

CHORALE Lord Jesus, Thy dear angel send
 When'er my mortal life shall end,
 And bear my soul to heaven.
 Within its narrow chamber keep
 My body safe in painless sleep,
 Till Thy last call be given.
 And when from death Thou wakest me,
 In bliss untold mine eyes shall see,
 O Son of God, Thy glorious face,
 My Saviour and my fount of grace
 Lord Jesus Christ, O hear Thou me,
 Thee will I praise eternally.

This program produced and contributed
 by the Polygraphic Co. of America, Inc.
 North Bennington, Vt.

ST. JOHN PASSION

J. S. BACH



THE MIXED CHORUS OF BENNINGTON

IN A PERFORMANCE FOR THE BENEFIT
 OF THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND OF
 BENNINGTON COLLEGE
 GENERAL STARK THEATRE
 SUNDAY, MAY 21, 1950 AT 2 P. M.

PARTICIPANTS

The MIXED CHORUS OF BENNINGTON (including students of Marlboro College), the BENNINGTON COLLEGE CHORUS, and the BENNINGTON COLLEGE ORCHESTRA, reinforced by faculty and friends.

WILLIAM HESS	<i>Evangelist</i>	PAUL MATTHEN	<i>Barytone</i>
ALBERT LINVILLE	<i>Jesus</i>	GEORGE FINCKEL	<i>Solo 'Cello</i>
SARA CARTER	<i>Soprano</i>	CLAUDE FRANK	<i>Harpsichord</i>
BELVA KIBLER	<i>Alto</i>	JULIAN DEGRAY	<i>Organ</i>

under the direction of
PAUL BOEPPLE

who is indebted to Messrs. George Finckel, Claude Frank, Lionel Nowak, and Gunnar Schonbeck for invaluable assistance in the preparation of this performance.

MINSHALL ESTEY ORGAN, courtesy Marlboro College and Minshall Estey Organ Co., Brattleboro

CHALLIS HARPSICHORD, courtesy Ralph Kirkpatrick, New York

The printing of this leaflet was donated by the Polygraphic Company of America.

J. S. Bach's "*Passions Musik nach dem Evangelisten Johannes*" was written for actual church service. This must be borne in mind for a full understanding of the double role which chorus and soli play in this work. Jesus' capture, trial, crucifixion and burial as told by St. John (chap. 18 and 19, supplemented by two characteristic excerpts from the Gospel according to St. Matthew) form the main stream of the score. The Evangelist is joined in his narrative of the Gospel by soloists and chorus impersonating Jesus, Pilate, St. Peter, servants, the Jewish populace and Pilate's soldiers. The flow of events, however, is interrupted at each important episode by outcries and prayers from the midst of the congregation as it listens to St. John's account of the fateful happenings. The Chorales, Ariosi and Arias fulfill, therefore, in this work a role similar to that of the chorus in the Greek Drama.

It is quite possible that during Bach's time the congregation actually joined the performers in singing the Chorales. But in all other respects the musicians on the organ loft functioned as both actors and witnesses of the drama. This dual role of the performers is evident not only in the text (biblical narrative on one hand, poetic interpolations on the other), but in the style of the music itself. There is a pronounced contrast between the crisp, dramatic recitatives and action-choruses and the broad, lyric flow of the Chorales and of the stirring Arias.

A performance of this work in English is not without its drawbacks. The non-biblical sections which Bach adapted from religious poems of his day are metrically simple and can therefore be readily translated. But Bach's recitatives are so faithful to Luther's colorful German that the equally colorful, but rhythmically quite different English of the King James version can not be used in its place without thorough revisions. Thus the listener will not always hear the words to which he is accustomed. We can perhaps compensate for this by presenting in this leaflet the Gospel in its familiar form. The translation of the non-biblical texts is by the late Harvey Officer.

P.B.

The audience is requested not to applaud during the course of the work. There will be no intermission. Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes.

