

AELINOR THE ORATORIO

Words and Music by Ann Reid
Conducted by Ric Jones
With the Genesee Chorale and the Chorale Orchestra

Stuart Steiner Theatre, Genesee Community College
Sunday March 6th at 3pm

Adults \$10

Student/Senior Citizen \$8

Family \$18

Presale Tickets at GCC Box Office

343-0055 x6814

or at the door

Developed in the Lehman Engel Workshop, Los Angeles

Funded in part through Meet the Composer's MetLifeCreative Connections program.

"This project is made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program,
a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts,
administered by the Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council."

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Genesee
Chorale
Est. 1971

Program

AELINOR, The Oratorio

Ann Reid

Aelinor Overture (Prophecy Ghosts & Choir)
Aelinor's Entrance (Aelinor)
This is It (Henry)
The Holy Land (Choir)
Bash a Few (Torqueri, Faydide and Sybille)
I'm Crying (Louis)
We Were Only Children (Aelinor & Louis)
Ballet (Angelus/Allah & Choir)
Just Some Kindness, Now (Aelinor)
March of the Moslem Wives/Politics (Nur-ed-din)
You're the Woman (Nur-ed-din)
Prophecy/I Cannot Stay Here (Prophecy Ghosts & Aelinor)
Tra la la (Pope Eugene)
No Sons (Torqueri, Faydide and Sybille)
Aquitaine (Aelinor)
I Have Taken Risks (Henry)
One World (Aelinor)
Prophecy (Prophecy Ghosts)
Aquitaine Finale (Aelinor, Henry & Choir)

INTERMISSION

Refreshments will be available in the foyer

It Takes a Village

Fran Thomas, soloist

Joan Szymko

Kyrie

R. Douglas Helvering

Prayer

Text by Mother Theresa of Calcutta
Music by René Clausen

Shut de Do

Kelly McCulloch, soloist

Randy Stonehill
arr. Mark Hayes

Aelinor, The Oratorio

The Story

In 1147, Aelinor, Countess of Poitou, Duchess of Aquitaine, and Queen of France, led a band of women on the Second Crusade, “wearing buskins white and the red plumes of a knight”. According to the Arab chroniclers, the “Amazon” women rode into battle beside the men. Orchestra, chorus and soloists tell the tale of Queen AELINOR's search for a place in world history and the right husband.

Having left Paris, we first see AELINOR on the way to the Crusade. We hear the prophecy that her mother sang to her from her Meruvian tower. More importantly, she is also seen by the penniless lord, Henry Plantagenet. He openly covets the Kings's wife but is able to only get a glance at her.

The Crusaders move on to their destiny. The women are not dismayed and continue to show their bravery as they discuss the events happening around them. The Christians are ambushed every step of the way by the locals as they pass through. King Louis, the Cryer, is almost killed but is saved, since the monk's robes he wears disguise the fact that he is the monarch. AELINOR tries to get Louis to forgo the battles and come to her bed. He coldly refuses.

The Second Crusade is a dismal failure and the monarchs take separate ships back to Europe, since the King and Queen are not favorable toward each other. Both are shipwrecked but AELINOR disappears for over 2 months. Has she been abducted by Nur-al-Din, leader of the Arab forces?

Nur-al-din shows off his political assets to Queen AELINOR. Her life has changed drastically but she cannot stay with him and she leaves for Europe.

Louis and AELINOR make their way north stopping off at Pope Eugenius III's residence in exile at Monte Cassino, Italy. He refuses AELINOR's pleas for an annulment and gives the monarchs a valuable antique, a huge marriage bed and forces them to sleep in it.

Back in Paris, Louis imprisons AELINOR and her Ladies in the tower. No sons have been produced in the Pope's gift bed. AELINOR longs for her homeland, Aquitaine. Henry gains entry to her tower and tells AELINOR of his escapades in her honor. He will give her anything she wants. She has a vast plan for their future and if the prophecy is to come about, Henry will be the one to realize those plans. They run off to Aquitaine where they will be married.

Ann Reid

Composer of *AELINOR, The Oratorio*

Ann Reid, composer, lyricist, performer and conductor, has worked in all areas of film, music and theater in a career that spans three continents. As a member of internationally known theater companies, Ms. Reid has performed and conducted in opera, musical theatre and avant garde music and theatre productions.

As a lyricist, her songs, sung by herself and such artists as Roberta Flack, can be heard in over fifty films and commercial recordings.

