



- ▶ **CONNECTIONS**
 - ▶ OFS SPRING CONCERT
 - ▶ APRIL 24, 2010, 7:30PM
 - ▶ FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, KELOWNA
 - ▶ SPECIAL GUESTS THE AMABILIS SINGERS OF NEW WESTMINSTER, BC

- ▶ **AN OKANAGAN CHRISTMAS**
 - ▶ DECEMBER 4, 2010
 - ▶ AN OFS TRADITION AND SEASONAL FAVORITE FOR OFS AUDIENCES
 - ▶ FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, KELOWNA

- ▶ **WHAT A NIGHT!**
 - ▶ REVIEW OF HANDEL'S *MESSIAH*

Okanagan Festival Singers



OFS, orchestra and soloists perform *Messiah* to Sold Out House

Paula, Cathy, Ruth, Pat and Wendy



Photos by Barry Yeats

CONNECTIONS

- ▶ ONE KELOWNA CONCERT – TWO BC CHOIRS – CONNECTING US ALL TO THE MUSIC
- ▶ SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2010 – FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, KELOWNA – 7:30 PM
- ▶ FEATURING SPECIAL GUESTS THE AMABILIS SINGERS
- ▶ TICKETS \$15 ADULTS - \$5 STUDENTS – GENERAL SEATING
- ▶ AVAILABLE THROUGH CHOIR MEMBERS, RICHCRAFT GALLERY, PARAMOUNT MUSIC AND AT THE DOOR. EMAIL CHOIR@OFSINGERS.COM FOR TICKET INFORMATION
- ▶ SWEET TREATS AND COFFEE AVAILABLE AT INTERMISSION

On April 24th, OFS is pleased to be part of a choral exchange with the Amabilis Singers, a mixed choir of 50 to 60 members, under the direction of Ramona Luengen. Although based in New Westminster, the choir is made up of singers from all around the Lower Mainland and from all walks of life. The Amabilis Singers perform music from many musical periods and in many genres, from a *cappella* folksongs to large works with local amateur orchestras. Their aim is very similar to OFS; to foster and promote the love of choral music, singing and performance. They also like to have fun! We have a wonderful connection with Amabilis as two members of OFS have sung with Amabilis in the past.

Amabilis has named their Spring Concert *A Choral Bouquet* and invites its audience to "come share with us some of the most wonderful and inspiring music in the choral repertoire as we visit the hot-blooded streets of Spain, the cool lanes of Gershwin's America, the inspired path of African-Americans and the sumptuous boulevards of France – as uplifting and colourful as a bouquet of spring flowers!"

The OFS will present a variety of pieces chosen by the members as some of their favorites from the past 20 years, including "The Storm is Passing Over" from our *Sacred Classics* CD.

The weekend following the Kelowna concert, OFS will travel to Vancouver to repeat this concert in front of an Amabilis Singers' audience. Your friends and family in the Lower Mainland can join us for this concert May 1st at Shaughnessey Heights United Church, 1550 W 33rd Ave. (1 block west of Granville), Vancouver. <http://amabilissingers.wordpress.com/tickets/>



Schmoozing with the Bass Soloist



A Choral Bouquet



The Amabilis Singers



Bringing the experience of great choral music to the Okanagan

Upcoming Concert

- ▶ AN OKANAGAN CHRISTMAS
- ▶ DECEMBER 4, 2010
- ▶ FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



OFS is once again excited to be planning an audience favorite, "An Okanagan Christmas". This concert is a perfect way to start your Holiday season and get you into the Christmas Spirit. This year's concert will be held at First Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 4th and will include seasonal music from around the world and special guest performers.

What a Night!



"...I was captivated from the opening notes of the Sinfonia to the last rousing Amen! The performance was an incredible blending of chorus, soloists and orchestra, each playing their part as directed."

*"I have attended and been involved in many Messiah performances over the years. I believe this was one of the best."
Concert review by Marvin Dickau, Nov 2009.*

These sentiments were shared by the enthusiastic, sold out, audience attending the OFS performance of Handel's *Messiah* on November 26th, giving the choir, orchestra, soloists and conductor "two well deserved standing ovations and prolonged applause at the end." Marvin Dickau's review also stated, "The four soloists (Soprano Christina Jahn, Alto Fabiana Katz, Tenor Jerald Fast and Bass Paul Grindley) were well chosen."

If you were a part of this enthusiastic audience you won't want to miss the next OFS Concerts, April's *Connections* and December's *An Okanagan Christmas*. Both concerts will continue the OFS tradition of bringing high-quality choral music to our Okanagan audiences.

Member Moment



Name: Tom Apps **Section:** Bass **Years with OFS:** 5

Favorite OFS Concerts: *World of Christmas* with Ed Henderson and *Worldfest*, *Carmina Burana* & *Faure's Requiem*

Favorite Music Moments: Attending many Vancouver Symphony Orchestra concerts in the late 70s/early 80s and enjoying many featured concert soloists.

Best thing about singing with OFS: It is a form of release to be able to sing. Being part of a group results in a fellowship with other members and giving to the community the enjoyment of choral music.

Other Involvement: Former member of the OFS Board. Current member, and former executive member, of the Central Okanagan Sailing Association. Sang with St. Davis Presbyterian Church choir and is the Board of Managers at St. Davids. Tom is our resident "fix it guy".

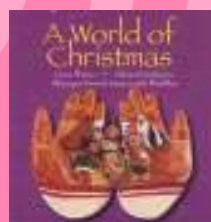
CDs FOR SALE



The first CD recorded by OFS with many classic sacred songs - \$16



Studio recordings of the choral music from our "An Okanagan Christmas" 2005 concert - \$20



Our LIVE recording, "A World of Christmas", full of rhythm and excitement from our 2008 Christmas concert with Ed Henderson and the *Worldfest* band. - \$20

CDs will be on sale at all concerts
To order email choir@ofsingers.com

GO GREEN

Email ofsnews@shaw.ca to receive this newsletter in full colour via email

OFS AUDITIONS!!

OFS holds auditions in January and September. Good sight-reading and singing skills are necessary. Tenors and Basses are especially needed. Contact choir@ofsingers.com or call Claire at 764-5272



JUNK MAIL?

If you would like your name removed from our mailing list please email choir@ofsingers.com