The woodcuts are from Albrecht Dürer's "Kleine Passion," 1510.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN

PART I

INTRODUCTION

(Chorus) O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy
Name in all the earth. Show us, in this
Thy passion, that Thou, the true and only
Son forevermore, even out of sore
Humiliation, dost rise victorious.

Jesus went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where there was a garden, into the which he entered with his disciples. And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place; for Jesus oft-times resorted thither with his disciples. Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons. Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth and said unto them, *Whom seek ye?* They answered him, *Jesus of Nazareth.* Jesus answered, *I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way.*

(St. John 18: 1-8)

CHORALE O wondrous love, whose depths no heart has sounded,
That brought Thee here, by sin and grief surrounded,
We live, the pleasures of this world enjoying,
And Thou art dying.

That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, of them which thou gavest me, I have lost none. Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Then said Jesus unto Peter, *Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?*

(St. John 18: 9-11)

CHORALE Thy will, O Lord, our God, be done.
On earth, as round Thy heavenly throne.
In time of sorrow patience give.
Obedient ever make us live.
With Thy restraining spirit fill
Each heart that strives against Thy will.

Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him, and led him away to Annas first; for he was father-in-law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year. Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

(St. John 18: 12-14)

ARIA
(Alto)
To give me freedom from the bondage of
Transgression, my Holy Saviour is bound
To heal me from all taint of deadly
Sickness, He bears this grievous wound.

And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple.

(St. John 18:15)

ARIA
(Soprano)
I follow Thee also, my Saviour, with gladness,
And will not forsake Thee, my life and my light,
O let me not stray, my God, from Thy way,
Should ever my life be encompassed with sadness.

That disciple was known unto the High Priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the High Priest. But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the High Priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter. Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, *Art not thou also one of this man's disciples?* He saith, *I am not.* And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals: for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them and warmed himself. The High Priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. Jesus answered him, *I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. Why askest thou me? Ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said.* And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, *Answerest thou the High Priest so?* Jesus answered him, *If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?*

(St. John 18: 15-23)

CHORALE
O Lord, who dares to smite Thee,
And falsely to indict Thee,
Deride and mock Thee so?
Thou needest not confession,
Who knowest our transgression,
As we and all our children know.

Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the High Priest. And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, *Art not thou also one of his disciples?* He denied it, and said, *I am not.* One of the servants of the High Priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, *Did not I see thee in the garden with him?* Peter then denied again and immediately the cock crew.

(St. John 18: 24-27)

And Peter remembered the word of Jesus. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

(St. Matthew 26:75)



ARIA
(Tenor)

Ah! My soul, ah! Whither wilt thou fly?
Where shall I seek for comfort? Where
Shall I seek for rest? Shall I stay? Or
Depart and leave the hills and mountains
Far behind me? In the world is no relief,
On my heart remains the burden of my evil
Deed, since the servant hath denied his Lord.

CHORALE Peter, faithless, thrice denies
That his Lord he knoweth,
When he meets those earnest eyes,
Weeping, forth he goeth.
Jesus, when we will not turn,
Look on us in kindness;
Make our hearts within us burn,
Rouse us from our blindness.

PART 2

CHORALE See the Lord of life and light,
Saviour meek and lowly,
Taken like a thief at night,
Bound by hands unholy.
See the sinless son of God
Shameful mockings bearing,
Bitter taunts, a cruel rod,
Doom of sinners sharing.

Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early: and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled: but that they might eat the passover. Pilate then went out unto them, and said, *What accusation bring ye against this man?* They answered and said unto him, *If he were not a malefactor, we would not have delivered him up unto thee.* Then said Pilate unto them, *Take ye him, and judge him according to your law.* The Jews therefore said unto him, *It is not lawful for us to put any man to death:* That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which he spake, signifying what death he should die. Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, *Art thou the King of the Jews?* Jesus answered him, *Sayest thou this, thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me?* Pilate answered, *Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: What hast thou done?* Jesus answered, *My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.*

(St. John 18:28-36)

CHORALE O mighty King, eternal is Thy glory!
What tongue can fitly tell Thy wondrous story?
What heart can find a worthy gift to proffer?
Naught dare we offer.

