

Music Notes

The Newsletter of
MGH Records



Fall / Winter 2000

Greetings From Moses Hogan



Welcome to our new season! I would like to take the opportunity through this newsletter to share with you some of the many exciting things that are happening. Please take a moment to explore the articles and review the information here, and we also invite you to visit our website at www.moseshogan.com throughout the year for more information, updates, releases, and other news. Thank you for your interest in the music and for your support of MGH Records.

Oxford Press Selects Hogan to Compile New Spiritual Anthology

Oxford University Press has selected Moses Hogan as editor for a new practical anthology of spirituals, projected for release in the spring of 2001. This anthology, *The Oxford Book of Spirituals*, will provide a rich array of choral arrangements for use in worship and in concert. It will contain a broad sample of spirituals that have been arranged by significant composers from the beginning of the twentieth century to the present. Mr. Hogan is working on the project in collaboration with Christopher Johnson, Senior Editor in the Music Department of Oxford University Press.

Hogan In London

Moses Hogan has been invited by Henry Speck, D. Phil. (Oxon.), Director, to be in residence at the St. Hugh's College (Oxford University) Summer School during the week of July 23-27, 2001. Hogan will develop a program that will include lectures, rehearsals, and concert performances involving students in the Vocal Workshop.

Double CD Souvenir Collection Stays in Print by Popular Demand

Due to overwhelming demand following the announcement of its discontinuation, the double CD Souvenir Collection recording of early performances by the Moses Hogan Chorale will remain in the MGH Records inventory. We are grateful for the interest shown in this recording.

We are profoundly grateful to those who have been sources of such generous support and encouragement as audience members, as patrons of MGH Records, and as enthusiastic advocates of our music.

Your purchase of the MGH recordings and collections found in this newsletter enables us to continue working with young musicians across the country to preserve and promote a vital part of our American musical heritage. Your patronage helps to make possible choral festivals and concerts through which a wider audience experiences the magic of the music that MGH Records exists to preserve.

I invite you to experience our new release and share the experience with others who love choral music. As a special incentive, when you purchase our complete recorded collection of CD's (*A Home In That Rock*, *The Souvenir Edition*, and *Deep River*), you will receive an additional 10% discount for each complete collection-set purchased. Please see the order form for details and save \$5 on your order.

Thank you.

Moses Hogan

French Author's History of Spirituals Features Works by Hogan

Parisian Publisher Bayard Editions has released a new book tracing the historical development of the spiritual. *Le grand livre des Negro Spirituals: Go Down Moses* is the work of scholar Bruno Chenu, and along with the book, the publisher has included a compact disc recording of performances by the Moses Hogan Chorale, entitled *Les plus beaux Negro Spirituals*. In addition, recordings by the Chorale and the Moses Hogan Singers are listed in a selected discography of spirituals published as an appendix to the book. The 432-page French-language book is available from the publisher by email request at: <johanna.dicret@bayard-presse.com>. The CD included with the book may also be purchased separately from the same source.



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Moses Hogan Singers Attract Fans on European Tour

The Moses Hogan Singers recently returned from a successful European tour in July of 2000 with noted soprano Barbara Hendricks. The choir was warmly received in its performances at the Rheingau Musik Festival in Oestrich-Winkel, Germany, the Lugano Festival Jazz in Lugano, Switzerland, and the San Sebastian Jazz Festival in San Sebastian, Spain.

Moses Hogan Singers to Perform in The Netherlands

The Moses Hogan Singers are returning to Europe! On Monday, December 18, 2001 at the Sint Jan Cathedral in Hertogenbosch, and on Tuesday, December 19, 2001 at the Grote Kerk in Naarden, the Singers will join noted soprano Barbara Hendricks for two special concerts in the Netherlands. Sponsored by the Dutch bank, F. van Lanschot Bankiers N.V., these concerts are part of the Sint Jan Kerstconcert, a cooperative program between the two concert venues. Both venues, the Sint Jan Cathedral and Grote Kerk, represent some of the most precious cultural monuments in the Netherlands. Though the program is primarily for the Bank's "Special Relations" program, there will be a limited number of seats available. The concerts will be attended by some very distinguished guests, including Cabinet Ministers and members of the Royal Family.



