

NANCY GALBRAITH ~ REQUIEM

- [01] I. Requiem Aeternam . . . 9:57
II. Dies Irae
[02] Dies Irae 3:58
[03] Tuba Mirum 1:57
[04] Quid Sum Miser 1:57
[05] Rex Tremendae. 3:02
[06] Ingemisco 2:49
[07] Confutatis 3:03
[08] Lacrimosa 6:47
[09] III. Offertorium. 4:32
[10] IV. Sanctus 6:23
[11] V. Agnus Dei 3:02
[12] VI. Lux Aeterna 1:59
for my mother
[13] VII. Libera Me 8:26
Total Time 57:52

Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh
Academy Chamber Orchestra
Robert Page, *conductor*

world premiere performance:
10 April 2005

Carnegie Music Hall
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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*This recording is dedicted
in loving memory to
Maestro Robert Page*

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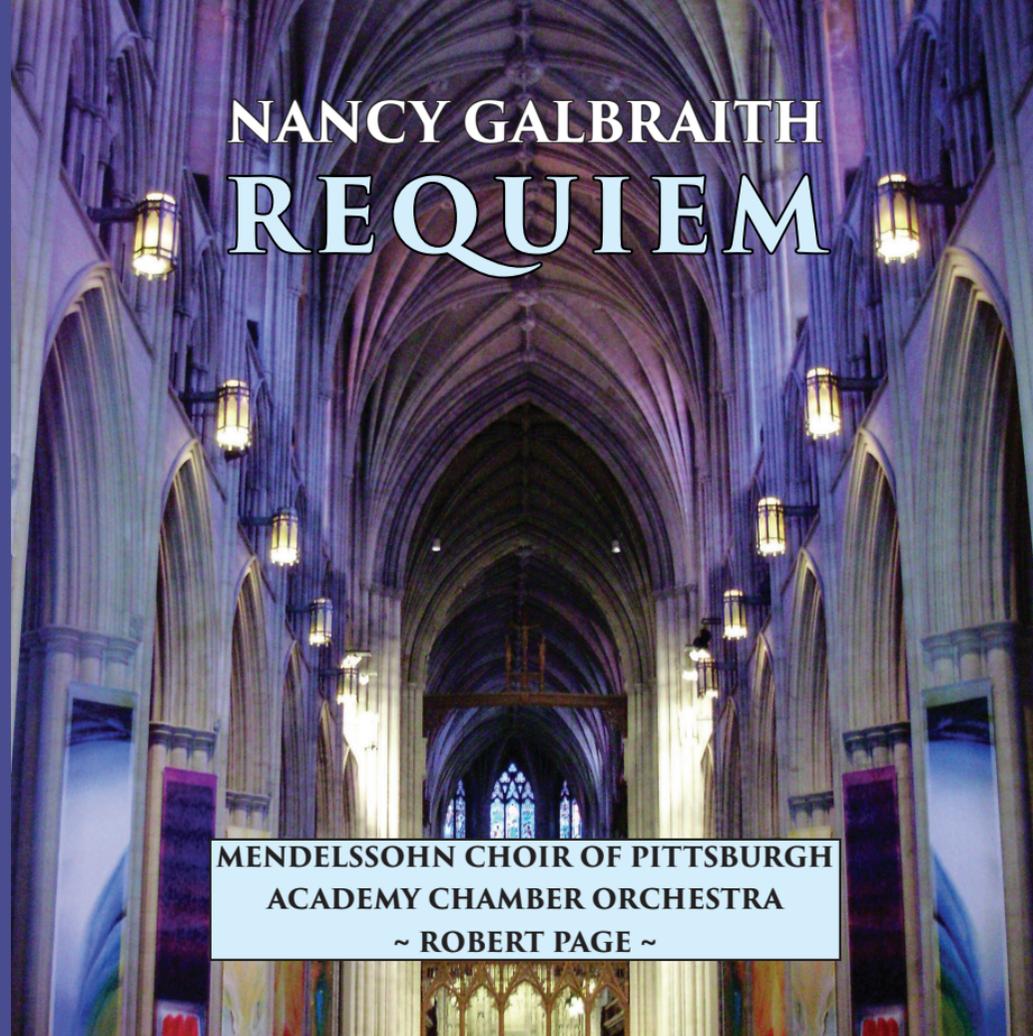
Program Notes: Matthew Galbraith

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NANCY GALBRAITH REQUIEM

**MENDELSSOHN CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH
ACADEMY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
~ ROBERT PAGE ~**



REQUIEM

For his final performance as Music Director and Conductor of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, Robert Page chose to commission a new work: Nancy Galbraith's *Requiem*. The work was declared "a masterpiece" by the *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*, and the performance "a fitting climax to 26 years of memorable music making."