As an actor, Ms. Reid's work can be seen in films with actors Jack Palance, Rod Steiger and others.



Currently, as a composer/lyricist, Ann has developed the original musicals, AELINOR; MY LIFE WITH PICASSO; ANGEL ON BROADWAY; KILLING TIME, along with the mini-musical "My Last Halloween". She is the receiver of the International Producers of Film and Television award for the score for "From Me to You", a public service documentary; the VIC (Video in the Classroom); ASCAP Popular Awards Panel, Annual Award; and both the National Chase Active Learning Program and the California MSDP grants for MOONQUEST, A ROCKUMENTARY. Ms. Reid has received the VATEA Equity grant for the mini-musical, "Computer Games", the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Meritorious Achievement Award for musical underscoring for THE FOX, and the NY Board of Regents Chancellor's Award for Scholarship and Creativity. Ms. Reid's music has underscored numerous plays, including "Becoming Eleanor", "Trelawney of the Wells" at Universal Studios, California; "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe", and "The Yellow Boat".

The Overture, from AELINOR, an Oratorio, an orchestral work, recently received its World Premiere. Ms. Reid is Associate Professor of Music at Genesee Community College and has received a 2010 Ripple Grant, a re-grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, a Met Life Meet the Composer grant; and a GEA Professional Development grant.

Ric Jones, Musical Director



Ric has served as the Director of the Genesee Chorale since January 2008 as well as the Director of the Middleport Community Choir since May 2003.

Ric is the founder and owner of Imagine Music, a music publishing and retail company that offers a wide array of quality music while specializing in music for double reeds. Ric is an active member of the International Double Reed Society and has organized and sponsored recitals at each of its past five international conferences. He currently publishes the music of over sixty composers from around the world.

Ric received both his Bachelor in Music Education/Trombone Performance and Master in Music Education Degrees from Ithaca College (NY). His educational experience includes instructing high school bands, marching bands, pep bands, and chamber ensembles at Corinth High School, Cincinnatus High School, Greater Johnstown High School, Cicero-North Syracuse High School, Medina High School, and Fonda-Fultonville High School. In addition to his daily responsibilities of running Imagine Music, Ric also maintains a private voice, instrumental and piano studio which offers private lessons students of all ages.

Ric has also served as Principal Trombonist with the Tri-Cities Opera Orchestra, St. Cecilia Orchestra, and the Gerald Wolff Singers Orchestra.

Ric resides in Medina with his wife Karen, and their three children, Nicholas, Ryder and River.

Ann Emmans, Accompanist

Ann Emmans has been the accompanist for the Genesee Chorale for 16 years, since her retirement as music teacher at the NYS School for the Blind.

She is a graduate of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ; where she majored in organ and voice and later received her Masters degree in Conducting.

Ann has been the Minister of Music at the First Presbyterian Church in Batavia since 1964.



Lynda Hodgins, Narrator and Director

Lynda has been teaching, directing and performing in the area since 1984. She has directed for Batavia Players, Lake Plains Players, Notre Dame High School, Batavia Rotary Club and Pavilion Central School. On stage performances include Lily St. Regis in Batavia Rotary's first production of *Annie*, Mame in Rotary's production of *Mame* and roles in *South Pacific*, *My Fair Lady*, *Camelot*, *Carousel*, *Can-Can*, *Barnum*, *Hello Dolly*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Cemetery Club*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *The Butler Did It*, *The Nerd*, *The Foreigner*, *Damn Yankees*, *The Odd Couple*, *Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Picnic*, *Vintage Theater*, *Come Back to the 5 & Dime Jimmy Dean*, and *The Lion in Winter*. She was most recently seen on stage as Loraine Sheldon in Roberts Wesleyan Community Players *The Man Who Came to Dinner*.

Directorial credits include *Nunsense* for Notre Dame High School, *Murder at Rutherford House* for Batavia Players and Lake Plains Players and *Kiss Me Kate*, *Gypsy*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Pirates of Penzance* for the Batavia Rotary Club. Lynda has been named by Rotary as a Paul Harris Fellow in appreciation for her contribution and dedication to the Rotary Memorial Foundation. She is very proud to have also been the Director for Pavilion High School's 2009 Spring Musical *Guys and Dolls*. Most recently she was the director for Encore Theatre Arts Inc's production of Disney *High School Musical*, and *Les Miserables* School Edition and Roberts Wesleyan's College Community Theatre production of *42nd St.*. Upcoming directorial projects include *Grease* for Pavilion High School in April and the 63rd Batavia Rotary Club Musical Production November 2011.

