

THE CREATION

(Die Schöpfung)

An Oratorio by F. Joseph Haydn

GMChorale and Alchemy

Elm City Girls' Choir, Tom Brand and Rebecca Rosenbaum, Music Directors

Orchestra New England, James Sinclair, Music Director

Soloists Mark Womack, Sherezade Panthaki, Dann Coakwell

Conductor Joseph D'Eugenio

Sunday - May 1, 2022 - 4:00pm

Santo Fragilio Performing Arts Center at Middletown High School, Middletown, CT

Kindly hold applause until the ends of Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3. Please turn off all devices and refrain from texting or taking photos during the concert.

THE CREATION.....F. Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Cast-of-Characters

Mark Womack.....Archangel Raphael and Adam

Sherezade Panthaki.....Archangel Gabriel and Eve

Dann Coakwell.....Archangel Uriel

Part I, Days 1 to 4, God creates nature's non-living elements out of chaos.

1. Introduction - The Representation of Chaos and Recitative (Raphael, Chorus, Uriel)

Day 1: Heaven and earth are formed.

Raphael

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth;
And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.

Chorus

And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
And God said: Let there be Light, and there was Light.

Uriel

And God saw the Light, that it was good; and God divided the Light from the darkness.

2. Aria - Now Vanish Before the Holy Beams (Uriel, Chorus)

Uriel

Now vanish before the holy beams the gloomy dismal shades of dark; the first of days appears.
Disorder yields to order the fair place.
Affrighted fled hell's spirits black in throngs; down they sink in the deep of abyss to endless night.

Chorus

Despairing cursing rage attends their rapid fall.
A new-created world springs up at God's command.

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3. **Recitative** (*Raphael*) Day 2: God creates the parting of the waters below and above the firmament and storms, lightning, rain, thunder, and snow.

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament. And it was so. Outrageous storms now dreadful arose; as chaff by the winds are impelled the clouds. By heaven's fire the sky is enflamed and awful rolled the thunders on high. Now from the floods in steam ascend reviving showers of rain, the dreary wasteful hail, the light and flaky snow.

4. **Chorus - The Marv'lous Work Beholds Amaz'd** (*Gabriel, Chorus*)

Gabriel

The marv'lous work beholds amaz'd the glorious hierarchy of Heav'n;
And to th' ethereal vaults resound the praise of God, and of the second day.

Chorus

And to th' ethereal vaults resound the praise of God, and of the second day.

5. **Recitative** (*Raphael*) Day 3: God separates the water from the earth and creates land, waves, seas, mountains, plains, rivers and valleys.

And God said: Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so. And God called the dry land: earth, and the gathering of waters called he seas; and God saw that it was good.

6. **Aria - Rolling in Foaming Billows** (*Raphael*)

Rolling in foaming billows uplifted roars the boist'rous sea.
Mountains and rocks now emerge; their tops into the clouds ascend.
Thro' th' open plains outstretching wide in serpent error rivers flow.
Softly purling glides on thro' silent vales the limpid brook.

7. **Recitative** (*Gabriel*) God creates grass, fruit trees, flowers, meadows, and forests

And God said: Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself upon the earth; and it was so.

8. **Aria - With Verdure Clad** (*Gabriel*)

With verdure clad the fields appear delightful to the ravish'd sense;
By flowers sweet and gay enhanced is the charming sight.
Here vent their fumes the fragrant herbs; here shoots the healing plant.
By load of fruit th' expanded boughs are press'd; to shady vaults are bent the tufty groves;
The mountain's brow is crown'd with closed wood.

9. **Recitative** (*Uriel*) The heavenly hosts proclaim the third day

And the heav'nly host proclaimed the third day, praising God and saying:

10. Chorus - Awake the Harp

Awake the harp, the lyre awake! In shout and joy your voices raise! In triumph sing the mighty Lord!
For he the heavens and earth has clothed in stately dress.

11. Recitative (*Uriel*) Day 4: Celestial bodies take shape making days, seasons, and years

And God said: Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven to divide the day from the night, and to give light upon the earth; and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days, and for years. He made the stars also.

12. Recitative (*Uriel*) God creates the sun, moon, and stars

In splendour bright is rising now the sun and darts his rays; an am'rous joyful happy spouse, a giant proud and glad to run his measur'd course. With softer beams and milder light steps on the silver moon through silent night. The space immense of th' azure sky innum'rous host of radiant orbs adorns. And the sons of God announced the fourth day in song divine, proclaiming thus his power:

13. Chorus - The Heavens Are Telling the Glory of God (*Chorus, Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael*)

Chorus

The heavens are telling the glory of God. The wonder of his works displays the firmament.

Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael

To day, that is coming, speaks it the day; the night, that is gone, to following night.

Chorus

The heavens are telling the glory of God. The wonder of works displays the firmament.

Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael

In all the land resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood.

Chorus

The heavens are telling the glory of God. The wonder of his works displays the firmament.

Part II, Days 5 and 6, God creates the living creatures of the air, land, and sea.

14. Recitative (*Gabriel*) Day 5: God creates the creatures of the water and air

And God said: Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature, that hath life, and fowl, that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

15. Aria - On Mighty Pens Uplifted Soars (*Gabriel*)

On mighty pens uplifted soars the eagle aloft, and cleaves the air in swiftest flight, to the blazing sun.
His welcome bids to morn the merry lark, and cooing, calls the tender dove his mate.
From ev'ry bush and grove resound the nightingale's delightful notes.
No grief affected yet her breast, nor to a mournful tale were tun'd her soft enchanting lays.

16. **Recitative** (*Raphael*) God creates whales, fish, and birds.

And God created great whales, and ev'ry living creature that moveth. And God blessed them, saying: Be fruitful all, and multiply! Ye winged tribes, be multiplied and sing on ev'ry tree! Multiply, ye finny tribes, and fill each wat'ry deep! Be fruitful, grow, and multiply! And in your God and Lord rejoice!

And the angels struck their immortal harps and the wonders of the fifth day sung.

17. **Trio - Most Beautiful Appear** (*Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael*)

Gabriel

Most beautiful appear, with verdure young adorn'd, the gently sloping hills.
Their narrow, sinuous veins distill in crystal drops the fountain fresh and bright.

Uriel

In lofty circles plays and hovers thro' the sky the cheerful host of birds.
And in the flying whirl the glitt'ring plumes are dyed, as rainbows, by the sun.

Raphael

See flashing thro' the wet in thronged swarms the fry on thousand ways around.
Upheaved from the deep, th' immense Leviathan sports on the foaming wave.

Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael

How many are thy works, O God? Who may their numbers tell? Who, O God?

18. **Chorus - The Lord is Great** (*Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael, Chorus*)

The Lord is great and great his might. His glory lasts for ever and evermore.

19. **Recitative** (*Raphael*) Day 6: On the first part, God creates creatures who live on the land.

And God said: Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind; cattle and creeping thing, and beasts of the earth after their kind.

20. **Recitative** (*Raphael*) God creates creatures of the animal kingdom.

Straight opening her fertile womb, the earth obey'd the word, and teem'd creatures numberless, in perfect forms and fully grown. Cheerful, roaring, stands the tawny lion. In sudden leaps the flexible tiger appears. The nimble stag bears up his branching head. With flying mane and fiery look, impatient neighs the sprightly steed. The cattle in herds already seeks his food on fields and meadows green. And oe'r the ground, as plants, are spread the fleecy, meek and bleating flock. Unnumber'd as the sands in whirl arose the host of insects. In long dimensions creeps with sinuous trace the worm.

21. Aria - Now Heav'n in Fullest Glory (*Raphael*)

Now heav'n in fullest glory shone;
Earth smiles in all her rich attire.
The room of air with fowl is fill'd;
The water swell'd by shoals of fish;
By heavy beasts the ground is trod.
But all the work was not complete.
There wanted yet that wond'rous being,
That grateful should God's pow'r admire,
With heart and voice his goodness praise.

22. Recitative (*Uriel*) God creates man and woman in his own image

And God created man in his own image. In the image of God created he him. Male and female created he them. He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

23. Aria - In Native Worth and Honour Clad (*Uriel*)

In native worth and honour clad,
With beauty, courage, strength adorn'd,
To heav'n erect and tall, he stands a man,
The Lord and King of nature all.
The large and arched front sublime
Of wisdom deep declares the seat.
And in his eyes with brightness shines the soul,
The breath and image of his God.
With fondness leans upon his breast the partner for him form'd,
A woman fair and graceful spouse.
Her softly smiling virgin looks, of flow'ry spring the mirror,
Bespeak him love, and joy, and bliss.

24. Recitative (*Raphael*) God sees his work and is pleased.

And God saw ev'ry thing that he had made; and behold, it was very good; and the heavenly choir in song divine thus closed the sixth day.

25. Chorus - Achieved Is the Glorious Work (1)

Achieved is the glorious work; the Lord beholds it and is pleas'd.
In lofty strains let us rejoice! Our song let be the praise of God.