I had the unique privilege of attending a week of four rehearsals in Pittsburgh's Carnegie Music Hall leading up to the premiere of *Requiem*. I sat in awe as I witnessed the mastery of Maestro Page as he shouted out terse directives to nearly 200 musicians under his baton. Watching the transition from a first encounter of singers and instrumentalists to this magnificent performance is an experience I will always cherish. —*Matthew Galbraith*

Program notes by Robert Page:

"When Nancy and I first began discussing the work, it was just after the Mendelssohn Choir and I had commissioned and performed the stunning *Missa Mysteriorum*, scored for chorus and wind ensemble.

"The magic of Nancy's work is in its incredible layers of sound, texture superimposed upon texture, yet surprisingly clear and understandable. Also important is her uncanny ability to deliver with equal impact passages of high, high energy and passages of awesome quietude. Melodically she spins wisps of sound in a most vulnerable manner, sweet without being cloying. Her frequent use of bi- and tri-tonality results in sonic skyscrapers. Much like Charles Ives, especially in his setting of *Psalm 90*, Nancy is a spatial composer, giving the listeners the feeling of being in one place and at the same time hearing and sensing other elements surrounding them.

"Most important, Nancy writes for singers. She utilizes the complete range of the sections of the choir and in clever mosaic manner brings each of them to the front, so to speak. It is not just a soprano's world!

"We are honored to present this wonderful musical gift to the world. We of The Mendelssohn adore Nancy, her work, her genuineness, her complete commitment to the art of Music, and praise her for her amazing creative abilities."



NANCY GALBRAITH

Nancy Galbraith is widely recognized as one of the leading voices in American contemporary classical music—a creator of instrumental and vocal sound infused with alluring texture, rhythm, melody and rich harmony. She resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where she is Head of Composition and Vira I Heinz Professor of Music at the Carnegie Mellon University School of Music.

Galbraith's symphonic works have enjoyed regular performances by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and have been led by distinguished conductors, including Gennady Rozhdetsvensky, Donald Runnicles, and Mariss Jansons.

Chamber Music Magazine hailed Galbraith's *Rhythms and Rituals* as "the kind of piece that should be the 'sound of classical music' on today's radio stations." Her chamber works have been performed by members of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and by Mexico's Cuarteto Latinoamericano, who recorded her complete string quartets.

Galbraith's electroacoustic chamber works appear on three recordings that feature performances by world-renowned Baroque flutist, Stephen Schultz, who is joined, on *Night Train*, by Pittsburgh's electric cello trio, Cello Fury.

The composer's works for wind ensembles have become standard repertoire for concert bands around the world, appear on numerous recordings by professional and college ensembles, and are popular favorites for concert band competitions in Europe.

She is also an accomplished pianist and organist, and composer for those instruments. Her *Piano Sonata No. 1* has been performed in numerous recitals throughout the United States and Europe.

Galbraith's extensive list of concert choral music begins with *Missa Mysteriorum*, commissioned by the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, and includes commissions from the NEA, the Providence Singers, the Harvard Glee Club, the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh, the Benedictine monks of St Procopius Abbey (Lisle, Illinois), and many others.

ROBERT PAGE

The dean of American choral conductors, Robert Page was hailed as “a national treasure” by the *American Record Review*, and in 1998 was named Pennsylvania’s Artist of the Year by Governor Tom Ridge.

Orchestras and choirs conducted by Page can be heard on more than 40 discs issued by major record labels, including Columbia, London, RCA, Telarc, and Decca. He has received Grammy awards for his recordings of *Cautli Carmina* and *Carmina Burana*, and Grammy nominations for eight other recordings. He also received the Grand Prix du Disque for *Porgy and Bess* and a Prix Mondial de Montreux for the world premiere recording of Shostakovich’s *Symphony No. 13: Babi Yar*.

