

# Choral Festival at Brookhaven

Our Twenty-third Year!

7/25/2017

Edition 1, Issue 3

## THE UNFORGETTABLE *MISSA CRIOLLA* AND THE STORY OF THE WOMEN WHO INSPIRED IT

*Missa Criolla*, Creole Mass, was created by Ariel Ramirez, an Argentinian composer, who says he was inspired by his experience while staying at a convent in Germany where he taught music classes in 1952. Out of his language element, he was introduced to Elizabeth and Regina Bruckner, two nuns in charge of the kitchen and who understood some Spanish. They told him that the beautiful convent and its grounds were once part of a Nazi concentration camp, and that they had risked their lives leaving food scraps near a fence where it would disappear by morning.

For eight months, the nuns risked execution by this corporal act of mercy, until one day the package would remain, indicating that the prisoners were being transferred to what they presumed were their deaths. Ramirez, profoundly moved by the story, says he would write a work that would "honor life; that would involve people outside one's own beliefs, race, color or origin; that would refer to man, his dignity, value, freedom and the respect of man in relation to God, as his Creator." This *Missa Criolla* would bring Ramirez international acclaim.

Reminders: some items to keep in mind as the Choral Festival continues

- Last night to order the 2017 commemorative shirts! Tee shirts are \$15, golf shirts \$20
- Raffle money can be turned in at registration desk
- Concert dress: white blouses, long black skirts or slacks for the ladies, white shirts, black slacks for the gents.

Presented by the  
Brookhaven Arts and  
Humanities Council,  
a 501 c 3 not for  
profit corporation

### Schedule

Festival Chorus

Monday 7/24 6:30p  
check-in

Rehearsal from 7 to  
9:30pm

Tuesday 7/25 7-  
9:30pm

Wednesday 7/26 7-  
9:30pm

Thursday 7/27 7-  
9:30pm

Ice Cream Social to  
follow!

Friday 7/28 7-9:30pm

Saturday 7/29 12-4pm,  
with orchestra in the  
afternoon

Sunday Dress

Rehearsal 2-5p at the  
Gateway Playhouse,  
South Country Road,  
Bellport

Dinner at Gateway at  
5p

Choral Festival  
Performance 7pm,  
Gateway Playhouse

Reception to follow at  
the Playhouse

How about some brain teasers? Here is some classical music trivia, courtesy of

[www.funtrivia.com](http://www.funtrivia.com)

Answers in tomorrow's newsletter!

1. In 1555, Pope Marcellus decreed that church music "must be sung in a fitting manner, with properly modulated voices, so that everything may be heard and understood." Which Italian composer undertook to compose a mass in honor of Pope Marcellus which adhered to these principles?
  - a. Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
  - b. Luca Marenzio
  - c. Giovanni Gabrieli
  - d. Orazio Vecchi
2. This Italian composer's works bridge the Renaissance and Baroque eras. His best known choral works are his madrigals and his "Vespro della Beata Vergine". He is principally known, however, for being the first truly great operatic composer.
  - a. Claudio Monteverdi
  - b. Francesco Cavalli
  - c. Arcangelo Corelli
  - d. Jacopo Peri
3. Best known for his oratorio "Messiah", Georg Frederick Handel also wrote this great oratorio which includes choruses about swarms of insects, fire and hail and darkness, and an aria about frogs and diseased cattle.
  - a. Israel in Egypt
  - b. Judas Maccabeus
  - c. Samson
  - d. Solomon
4. Haydn's great oratorio, "The Creation", opens with an orchestral prelude. What does it describe?
  - a. Light being separated from darkness
  - b. The creation of man
  - c. The waters separated from dry land
  - d. Chaos
5. Which of the following is NOT a setting of the mass by Mozart?
  - a. The "Sparrow" mass
  - b. The "Lord Nelson" mass
  - c. The "Coronation" mass
  - d. The "Credo" mass