Barbara Hendricks and Moses Hogan

MGH Records Strives to Continue the Choral Tradition

Moses Hogan has endeavored to promote and preserve the African-American musical experience through a variety of events and activities. Starting in early 1991, Hogan collaborated with the Schomburg Center for Research and Black Culture in New York to undertake "Music of African-American Composers, Series I". This series, featuring such artists as **Cynthia Haymon**, soprano, **Ellis Marsalis**, piano, **Derek Lee Ragin**, countertenor, **William Warfield**, narrator, and guest conductors **Roland Carter** and **Robert Morris**, was inaugurated to document the rich traditions and heritage of African-American music. Joined by the performing forces of collegiate and professional choirs from Atlanta, New York City, New Orleans, and other cities around the United States, this concert series was a celebration of the great contributions that African-Americans have made to music, not only in the United States, but around the world. Performed at the famed Carnegie Hall in New York, this event, featuring works by such composers as **Harry T. Burleigh**, **Roland M. Carter**, **Robert L. Morris**, and **Ellis Marsalis**, was only the beginning. This successful series continued with a presentation at the famous Orchestra Hall in Chicago, IL. in 1992.

Taking this project as his inspiration, Moses Hogan recently organized the Moses Hogan Singers Choral Festival. This event continues to celebrate the rich legacy of the African-American choral tradition by involving outstanding choirs from across the country. In March



of 2000, the **Kentucky State University Choir**, **Dr. Carl Smith**, Director (on left in picture at left), and the **Morgan State University Choir**, **Dr. Nathan Carter**, Director (on right in picture at left), joined the Moses Hogan Singers for the inaugural event of the "Choral Festival" concert at the

First Baptist Church of New Orleans. In October of this year, Moses Hogan presented the acclaimed **Morehouse College Glee Club**, **Dr. David Morrow**, Director, in concert at Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana.

New Collection

THE DEEP RIVER COLLECTION

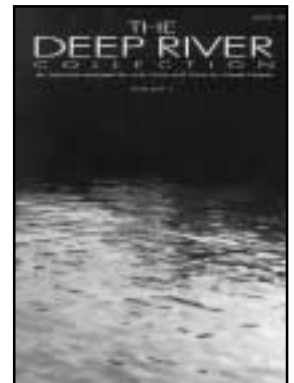
Ten Spirituals for Solo Voice and Piano Arranged by Moses Hogan (Volume One)

Deep River
He Never Said A Mumblin' Word (Crucifixion)
Give Me Jesus
He's Got The Whole World In His Hands
Let Us Break Bread Together
My Good Lord's Done Been Here
Somebody's Knockin' At Yo' Door
Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child
Were You There?
Walk Together Children

In a time and place where physical hardship and emotional anguish were a way of life for a people in bondage, God placed into their hearts and onto their lips a song. So powerful was this song that in its words was hope itself, in its melody the peace for which their hearts yearned, and in its rhythm the pulse of the Almighty who sustained them. That song was the spiritual, and it survives to this day as one of the most deeply moving expressions of the human spirit. In the hands of early masters such as Harry T. Burleigh and Hall Johnson, the spirituals retained their lyrical directness and their emotional power while taking on a new measure of harmonic refinement.

It is upon the foundation established by these pioneers that Moses Hogan has built, adding his own unique contribution to the deep river of the Negro spirituals. As is evident in these songs of the Deep River Collection, in his work are fused the harmonic sensibility honed by his years as a student and practitioner of classical piano literature, his love of the human voice, and his musical roots in the African-American Baptist church.

We extend you a warm invitation to experience this new collection.



* Available for High Voice and Low Voice

An Interview With Moses Hogan

In a recent interview, Moses Hogan spoke of some of the reasons for his involvement in composing, arranging, performing, and recording spirituals. He began by saying, "I want first to thank the numerous teachers and choir directors who have embraced spirituals in recent years and who have included them in their repertoires for performance and worship. By doing so, they are helping to preserve an aspect of our American musical tradition that I believe all people should be aware of." In assessing the significance of the spiritual as a musical form, he quoted historian and composer John Work, who in a commentary on the arranged spiritual said, "In the evolution of the arrangement of the spiritual, there is seen the growth of a form and style of writing which assumes the serious aspects of composition, and the arranged spiritual must be recognized as a distinctive new original American music form."

Having long admired the works of noted composers and arrangers such as Hall Johnson, Harry T. Burleigh, and Jester Hairston, as well as contemporary composers Roland Carter and Robert Morris, Hogan began to focus his musical energy in the area of arranging spirituals in 1980. He sees his own work as an extension of their efforts, and he credits them, along with the wonderful singers of the former New World Ensemble, the Moses Hogan Chorale, his mother and father, and his late uncle, Edwin B. Hogan, as great inspirations for his endeavors in preserving and extending the spiritual tradition.