A retired instructor after 32 years for Genesee Valley BOCES in Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management she holds a Bachelor of Science from Mercyhurst College and Masters of Science in Vocational Technical Education from State University College at Buffalo.

Featured Performers

MAUREEN EDWARDS

(Aelinor, Countess of Poitou, Duchess of Aquitaine and Queen of the Franks)
Maureen attends Notre Dame High School in Batavia. She is a vocal student of Diana Winnicki. She dances at Suzanne's School of Dance, Kiptom Dance, and the American Academy of Ballet. Past performances include *42nd Street* (Peggy Sawyer) for Roberts Wesleyan College, *Les Miserables* (Eponine) for Encore! Theatre Arts, *Footloose* (Rusty) for Westside Theatre Productions, *High School Musical* (Taylor McKessie) for Encore! Theatre Arts, *The Wiz* (Dorothy) for Batavia Players, *The Producers* (Usherette and Dance Captain) for Batavia Musical Society, *Singing in the Rain* (Featured Dancer) for Batavia Rotary, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Speed Tapper) for Westside Theatre Productions, *Urinetown* (Little Sally) for Batavia Musical Society, *Grease* (Featured Dancer) for Batavia Musical Society, *Titanic* (Ensemble) for Batavia Players, *The Music Man* (Ensemble) for Batavia Players, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* (Children's Chior) for Batavia Rotary, and *Annie* (Littlest Orphan) for Notre Dame High School. She has also participated in Encore! Theatre Arts' A Taste of Broadway, and A Taste of Love, as well as many Broadway Reviews through out the area.

She is currently in a Production of *Godspell* for St. Christopher's Church where she is Choreographer and playing Peggy (By My Side), as well as in *Spoon River Anthology* for Encore! Theatre Art.

CAL YOUNG

(Henry Plantagenet, Count of Anjou)

Cal is a Theatre Arts major at GCC. He has been acting on a stage since he was 4 years old in his hometown of Naples NY. Some of his roles include Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Benny from *Guy's n' Doll's* and Cal is now cast as Mickey Johnstone in the GCC Spring production of *Blood Brothers*.

ROBERTO BONANNI

(Pope Eugenius III)

Roberto has extensive Film, TV, Musical, Opera and Theatre experience both in the United States and in Rome, Italy. He has guest starred in such film and television roles as *Forget Paris* with Billy Crystal, *The Bold and the Beautiful*, *Indagine su un Cittadino* with Elio Petri, *Il Commisario De Vincenzi* with Mario Ferrero, *Beverly Hills 90210* and *All'Arca All'Arca!* with Eros Pagni.

Roberto's many theatre roles include Claude in the Original Italian version of *Hair* at Teatro Sistina, Rome, Italy, *The Changeling*, *Alma Mahler*, *Noises Off*, *Run for Your Wife* and numerous theatre productions in Italy. Such operatic roles as Pagliacci are part of his repertoire. Roberto has studied at the Lee Strasberg Institute, NYC and the Accademia d'Arte Drammatica, Rome, Italy.

MARTINE FLEURISMA

(Sybille, Countess of Flanders)

Martine, a GCC Alumna, received her BA in Theater from Buffalo State. You may remember her as Fastrada in *Pippin*, Armida in *The Suicide Mountain* and Josephine in Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* – all here at GCC. Martine continued her acting studies in NYC with noted teacher Carol Fox Prescott. She continues to study voice in Buffalo with Barbara Cooper. Currently, Martine is auditioning for national opera programs and will enter the University of Houston in the fall, studying for her MA in acting.

ROBERT STRAUSS

(Louis VII)

Robert has been praised for his sensitive, intelligent interpretation, his attention to musical and textual nuance, and his versatile tenor voice. On the stage, he has sung with Mercury Opera as Pedrillo in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, and roles in *Tender Land*, *La Traviata*, and *Tosca*. Other favorites include Peter Quint, Jack Point (*Yeomen of the Guard*), Archibald Craven (*The Secret Garden*), and Federico in *L'amico Fritz*, with the Centro Studi Italiani Opera Festival in Urbania, Italy. Concert performances include *Messiah*, *The Creation*, *St. Nicolas* (Britten), *Christmas Oratorio* (Saint-Saens), and the *Requiems of Pinkham* and Mozart. Strauss also appeared as one of the tenor soloists in Rossini's *Messa di Gloria* in the composer's hometown of Pesaro and has toured Italy performing scenes and arias from the standard Italian operatic literature.