Pilate therefore said unto him, *Art thou a king then?* Jesus answered, *Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth beareth my voice.* Pilate saith unto him, *What is truth?* And when he had this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, *I find in him no fault at all. But ye have a custom that I should release unto you one at the passover: will ye therefore that I release unto you the King of the Jews?* Then cried they all again, saying, *Not this man, but Barabbas.* Now Barabbas was a robber. Then Pilate therefore took Jesus and scourged him.

(St. John 18:37-40, 19:1)

ARIOSO
(Bass) Consider, O my soul, with fearful joy
Consider, with bitter anguish in thy
Heart afflicted, thy highest good is Jesus'
Sorrow. For thee, from the thorns that
Pierce Him, what heavenly flowers spring:
Thou canst the sweetest fruit from His
Wormwood gather: Then look forevermore to
Him.

ARIA
(Tenor) Lord Jesus, ah! Thy bitter pain and sorrow to joy
restores us, and sets the sinner free. With fear and
trembling I am afflicted to see His body wounded,
and yet am I filled with gratitude, for I am saved
from hell and death.

And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe, and said, *Hail, King of the Jews!* And they smote him with their hands. Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, *Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him.* Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, *Behold the man!* When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, *Crucify him.* Pilate saith unto them, *Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him.* The Jews answered him, *We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.* When Pilate heard that saying he was the more afraid: and went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, *Whence art thou?* But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto him, *Speakest thou not unto me? Knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?* Jesus answered, *Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin:* And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him.

(St. John 19:2-12)

CHORALE Thy bonds, O Son of God, most high,
Have perfect freedom brought us;
And free we to Thy throne come nigh,
As Thou by grace hast taught us.
Hadst Thou disdained this bondage sore,
We had been bound forevermore.

But the Jews cried out, and said, *If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.* When Pilate there heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, *Behold your King!* But they cried out, *Away with him, away with him, crucify him.* Pilate saith unto them, *Shall I crucify your King?* The chief priests answered, *We have no king but Caesar.* Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away. And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha.

(St. John 19:12-17)

ARIA Haste, haste, ye deeply wounded spirits,
(Bass, Chorus) Come and bring your heavy burdens.
Come where? To Golgotha. Take, O take
The wings of faith and fly. Fly where?
To the Cross of Jesus, find relief and healing there.

Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, *Write not, the King of the Jews: but that he said, I am King of the Jews.* Pilate answered, *What I have written, I have written.*

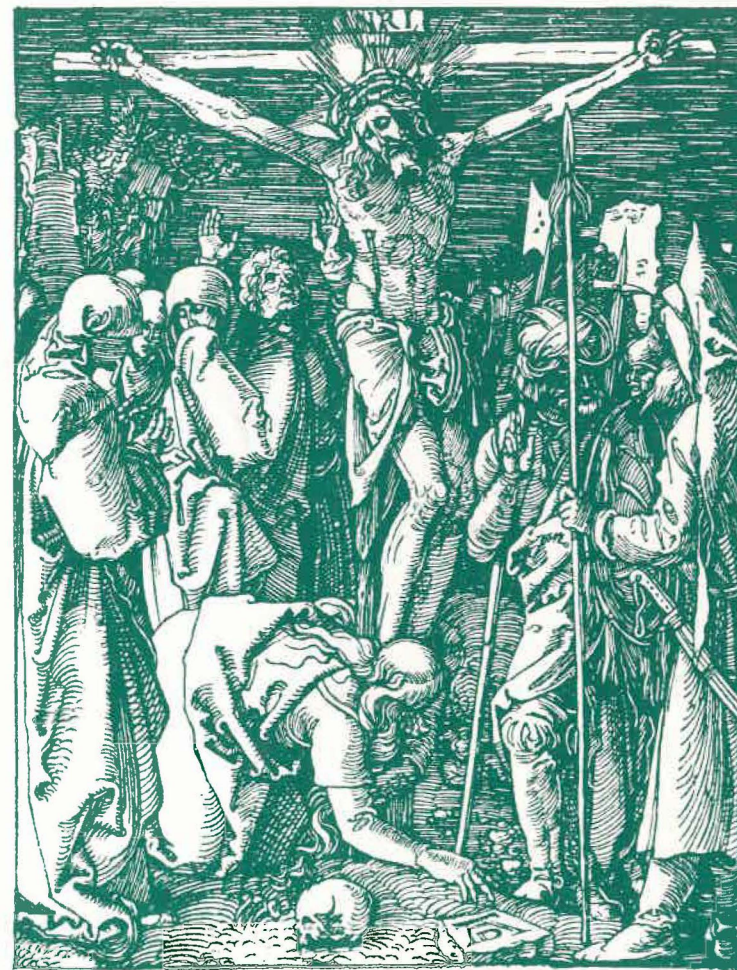
(St. John 19:18-22)

CHORALE Within our inmost being
Thy name and cross alone,
The light of all our seeing,
Prevailing influence own.
O breathe this comfort o'er us,
When low in grief we lie,
That Thou, Lord Jesus, for us
Hast given Thyself to die.

PART 3

Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part: and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves, *Let us not rend it but cast lots for it, whose it shall be.* That the Scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, *They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots.* These things therefore the soldiers did. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, *Woman, behold thy son!* Then saith he to the disciple, *Behold thy mother!*

(St. John 19:23-27)



CHORALE While His parting spirit sinks,
Ere its flight be taken,
Jesus on His mother thinks,
Lest she be forsaken.
Hearts that emulate His love
Nought from Him can sever,
They shall rise to realms above,
Where He liveth ever.

And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, *I thirst*. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, *It is finished*.

(St. John 19:27-30)

ARIA
(Alto) It is finished. O rest for all afflicted
Spirits. This night of woe makes me
Ponder upon my last hour. See Judah's
Hero triumphs now and ends the fight.

And he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

(St. John 19:30)

ARIA
CHORALE
(Bass, Chorus) Beloved Saviour, as Thou hast now the cross
Endured, and Thyself hast said, it is
Finished, wilt Thou declare that I too am
Delivered from death? Can I, through Thy
Eternal merit, the Heavenly realm inherit?
Shall all the world redemption see? Thou
Canst for anguish now say nothing, yet Thou
Dost bow Thy head and say, in silence, yea.
Jesus, Thou who knowest death,
Art alive for ever,
When I yield my dying breath,
Lord forsake me never.
Other Saviour need I none,
Since Thou dost receive me,
Lord, to share what Thou hast won,
Of Thy mercy give me.

And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom: and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose.

(St. Matthew 27:51-52)

ARIOSO
(Tenor) My heart, behold how all the world at Jesus'
Sufferings likewise suffers: The sun his
Beams in sorrow shrouds, the veil divides,
The rocks are rent, the earth doth quake,
The graves are opened, while they behold the
Creator die: And as for thee, what wilt thou do?

ARIA
(Soprano) Dissolve, O my heart, into torrents of
Weeping, to honour the highest. Proclaim
To the world and to heaven thy affliction.
Thy Jesus is dead.

The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was on high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and broke the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they broke not his legs: but one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, a bone of him shall not be broken. And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

(St. John 19: 31-37)

CHORALE Help us Christ, Almighty Son,
By Thy bitter anguish,
Faithfully our course to run,
Every sin to vanquish.
Teach us Lord, Thy grace to know,
Guide our weak endeavor;
Our Redeemer's praise to show
Thankfully for ever.

And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pounds weight. Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen cloths with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day: for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

(St. John 19:38-42)

EPILOGUE
(Chorus) Rest here in peace, Redeemer blest and
Holy, henceforth no more will I bewail
Thee. Rest here in peace, and lead Thou
Me to peace. The grave will not forever
Close me in, but when God my Redeemer
Calls, then haste I forth, then haste I,
Glorified, to meet the God of Heaven.