Through his subsequent work with the Moses Hogan Chorale and the Moses Hogan Singers, as well as the increasing number of festivals and workshops in which he participates as a clinician and guest conductor, Moses Hogan has been gratified to note a growing interest in the spirituals as a vibrant choral art form. He also mentions with great appreciation the role played by his publishers, Hal Leonard and Alliance Music, in making contemporary arrangements of spirituals more widely available. Noting the degree to which American youth's musical tastes are being shaped by the commercial marketplace, Hogan says, "I want young people to know that history has proven that spirituals are not just for older people, and that they also cross racial and ethnic lines."

In addition to continuing his work within the spiritual genre, Hogan also anticipates expanding the range of his musical output. He says, "I hope to embark on works in many other styles." Thus, those who have grown to love his music through his MGH Records releases and his published arrangements can look forward not only to more of the spirituals for which he is already renowned, but also to music in which that same God-given talent will be expressed in new and different ways.

Wednesday, January 10, 2001

8:00 PM

University of Michigan- Presented by the University Musical Society
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
2250 E. Stadium Blvd. Ann Arbor, Michigan
Tickets: (734) 764-2538 or on the web at: www.ums.org

Sunday, January 14, 2001

3:00 PM

Montage Faculty Recital Series, Loyola University
Church of the Most Holy Name of Jesus
6367 Saint Charles Ave. New Orleans, Louisiana
Non-ticketed Event Phone: (504) 865-3037

Hogan Accepts Invitation to Conduct National Musical Fraternity

Moses Hogan will be the featured speaker and artist on June 20-24, 2001 in Evansville, Indiana, during the National Conclave of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America. Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia is America's oldest and largest men's musical fraternity with over 80,000 living members. In conjunction with the invitation, Mr. Hogan will arrange two compositions in commemoration of the event. First, *Who Built the Ark?* will help to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Fraternity's Epsilon Upsilon Chapter at the University of Evansville (Evansville, Indiana). The second piece, written for male chorus in celebration of the event, will be debuted in a public concert by the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Chorus during the Conclave, conducted by Mr. Hogan. He will also host a masterclass and discussion during the event. Mr. Hogan was initiated into Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia as an honorary member on August 8, 1998. Please visit www.sinfonia.org for more information about the event.

Moses Hogan Accepts Artist in Residence Post

In 1999, Moses Hogan accepted an appointment as Artist in Residence at Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana. His duties in that position include producing special performances, conducting a new summer choral workshop, recruiting voice students, and representing Loyola University at numerous worldwide appearances. Loyola University New Orleans (www.loyno.edu) was chartered in 1912. It is one of the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States, and the only one with a College of Music, founded in 1932 to give students the opportunity to combine liberal studies with professional music courses. Loyola's music alumni have become successful in virtually every area of the professional music world.

Hogan to Premier CD of 15 New Arrangements at 2001 ACDA Convention

Moses Hogan will release a CD of 15 concert arrangements for mixed chorus, male chorus, and female chorus arrangements at the upcoming ACDA National Convention in San Antonio, Texas. Please visit the Moses Hogan booth in the convention exhibition hall during the convention from March 14-17, 2001.

The Moses Hogan Singers Concert Schedule

Tuesday, February 6, 2001

8:00 PM

Oberlin College Conservatory of Music
Sponsored by the Oberlin College Convocation and Artist Recital Series
Finney Chapel Oberlin, Ohio
Non-ticketed Event Phone: (440) 775-8200

Friday, March 23, 2001

8:00 PM

El Camino College Center for the Arts - Marsee Auditorium
Tickets: (310) 329-5341 Torrance, California

Sunday, October 28, 2001

5:00 PM

Hillcrest Church
12123 Hillcrest Rd. Phone: (972) 392-3992
Dallas, TX



PO BOX 2402
New Orleans, LA 70176-2402

Copyright 2000 by MGH Records
Editor: Moses Hogan
Contributing Editor: Walter Bonam
Layout/Design: Jeremy Korba

The Souvenir Edition Release



*The Best of The Moses Hogan Chorale
Celebrating The Final Touring Season
From the MGH Collections Elijah Rock,
The Battle of Jericho, Songs of Reflection
and Abide With Me
Arrangements by Moses Hogan*

"(The Best of Moses Hogan Hogan Chorale) may well be the finest collection of African-American spirituals ever... Any one interested in spirituals should snap up this collection."