26. Trio - On Thee Each Living Soul Awaits (*Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael*)

Gabriel, Uriel

On thee each living soul awaits; from thee, O Lord, they beg their meat.
Thou openest thy hand, and sated all they are.

Raphael

But as to them thy face is hid, with sudden terror they are struck.
Thou tak'st their breath away; they vanish into dust.

Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael

Thou lett'st thy breath go forth again, and life with vigor fresh returns.
Revived earth unfolds new force and new delights.

27. Chorus - Achieved is the Glorious Work (2)

Chorus

Achieved is the glorious work.
Our song let be the praise of God.
Glory to his name forever; he sole on high exalted reigns, alleluia.

15 Minute Intermission

Part III, Adam and Eve praise and celebrate God's creation and their love for each other.

28. Recitative (*Uriel*)

In rosy mantle appears, by tunes sweet awak'd, the morning young and fair. From the celestial vaults
pure harmony descends on ravished earth. Behold the blissful pair, where hand in hand they go! Their
flaming looks express what feels the grateful heart. A louder praise of God their lips shall utter soon.
Then let our voices ring, united with their song!

29. Chorus - By Thee with Bliss (*Adam, Eve, Chorus*)

Eve and Adam

By thee with bliss, O bounteous Lord, the heav'n and earth are stor'd.
This world, so great, so wonderful, thy mighty hand has fram'd.

Chorus

For ever blessed be his pow'r!
His name be ever magnified!

Adam

Of stars the fairest, O how sweet thy smile at dawning morn!
How brighten'st thou, o sun, the day, thou eye and soul of all!

Chorus

Proclaim in your extended course th' almighty pow'r and praise of God!

Eve

And thou, that rules the silent night, and all ye starry host,
Spread wide and everywhere his praise in choral songs about.

Adam

Ye strong and comb'rous elements, who ceaseless changes make,
Ye dusky mists and dewy streams that rise and fall thro' th' air...

Eve, Adam and Chorus

...Resound the praise of God our Lord!

Eve

Ye purling fountains, tune his praise, and wave your tops, ye pines!
Ye plants, exhale, ye flowers breathe at him your balmy scent!

Adam

Ye, that on mountains stately tread, and ye, that lowly creep;
Ye birds that sing at heaven's gate, and ye, that swim the stream...

Eve, Adam and Chorus

...Ye living souls, extol the Lord!
Him celebrate, him magnify!

Eve and Adam

Ye valleys, hills, and shady woods, our raptur'd notes ye heard;
From morn till ev'n you shall repeat our grateful hymns of praise!

Chorus

Hail, bounteous Lord! Almighty, hail!
Thy word call'd forth this wond'rous frame.
Thy pow'r adore the heav'n and earth; we praise thee now and evermore.

30. Recitative (*Adam, Eve*)

Adam

Our duty we performed now, in off'ring up to God our thanks. Now follow me, dear partner of my life! Thy guide I'll be, and and ev'ry step pours new delight into our breast, shews wonders ev'ry where. Then may'st thou feel and know the high degree of bliss the Lord allotted us, and with devoted heart his bounty celebrate. Come, follow me! Thy guide I'll be.

Eve

O thou for whom I am! My help, my shield, my all! Thy will is law to me. So God, our Lord, ordains, and from obedience grows my pride and happiness.

31. Duet - Graceful Consort! At Thy Side (*Adam, Eve*)

Adam

Graceful consort! At thy side softly fly the golden hours.
Ev'ry moment brings new rapture, ev'ry care is put to rest.

Eve

Spouse adored! At thy side purest joys o'erflow the heart.
Life and all I am is thine; my reward thy love shall be.

Adam

The dew-dropping morn, O how she quickens all!

Eve

The coolness of ev'n, O how she all restores!

Adam

How grateful is of fruits the savour sweet!

Eve

How pleasing is of fragrant bloom the smell!

Eve and Adam

But, without thee, what is to me -

Adam

The morning dew,

Eve

The breath of even,

Adam

The sav'ry fruit,

Eve

The fragrant bloom.

Eve and Adam

With thee is ev'ry joy enhanced, with thee delight is ever new;
With thee is life incessant bliss; thine it whole shall be.

32. Recitative (*Uriel*)

O happy pair, and always happy yet, if not, misled by false conceit, ye strive at more, as granted is, and more to know, as know ye should!

33. Chorus - Sing the Lord, Ye Voices All (*Chorus, Soli SATB*)

Sing the Lord, ye voices all!
Utter, utter thanks ye all his works!
Celebrate his pow'r and glory!
Let his name resound on high!
The Lord is great, his praise shall last for aye. Amen! Amen!

Laus Deo

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