PARTICIPANTS

Soloists

WILLIAM HESS	Evangelist	PAUL MATTHEN	Barytone
ALBERT LINVILLE	Jesus	GEORGE FINCKEL	Cello
SARA CARTER	Soprano	CLAUDE FRANK	Harpsichord
BELVA KIBLER	Alto	JULIAN DEGRAY	Organ

Chorus

Sopranos: Elaine Allen, Ruth Berridge, Josephine Bowlin, Alison Brewer, Anne Bunting, Margaret Burkholder, Elizabeth Delatour, Mrs. Margaret Duncan, Olivia Donovan, Barbara Frantz, Mrs. Joan Franzen, Mrs. Harold A. Griswold, Francine Jupp, Carolyn Keese, Elaine Levin, Susan Liebman, Carolyn Lissner, Greta Mayer, Mrs. William Nolan, Barbara Pavell, Georgia Phelps, Martha Powell, Nancy Price, Rebecca Stickney, Sheila Stires, Marcia Tobey, Mrs. Fred Welling, Elizabeth Winslow, Mrs. Louis Wolchonok, Martha-Jane Woodcock.

Altos: Helen L. Andrews, Mary Atherton, Carolyn Baldwin, Mrs. Paul Boepple, Janet Boles, Carol Bondy, Violet C. Boynton, Annie Briggs, Susan Edelmann, Mrs. George Finckel, Bertha H. Funnell, Louise Ganter, Ann Guttmacher, Neal C. Haight, Judy Hall, Faith Hanna, Judith Kanin, Anne Kobin, Elizabeth Larsen, Ann Lucas, Gae Maloney, Priscilla Norton, Joan Olmsted, Rebecca E. Schnur, Ino Silvers, Mrs. Dinwiddie Smith, Virginia Sweet, Pauline Thayer, Mrs. B. Thurlow, Anne Wasson.

Tenors: Edward T. Canby, Stephanie Chamberlain, John Colman, Richard Elliott, Jane Roberts Giedraitis, Mrs. David Goldfarb, Rip Hanford, Fred L. Jaffe, Michael Miller, Arthur Murphy, Stanley Pike, Hermann Schmid, John Westlake.

Basses: William Bell, Robert Benjamin, Frederick Burkhardt, Hanson Carroll, Richard M. Cooper, Seymour Finler, Kenneth Fleming, Curtis Flory, Samuel Frantz, Ted Goodman, Bernard Kessler, Matthis Levy, John Mann, John McCullough, Robert Niles, Lionel Nowak, David Prager, George Richards, Robert Roth, Dinwiddie Smith, George Soule, Charles Staples, B. Thurlow, David Traylor, Andrew Tully, John Urban, Fred Welling, Louis Wolchonok, Robert Woodworth.

The above list includes members of the Bennington Mixed Chorus, the Bennington College Chorus, Marlboro College, and friends. The parts of the Servant and the Officer will be sung by Mr. Arthur Murphy, member of the Mixed Chorus of Bennington.

Orchestra

1st Violin

Gideon Grau
Virginia DiBlassiis
Marcia Woodbridge
Betty Secunda
Mrs. Kenworth Kimball
Peter Manes

2nd Violin

Ruth Miller
Dr. Fred Miller
Mrs. Lucien Hanks
Philomene Monette
Priscilla Johnson

Viola

Clifford Richter
Verne Swan
Carol Diamond Feuer
Luigi Tovelli

Cello

George Finckel
Fred Miller
Sara Chancellor
Kay Brown
Diane Boyden
Roselyn Karol

Double Bass

Gunnar Schonbeck
John Richardson

Flute

Richard Jerome
Nancy Cawley
Doris Lee Robbins
Louise Loening
Melanie Nunberg

Oboe

William Garrigus
Allen Williams

English Horn

William Garrigus
Allen Williams

Organ

Julian DeGray

Harpsichord

Claude Frank

We are indebted to Mr. George Finckel and Mr. Gunnar Schonbeck for their help in assembling the Orchestra, and to Mr. Charles Hyman and Mr. Murray McGuire and many others for their contributions to the staging arrangements.