"Freshmen who participate in the symphonic choir for a couple of years move up to the chorale," Apfelstadt said. "By that time, they will be able to fulfill their requirements."

About 16 concerts are given by the chorale within a year. Besides playing on campus, the group also travels on the road. The OSU chorale has recently been invited to sing at a spring concert series in Akron, which will give the chorus a fantastic chance to become noted throughout Ohio.

The chorale also travels to high schools as part of a recruiting process to bring in more musically inclined students to OSU.

An upcoming performance for the chorale is their December 1 concert at Mershon Auditorium in which all six OSU choirs, an orchestra and bands will perform.

Do not miss Sunday's performance that will be held at 3:00 p.m. in Weigel Auditorium with Professor James Gallagher conducting.
Choir sings for spring tour funds

By Kristin Mack
Lantern arts writer

The Ohio State chorale choir will hold its second annual talent show this weekend to raise money for their spring tour.

"Last year the group raised about $900 through the talent show," said Dr. Hillary Apselstadt, the show's director.

"The group hopes to raise at least $2,000 this year in order to pay for busses, food and lodging during their spring tour," she said.

The spring tour will take place at the University of Toledo, Michigan State University, the University of Toronto and in Scarborough, Ontario.

The money raised through the talent show will not cover all the expenses for the trip but it should help out, she said.

"The talent show is an old fashioned variety show featuring a mixture of singing, dancing and theater," Apselstadt said.

"The show gives a group that is usually very serious a chance to let loose and have an enjoyable evening," she said.

The chorale choir is a select group of students from several choral groups at the OSU school of music, said Ari Singer, president of the chorale choir.

Most of the choir consists of music, voice and theater majors, he said.

The group usually performs serious music from famous classical and 20th century works, Singer said.

Some of the acts in this year's talent show include three songs from "The Secret Garden," a bagpipe performance, excerpts from a comedian and several dance performances, he said.

"The talent show started last year because we wanted to change the image of our group by showing our musical diversity," Singer said.

"Most of all we want to give people the opportunity to be entertained and have a good time," he said.

The talent show takes place on Friday, Jan. 10 and Saturday, Jan. 11 at 8 p.m. in Hughes Hall auditorium.

Tickets are $3 in advance and $5 at the door. Advanced tickets are available at Weigle Hall between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily.