Great Sacred Music Sunday, September 5, 2021

William Shrubsole, arr. Vaughan Williams: All Hail The Power Choir of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, Thomas Somerville Frederick Swann, organ

Sir George Elvey: Psalm 4 Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, John Scott Andrew Lucas, organ

Wilfred Josephs: Baruch Shenatan Torah The Zemel Choir, Robert Max

William Shrubsole (1760-1806) wrote the tune "Miles Lane" which has been associated with the text by Edward Perronet. Vaughan Williams thought highly of the tune. Sir George Elvey (1816-1893) was organist of St. George's Chapel, Windsor from 1835 to 1882. Wilfred Josephs (1927-1997) born in Gosforth, Newcastle on Tyne.

Felix Mendelssohn: Psalm 43, "Richte mich Gott", Op. 78 No. 2 St. Albans Abbey Girls Choir; Lay Clerks of St. Albans Cathedral Choir, Tom Winpenny

John Rutter: Thy perfect love

Cambridge Singers; City of London Sinfonia, John Rutter

Orlando Gibbons: Fantasia in A minor

Simon Preston, organ

Mendelssohn published his Three Psalms in 1874-77. An anonymous 15th-century author wrote "Thy perfect love" which John Rutter set to music in 1974. English concert organist Simon Preston (1938-) has been at various times in his career Organist of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford and Organist of Westminster Abbey.

Commentary: Rabbi Eric Solomon

Don Aronowitz: Hachkivenou

Adolphe Attia, cantor; Herve Desarbre, organ

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina: Salve Regina

The Studio of Ancient Music of Montreal, Christopher Jackson

Cantor Adolphe Attia presided at the liturgies in the Great Synagogue of Paris in the mid-20th-century. Hermannus Contractus (1013-1054) wrote the text for the Marian hymn "Salve Regina" (Hail Queen of Heaven).

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford: Glorious and Powerful God, Op. 135 No. 3 Worcester Cathedral Choir, Donald Hunt

Sir Arnold Bax: Magnificat

The Rodolfus Choir, Ralph Allwood

Christopher Hughes, organ

Max Reger: Toccata in D minor, Op. 59 No. 5

Andrew Lucas, organ

WIllis/MAnder organ in St. Paul's Cathedral, London

Irish composer Sir Charles Villiers Stanford was educated at Queens College, Cambridge. Sir Arnold Bax (1883-1953) was an English composer whose oeuvre straddled romanticism and impressionism. English organist Andrew Lucas has been Master of the Music at St. Alban's Cathedral since 1998.

J.S. Bach: Cantata 78, "Jesu, der du meine Seele" Bach Collegium Japan, Masaaki Suzuki Yukari Nonoshita, soprano; Daniel Taylor, countertenor Makoto Sakurada, tenor; Peter Kooy, bass

The second movement of this cantata is one of those remarkable pieces of writing for which Bach was well-known. The cantata was first performed on September 10, 1724.

Johann Adolf Hasse: Salve Regina in E flat Musica Antiqua of Cologne, Reinhard Goebel Barbara Bonney, soprano; Bernarda Fink, mezzo-soprano

From the BBC Music Magazine: "In the mid-18th century, Johann Adolf Hasse was one of Europe's most celebrated composers, feted especially for the flowing, elegant vocal lines that graced his numerous and popular operas. By the time of his death in 1783, however, he had been largely forgotten and his work sank into a 200-year-long obscurity from which it is only now beginning to emerge."

Ralph Vaughan Williams: Benedicite Bach Choir; London Symphony Orchestra, Sir David Willcocks Heather Harper, soprano

English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams used the words from The Song of the Three Young Men which appears in the Book of Daniel 3, 57-88; 56, as well as a poem by J. Austin (1613-1669) for his setting of the Benedicte.

Darius Milhaud: Sacred Service Prague Philharmonic Choir; Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, Gerard Schwarz Yaron Windmueller, baritone; Rabbi Rodney Mariner, reader

Temple Emmanuel, San Francisco commissioned Darius Milhaud to compose his Sérvice Sacré in 1948.

Franz Schubert: Mass No. 6 in E flat, D. 950

Vienna Boys' Choir; Chorus Viennensis; Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment,

Bruno Weil

Benjamin Schmidinger, soprano; Albin Lenzer, alto

Jorg Hering, tenor; Kurt Azesberger, tenor; Harry van der Kamp, bass

The Mass in E flat was Schubert's last mass setting. It dates from the summer of 1828. This mass and the one in A flat are considered to be the acme of Schubert's religious compositions.