Also in great demand as a conductor of symphony orchestras, opera, and music theater productions, Page conducted some of the major orchestras in the United States, as well as some of Europe’s most distinguished ensembles. In 1964 he began his tenure as Music Director of the Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia, who performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra under the direction of Eugene Ormandy. Serving as Assistant Conductor and Director of Choruses of The Cleveland Orchestra from 1971-1989, Page conducted the world-renowned orchestra on many occasions. From 1989 to 2006, he served as Director of Special Projects and Choral Activities of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, which he also frequently directed.

Page was the first recipient of the Paul Mellon Professorship of Music at Carnegie Mellon University, and Director of Choral Studies in the School of Music. In 2005 he retired as Music Director and Conductor of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh after 26 seasons.

Maestro Page passed away in 2016 and was honored with memorial concerts at Carnegie Mellon University, Temple University, and by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh.



THE MENDELSSOHN CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH

Critically acclaimed as one of the finest choruses in the country, the 110-year-old Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (MCP) is re-inventing choral music for the 21st century. MCP singers are every-day community members from diverse backgrounds and professions who give generously of their time and talent to create powerful, unexpected, and deeply moving moments of musical discovery.

The MCP enjoyed 26 illustrious years under Music Director, Robert Page (1979-2005) and continues to honor his legacy through exciting and innovating programming. Recent premieres include *The Times They Are A-Changin’: The Words and Music of Bob Dylan* (2017) by composer/conductor Steve Hackman, presented in Pittsburgh’s popular contemporary music venue, Mr. Small’s Theater; and the Pittsburgh premiere of *Let My People Go: A Spiritual Journey Along the Underground Railroad* (2018) by American composer Donald McCullough, performed near the site of known Underground Railroad stops. MCP has also commissioned and premiered works by Ned Rorem, Nancy Galbraith, and Derek Bermel.

MCP has been the proud choral partner of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO) for more than 90 years. As the PSO’s “chorus of choice,” the MCP has performed under the baton of a veritable who’s who in classical music. These include Lorin Maazel, Mariss Jansons, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Michael Tilson Thomas, Claudio Abbado, Mstislav Rostropovich, Leonard Slatkin, Charles Dutoit, André Previn, Sir Neville Marriner, Yan Pascal Tortelier, Helmuth Rilling, Ingo Metzmacher, Richard Hickox, Zdenek Mácal, and Manfred Honeck.

MCP fosters the next generation of choral singing through its educational program, the Junior Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, which offers first-rate choral training and performance experiences for gifted high school singers.

MCP’s most recent recording is Mahler’s *Symphony No. 3* with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Children’s Festival Chorus of Pittsburgh with Manfred Honeck conducting.

The MCP is a Steinway Artist—the only chorus in the world to hold this distinction.

THE MENDELSSOHN CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH 2005

ROBERT PAGE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Megan E. Ambrose
Cletus R. Anderson
Steven J. Anthony
Brenna Argall
Anne Barnes
Brian C. Barrett*
Jennifer A. Bender
Susan Beresik
Carly Noel Black*
Margaret Bloomfield
Joseph J. Bonistalli
Sally Bozzuto
Marion K Briggs
Douglas Browne*
Irene Ann Brychcin*
Elizabeth Atwood Burnette
J. Paul Cameron
Marilyn Carlier
Richard T. Carson
Randall D. Christner, Sr.
Minyoung Joanne Chung
Lisa E. Claypool
Barbara Cohen*
Francine Conway
Michael J. Conway
Karen B. Crenshaw
Barbara Crigler
D. Kenneth Cavies
Avis Debine
Joan M. Devine
Karen W. DeVries
Ray DeVries*
Amy Dresbold
Lynn Streater Dunbar
Richard M. Edelstein
Richard Ejzak

Christine Elek*
Valerie Ertter-Galczynski
Judith K. Fitzgerald
Suzanne Fontrier
Greg Fuhrman
Ruth S. Gentile
Lois E. Getkin
Kathryn Gibson*
Mary Kay Gottermeyer
Margaret L. Groninger*
Jeffrey Grossman
Eric Haines*
Rachel L. Hansen
Susan Hansen
Margaret A. Haupt
John K. Heisey
Mary D. Hoehl
Jane Castor Hosey
Rita Hostetter
Allison Iannuzzi
Jason Iannuzzi
Mary Jane Jacques
Judith Robb Jenkins*
Jeff Jezerc
G. Stephen Johnstonbaugh
Thomas Karg
Marsha L. Keefer
Amy Connor Kegel
Lee W. Kikuchi
Brice E. Klimcheck
Nancy Klimcheck*
Edward G. Knight
David Knouse*
Jackie Kulfan
Olga Kurland
Kimberly Anne Laret