As comfortable behind the production table as he is in front of it, he has directed full productions of *Dido And Aeneas*, *Trial By Jury*, the New York State premiere of Benton Hess' *Felice*, as well as *The Secret Marriage*, *Turn of the Screw*, and *Così fan tutte*, as well as a retelling of Gilbert & Sullivan's masterpiece *Pinafore* for all-male cast: *U.S.S. Metaphor*. He served as assistant stage director for Mercury's production of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and directed the inaugural production of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* for them as well. Dr. Strauss currently serves on the voice faculty of Nazareth College and the Fredonia School of Music and as the Artistic Director of the Rochester Gay Men's Chorus, as well as teaching GCC students voice on-demand.

PAM SWARTS

(Torquero of Bouillon)

Pam is prominent in the Buffalo Art Scene. Pam is the head of the Digital Arts Program at GCC. In the summer of 2009, Pam was asked by the US Embassy in Belarus to perform in the annual music festival *Ambasovica*. - Амбасовішча 2009. Summer of 2010 found Pam in Montreal, Quebec, performing in their *Infringement Festival*. As a featured performer, she has appeared on the cover of *Gusto* in the Buffalo News. Named as Artist of the week in *Artvoice*, Buffalo's weekly Arts paper, Pam has performed in many venues in Buffalo including The Burchfield Penny Art Gallery, Hallwalls, Soundlab, Nietzsches and Mohawkplace.

KILEY CONKLIN

(Faydid of Toulouse)

Kiley is a GCC student who is planning on graduating in May. She is a Communication and Media Arts major and is a GCC student blogger. A member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, she is in the Honors Program. She plans on transferring to a four-year institution for Public Relations. She is originally from Geneva, NY, where she has performed in many Community Theatre Youth and Adult productions. She has been a part of several GCC productions including *Chicago* as Go-To-Hell-Kitty and a featured singer in *The Cabaret*. She is currently working on her role as Mrs. Johnstone in *Blood Brothers*.

MIKEY KATE LULLO

(prophecy ghost)

Mikey is an active 5th grader at Robert Morris School in Batavia. She is a member of student council, yearbook club, and drama club. She's performed at Robert Morris in *Pagemaster*, *Babe the Gallant Pig*, and *Patgee and Kongee- A Korean Cinderella Story*. Mikey plays cello in the Batavia Suzuki Strings and the Elementary Orchestra. This May the orchestra will be playing with the Genesee Symphony Orchestra. Mikey enjoys chorus and has been a member of the All County Elementary Chorus. For two summers Mikey attended the Genesee Community College's Summer Youth Theater and was on stage in *Nightmare Before Christmas* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*.

An avid dancer, Mikey started with Miss Suzanne's School of Dance as a two year old Tutu Tots and has entered her 8th year with Miss Suzanne. In first grade, Mikey began Irish Dance classes at the McMahan School of Irish Dance under the leadership of Moira McMahan. Mikey enjoys competing at many local competitions (Feisiannas) and has competed for the last three years at the Mid-Atlantic Oriechtias in Philadelphia.

CLAIRE NOLAN

(prophecy ghost)

Claire has been performing since the age of 5 in school and community productions. She studies voice privately with Julie Izzo in Brockport where she also participates in drama instruction at the Brockport School of Drama & Dance. Claire spends her summers at Drama Camp as well as practicing piano and oboe. She has performed in *Annie*, *Little Mermaid*, *Fame*, and *Les Miserables*. Claire has been active in the All-County Solo Festival as an oboist. She has also participated in the All County Chorus.

The History of the Genesee Chorale

The Genesee Chorale was organized in the fall of 1971 under the direction of Dr. Theodore Ashizawa. Dr. Ashizawa would lead the Chorale for another 20 years. Dawn Mark conducted the group for four seasons, followed by Ron Bordinaro, Marcia Housel (for dinner dances), Mark Hoerbelt from January 2000 to 2005 and then Charles Bradley for two seasons. Ric Jones has been the director since January 2008.

The Genesee Chorale has sung at the Eastman Theater under the direction of Gerald Floriano, with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Erick Kunzel and has performed Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with William Warfield as guest soloist. During its existence the Chorale has performed with the Genesee Symphony Orchestra several times; including Handel's *Messiah* in December 2005 and their 2009 and 2010 Holiday Concerts.

The Chorale is comprised of individuals from all walks of life and draws membership not only from Genesee, but also from four surrounding counties. Many high school students also offer their talents.

