



HARMONIUM CELEBRATES 25 YEARS WITH FAVORITES

November 22, 2004

To kick off their twenty-fifth anniversary season, Harmonium Choral Society will present *FEAST OF FAVORITES* at Church of the Redeemer on Saturday, December 11th at 8pm, Sunday, December 12th at 3pm and - new this season - a third performance on Tuesday, December 14th at 7:30pm. Artistic Director Dr. Anne Matlack has selected her favorite works from past holiday concerts to create a program of underperformed gems. The concerts will be the tasting menu of styles, periods, seriousness and frivolity that has become the hallmark of Dr. Matlack's programming, delivered with the appropriate subtlety or gusto that makes Harmonium a standout in the Morris area. Much of the program is *a cappella*, but some works also include instrumentalists.

Violinists Ruth Zumstein and Rebecca Harris (both of Upper Montclair) will be accompanying the group in a Monteverdi *Gloria Concertata*, and Merynda Adams (Union, moving back to Madison soon), harp, will accompany *Jesu Carols* by Stephen Paulus. Additional instrumentalists will be taken from Harmonium: Chris Hatcher (Morristown) on organ; Joan Tracy (Andover), the group's longtime accompanist, on piano; high school junior Brent Lewis (Long Valley), son of two other Harmonium members, on cello; high school junior Mariam Bora (Florham Park) on recorder; and Jean Bowers (Budd Lake), Mia Kissil Hewitt (Bernardsville) and John Lamb (Randolph) on percussion.

The church is at 36 South Street in Morristown, NJ. General admission tickets will be available at the door for \$20, and \$15 for students and seniors. Discounts are available for individuals or groups who purchase at least one week in advance. The church is wheelchair accessible and large print and braille programs will be made available if requested ahead of time. Please call 973-538-6969, send e-mail to sales@harmonium.org or access Harmonium's website at www.harmonium.org for more information or to purchase tickets.

Dr. Matlack has been Artistic Director of Harmonium Choral Society since 1987, and was named 2003 Outstanding Arts Professional by the Arts Council of the Morris Area. Dr. Matlack is also choir director and organist at Grace Episcopal Church in Madison, where she directs a full program of children's and adult choirs, as well as the concert series, Grace Community Music.

Harmonium Choral Society itself was also named Outstanding Arts Organization in 1998 by the Arts Council of the Morris Area, dedicated to fostering community appreciation of choral music through concerts, education and outreach. "[Harmonium is] one of the best music ensembles of any kind. And above all that, it's the sense of sharing and enjoying that most comes through." [Robert Butts, Conductor, Baroque Orchestra of North Jersey, and *Classical NJ* reviewer, July 2003]

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