George LaVerde
Marilyn Belken Lawrence
Kwan Il Lee
M. Denice Leonard
Greg Lorence
Henry J. Mader
Christiane Majeski
L. Glenn Matteson*
Janet McGrath
Susan Medley
Kim Edward Miller
Scott Milner
John Milnthorpe
Katherine Mueller*
Rob Mueller
Eileen H. Murray
Barbara L. Naydeck*
Jennifer Suzanne Newman
Matther R. Newman
John J. Niederberger
Elizabeth B. Noll
Donald W. Norton
Susan Oerkvitz
Andrea Ikerholm
Scott M. O'Neal
Timothy M. Ore
Edward F. Peduzzi, Jr.
George J. Peters
Chnthia Gail Pratt*
Brice A. Priano
Eva Rainforth*
Audrey Rajokovich
Jane L. Reimers
Ann Riley
Frank Rogel
Cynthia Roth

Gail Elizabeth Roup
P. J. Roup
Diane Rudolph
Audrey Russo
Joan L. Lorence
Indrayana Rustandi
MaryBeth Salama
Janet L. Sarbaugh
Marcia M. Seeley
Mary Colleen Seip
Maria Sensi Sellner
Katy Shackleton-Williams*
Ellen Sheppard
Emily Stewart
Crystal J. Stryker*
Joseph Stulingross*
Erin R. Suydam
Sean Taylor
Ritu Thamma
Henry St. George Tucker
Bill Vandivier
Valerie S. Vernon
Ralph Vitt
Sarah Webster Vodrey
Theresa Vosko
Shannon M. Wagner
Mark Walters
Ed Werner
Mariana Sonntag Whitmer
Kathleen Whittaker*
Amy Jean Wolff
David L. Wright
Miriam L. Young
Laura Connor Zajdel
Joan Zolko

* Professional Core

Vicki Cook, Executive Director
Barry K. Miller, Operations Manager
Joy A. Crummie, Accompanist

Jason Iannuzzi, Assistant Conductor
Katherine Mueller, Conducting Assistant
Jeffrey Grossman, Conducting Assistant

THE ACADEMY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 2005

The Academy Chamber Orchestra was created in 2001 by its concertmaster Warren Davidson to provide excellent orchestral accompaniment to choral groups in southwestern Pennsylvania. The orchestra is made up of leading players from that area, many of whom are faculty members at colleges and universities, and frequent performers with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, and many other regional ensembles. The Academy Chamber Orchestra has performed with numerous choral groups including the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Concert Chorale.

Violin 1

Warren Davidson

Concertmaster

Daniella Shtereva

Alexis Koh

Elisa Wicks

Leaha Givelber

Linda Andersen

Colin Maki

Mary Moser

Violin 2

Jason Posnock*

Andrew Bronkaj

Rufina Yefimova

Gilbert Breckenridge

Dana Holomshek

Ramona Coppage

Kate Hatmaker

Viola

David Sinclair*

Nocole Brockmann

James D. Lischner

Regina Ketter

Jhonnatan Mata

Cello

Paige Riggs*

Grigori Buyanover

Susanna Reilly

John Hall

Elisa Kohanski

Bass

Fred Danchenko*

Darryl Mielke

Dan Morrison

Flute

Alberto Almarza*

Brook Ferguson

Piccolo

Stacey Steele

Oboe

Renate Sakins*

Amy Galbraith

Clarinet

Marianne Hapeman*

Evgeny Taimonov

Bassoon

Tim Ward*

Brit Herbert

French Horn

Marie-Claude Driscoll*

Jason Allison

Trumpet

John Winkler*

Josh Boudreau

Trombone

Daniel Cloutier*

Robert Schmalz

Tuba

Philip Van Ouse

Timpani

Michael Pape

Percussion

Paul DeChancie*

Michael Blair

Bert Lerini

Thomas Milchick

* Principal