The repertory of the Genesee Chorale encompasses a wide variety of music in various styles from motets and madrigals of the Renaissance to modern folk, musicals and jazz. Also included are larger liturgical settings such as Bach's *St. Matthew's Passion*, Charpentier's *Midnight Mass for Christmas*, the Mozart and Brahms's *Requiems* and several masses by composers such as Schubert and Mozart. The Chorale has recently performed *Die Flaudermaus*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Handel's *Solomon*, Haydn's *Creation* and Vivaldi's *Magnificat*.

For more information about becoming a member, becoming a patron, or having the Chorale perform at your function, call 585.493.2681 or email info@geneseechorale.com.

Upcoming Performances

“CELEBRATING 40 YEARS”

Friday, May 13, 2011
St. Mary's Church
Medina, NY 14103
7:00PM

“CELEBRATING 40 YEARS”

Sunday, May 15, 2011
Batavia Middle School
Batavia, NY 14020
3:00PM

The Genesee Chorale

Soprano

Jessie Barth
Rachel Chrostowski
Marsha Coy
Maureen B. DeGolyer
Phyllis Draycott
Joan Ellison
Cindy Evans
Barb Galliford
Susan Hengelsberg
Merry Lou Holley
Lyn Hutz
Sharon A. Larsen
Heather Lovelace
Kelly McCulloch
Susan McEvoy
Lois Nicholson
Diane Ohlson
Barbara Pierce
Janet Richardson
Sharon Stanley
Monica Stocum
Suzette Wood

Tenor

Ted Ashizawa
Alan Barcomb
Beth Boyce
Jose (Mario) Chicas Chanduvi
Anne Ortwein
Nadine Pacynski
Mark Ross
Carl Schoonover
Norm Woodworth

GCC Student Participants

Caroline Laubacker
Bobby Steeves
Katlyn Francis
Nana
Mikey G

Piccolo

Marie Barcomb
Patti Bartz
Jackie Battaglia
Sandra Brady
Deborah Davis
Theresa DeMars
Patty Drew
Linda Fry
Pat Fussell
Nancy Hoag
Katrina Karas
Janis Keefe
Joyce A. Kelly
Elizabeth A. Kerwin
Tara Korn
Jennifer Neroni
Beth Ryan
Denise Spadaccia
Ginny Tiede
Lilo Townsend
Eileen Witherel

Bass

Philip J. Briatico
Ronald DeFazio
Mark Eckstein
Jim Ellison
Richard Heye
Robert Holley
Richard McNulty
Steven Metcalfe
Arthur Munger
Fran Thomas
Tom VenVertloh

Joseph W. Tomkinson
Melissa Snieczak
Joanne Taheri
Matt Griffin
Megan Matthews

The Chorale Orchestra

Violin

Kristin Chiavaroli
Annie Wright
Paul-Joseph Struckmann
Timothy Baker

Viola

Amanda Cook
Mary Reid

Cello

Karen Canning
Elizabeth Kinney

Double Bass

Dave Siegfried

Double Bass/Electric Bass

Lynn Eberhardt

Electric Guitar

Timothy McJury

Harp

Elizabeth Honan

Piccolo

Pamela Wentworth

Flute

Fran Woodworth

Oboe

Melanie Pozdol

Uilleann Pipe

Tim Benson

Clarinet

Cindy Baldwin

Horn

Renée Vogen
Russell Rybicki

Percussion

Dave Funston
Susan McEvoy
Melzie Case
Bob Chaplin
Henry Emmans

Thank You

Pam Swarts

Digital Arts, GCC; for the design of the AELinor flyer

Maryanne Arena

Director, Fine and Performing Arts; Director, *Blood Brothers*

Ed Halborg

Technical Director, sound technician

Patti Simmons

choreographer, *Blood Brothers*

The Genesee Chorale

for their role in this performance

Batavia Middle School

for the use of the choral risers

The Executive Board of the Genesee Chorale

for all of their efforts and time commitments

The First Presbyterian Church

for the rehearsal space of the Genesee Chorale

Thank You to Our Benefactors

GEA Professional Development Funding



Leadership support for Meet The Composer's MetLife Creative Connections program is generously provided by MetLife Foundation. Additional support is provided by The Amphion Foundation, Argosy Foundation Contemporary Music Fund, BMI Foundation, Inc., Mary Flager Cary Charitable Trust, Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Inc., The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, Jerome Foundation, mediaThe foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and Virgil Thomson Foundation, Ltd.



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