- *Mainly A Cappella Magazine*
The largest selection of exceptional vocal music in the world.

The Battle of Jericho
Abide With Me
I Got A Robe
Jesus, Lay Your Head In The Window
Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit
I Stood On The River Of Jordan
I'm Gonna Sing 'Til The Spirit Moves In My Heart
Great Day
Lord, I Want To Be A Christian
Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel
Mr. Banjo

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
I Know The Lord's Laid His Hands On Me
Steal Away
Old Time Religion
Give Me Jesus
Ain't That Good News
There Is A Balm In Gilead
God's Gonna Set This World On Fire
I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray
Wade In The Water
My God Is So High
I Can Tell The World
Down By The Riverside
There's A Man Goin Round
I Am His Child
Standing In The Need Of Prayer
I Want To Thank You Lord
I Want Jesus To Walk With Me
Basin Street Blues
Elijah Rock

Featured Soloists: Bridget Bazile, Germaine Bazzle, Mary Mayo, Derek Lee Ragin, Marietta Simpson, Brian Stratton, and Rodney Vaughn

A Home In That Rock



*A Collection of Spirituals
and Songs of Faith
Arranged and Conducted by
Moses Hogan and sung by
The Moses Hogan Singers*

FEATURING
His Light Still Shines

Commissioned by the Choral Arts Society of Washington in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and premiered at the John F. Kennedy Center For The Performing Arts.

"His Light Still Shines pairs a speaker narration of the slain African American leader's accomplishments with a galvanizing chorus of pungent syncopations and emotional turbulence - of both the composers' own invention and assimilated spirituals."

-The Washington Post

I Got A Home In-A-Dat Rock
Ride On, King Jesus
De Blin' Man Stood On De Road An' Cried
Little David, Play Your Harp
Stand By Me
Go Down, Moses
My Soul's Been Anchored In The Lord
He's Got The Whole World In His Hands
Away In A Manger
Glory! Glory! Glory! To The Newborn King
His Light Still Shines
Original music and words: Moses Hogan
* Narrative: By Walter Bonam.
Other music based on Negro Spirituals

Special Commissions and Dedications included in Deep River

Good News, The Chariot's Comin'

Commissioned by The North Carolina Music Educators Association, Frank Williams, Director.

Who Built The Ark?

Inspired by Hall Johnson
Commissioned for the University of Evansville Concert Choir by the Epsilon Upsilon Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia in celebration of the Chapter's Fiftieth Anniversary.

Hear My Prayer

In memory of Jester Hairston

Ride The Chariot Dedicated to Albert McNeil - In celebration of the Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers 35th Anniversary.

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

Dedicated to the Calvin College Alumni Choir, Pearl Shangkuan, Conductor

A Spiritual Reflection

Commissioned by the Choral Arts Ensemble of Portland, The University of Portland, Roger O. Doyle, Director.

Deep River

An exciting new CD featuring all ten arrangements from the newly released Deep River Vocal Collection of Spirituals for solo voice and piano PLUS eight new choral arrangements by Moses Hogan.

The vocal collection is sung by three of America's gifted singers, Henrietta Davis, soprano, Robert Sims, baritone, and Alfred Walker, bass, with Mr. Hogan as pianist. In addition, the Moses Hogan Singers premier eight new choral arrangements that are sure to become staples in the repertoires of choirs around the world. Featured soloists in the choral works include Renay Peters Joubert, LeSean Lewis, and Alia Waheed.

Deep River (Henrietta Davis, Soprano)

Hear My Prayer

He Never Said A Mumblin' Word

(Alfred Walker, Bass)

Ride The Chariot (Alia Waheed, Soloist)

My Good Lord's Done Been Here

(Robert Sims, Baritone)

Were You There? (Alfred Walker, Bass)

I Want To Be Ready (LeSean Lewis, Soloist)

He's Got The Whole World In His Hands

(Robert Sims, Baritone)

You Better Min' How You Talk

(LeSean Lewis, Soloist)

A Spiritual Reflection

(Renay Peters Joubert, Soloist)

Give Me Jesus (Alfred Walker, Bass)

Good News, The Chariot's Coming

Somebody's Knocking' At Yo' Door

(Alfred Walker, Bass)

We Shall Walk Through The Valley In Peace

Let Us Break Bread Together

(Robert Sims, Baritone)

Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child

(Alfred Walker, Bass)

Walk Together Children

(Henrietta Davis, Soprano)

Who Built the Ark?