

“The British are coming. The British are coming!” If you were a Boston colonialist in 1775, this rallying-cry would have held very serious and imminent portent. A formidable contingent of British soldiers soon invaded with the intention of quelling a brewing insurrection by force of arms. Didn’t turn out well.

Meanwhile, in Europe, these unfolding events, on the other end of the globe, probably merited little more than passing notice in news periodicals. On the music scene, Haydn and Mozart were ascendant. The “British” composer, George Frédéric Handel (actually assimilated from Germany) had died two decades earlier. Throughout the following century, British “serious” classical music entered into a sort of dark ages of international recognition.

We begin tonight’s concert with a twentieth century roar-back of rich British classical output. Much of what will be performed highlights the persistent (obsessive?) choice of luminary composers to infuse their works with Renaissance-esque “church mode” tonalities and overall sensibility. They all seemed to catch, and continue to catch, the bug. As you will hear, this did turn out well.

Back to 1775, when the British finally invaded, Paul Revere received the North Church lantern signal, “One if by land, two if by sea” (it was by sea), before galloping off on his legendary ride through the countryside. When the Beatles landed in New York in August, 1964 (on a far more newfangled conveyance), another British invasion, with far more benign intentions, gained instant, rapturous acceptance. We will offer three of their most beloved compositions.

Rule Britannia was composed as a popularly demanded martial counterpoint to the more serene official national anthem, *God Save the Queen/King*. An analogy, in reverse, could be drawn between our own martial *Star-spangled Banner* and *America the Beautiful*. You decide.

Early in tonight’s program, *O God Beyond All Praises* will probably sound pretty familiar in another iteration. The same will apply to the bonus sing-a-long, *Land of Hope and Glory*. The former is based on a hymn-like theme from the *Jupiter* movement of Gustav Holst’s, *The Planets*. The latter is based on a hymn-like theme from Edward Elgar’s, *Pomp and Circumstance*. In both cases, someone decided, “*You know, we really should make actual hymns out of these,*” and *voilà!*

The BBC summer concert series in London’s Albert Hall traditionally concludes with a mass sing-a-long (Union Jacks a-waving) of *Land of Hope and Glory*. It is how they express *adieu* to one another until next time. We, likewise, wish you *adieu* until our next MJC Choral Concert!

~ L. Andrew Stone

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Wesley Richmond ~ Piano

Robert Scott ~ Clarinet

John Agy ~ Contrabass

Matthew Fredericksen ~ Percussion

Phillip Beck & Nick Ortega ~ Trumpet

Raul Ontiveros ~ Trombone

Thank you to the students of the MJC Music Guild for sharing their time and talent this evening in tickets sales, ushering and program distribution and to Wesley Richmond for sharing his gifts of accompanying this semester. *Grazie!*

Thank you – Michael Sundquist - Dean, Arts, Humanities & Communications, Lori Sammis – Administrative Secretary, Department of Arts, Humanities & Communications, Jacquelin Wingett - Arts Division Administrative Technician & Program Designer, Kevin Saunders & Ty Helton - Performing Arts Production Specialists, David Todd – Photography & Graphics Production Specialist, Linda Hoile – Marketing & Publicity, Merrissa Hensarling, Tonya Hensarling, Mattéa Overstreet, Jordan Smith, Amber Suniga, - Choir Assistants, Sheldon Cohen, L. Andrew Stone and Nicolette van den Bogerd – *dank!*

A heartfelt thank you to the Department of Music Faculty, Drs. David Chapman, Alejandro Sabre, Professors David Dow, Eric Maki and Anne Martin. Finally, my deep appreciation to the MJC Concert Choir and Chamber Singer’s for their dedication throughout this semester. It has been both a privilege and honor to work with you!

For JR~

MJC CONCERT CHOIR & CHAMBER SINGERS

Samantha Alipio*
Miranda Albertoni
Jonathan Andrews*
Emanuel Bautista
Brooke Cannedy*
Briana Carlson
Richard Clark
Brooke Clark*
Izabel Crosby
Natalie Dance
Danya Dominguez*
Destinee Evans*
Charles Farwell*
Tiffany Feuu
Carlos Gonzalez
Matthew Hanham*
Dale Hensarling*
Merrissa Hensarling*
Tonya Hensarling*
Raymond Holtzclaw
Kylie Hurst
Charles Jaimes*
Jose M Jimenez
Heidi Johnson
Sara Kottinger*
Joshua R Lesan*
Pricilla Lizama*
Masitsa Lubembe*
Haley Mahaffey

Julia Marson*
Thaddeus C Martin*
Francisco Martinez
Robert Meri*
Bonnie Middleton
Cynthia Molina
Maria Elena Morales
Anel Morales*
Mattea Overstreet*
Samantha Rivera
Daniel Ruiz
Dirk Roodzant*
Christianne Schultz*
Jorden Smith*
Cassandra Shoemate
Shania Spears
Sara Sterling
Amber Suniga*
Alexandra Tisdell
Steve Trapp*
Jasmine Turcotte*
Mohamed Zokari*
Damon Waite*
Timothy Webb
Jeremy Wong
Natalie Zapien

***Chamber Singers**

I

CONCERT CHOIR

The Call **R. Vaughan Williams**
(from *Five Mystical Songs*)

Mohamed Zokari ~ Soloist

O Clap Your Hands **R. Vaughn Williams**
(Psalm 47)

This is the Day **John Rutter**
(Psalms 118, 148, 91, 121, and 27)

I Vow to Thee My Country **Gustav Holst &
Michael Perry**
(Thaxted)

II

CHAMBER SINGERS

Song for Athene **John Tavener**

Ubi Caritas **Paul Mealor**

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.*

Jubilate Deo in C

Benjamin Britten

III

CONCERT CHOIR

Adiemus
(from *Songs of Sanctuary*)

Karl Jenkins

Pricilla Lizama ~ Soloist

Pure Imagination

Leslie Bricusse &
Anthony Newley

Charles Jaimes ~ Soloist

IV

The Long and Winding Road

John Lennon &
Paul McCartney

In My Life

John Lennon &
Paul McCartney

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Can't Buy Me Love

John Lennon &
Paul McCartney

V

CONCERT CHOIR

H.M.S. Pinafore: A Choral Salute

Sir William Gilbert &
Sir Arthur Sullivan

Rollicum-Rorum

Gerald Finzi

Thaddeus C. Martin ~ Soloist

Land of Hope and Glory

Edward Elgar

Land of Hope and Glory, Mother of the Free
How shall we extol thee, who are born of thee?

Wider still and wider, shall thy bounds be set,
God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet
God who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet.

Rule Britannia!

Thomas Arne

Julia Marson ~ Soloist

Rule Britannia, Britannia rule the waves,
Britons never shall be slaves!
Rule Britannia, Britannia rule the waves,
Britons never shall be slaves!