

the armed man: a mass FOR peace

BY KARL JENKINS

Sierra
Master
Chorale

CONDUCTED BY
KEN HARDIN

SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST: ISABELLE DEMERS, ORGAN

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2012 7PM

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012 2PM



SPONSORED BY KATHY CHASTAIN & GARY SHANNON,
AND BY FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN MEMORY OF EDRIC WELD
AND BY JACKIE WILSON

 InConcert
SIERRA

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Program notes

Conductor Ken Hardin first heard of this work from local singer Hasel Carter. She brought it to Ken when he conducted the Sierra College Choir, and he has wanted to perform it since. Now, nearly 10 years later, Ken felt the Sierra Master Chorale was ready for the challenge, and he found the organist and orchestra to make it happen.

The Armed Man is a Mass by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins, subtitled "A Mass for Peace". The piece was commissioned by the Royal Armouries Museum for the Millennium celebrations and to mark the museum's move from London to Leeds. Jenkins dedicated the composition to victims of the Kosovo crisis.

The Mass begins with a marching army and the beat of military drums, the orchestra gradually building to the choir's entrance, singing the 15th-century theme tune – The Armed Man. After the scene is set, the style and pace changes and we are prepared for reflection by first the Moslem Call to Prayer (Adhaan) and then the Kyrie, which pays homage to the past by quoting (in the *Christe Eleison*) from Palestrina's setting of *L'Homme Armé*. Next, to a plainsong setting, we hear words from the Psalms asking for God's help against our enemies. The Sanctus that follows is full of menace, and has a primeval, tribal character that adds to its power. The menace grows in the next movement as Kipling's Hymn Before Action builds to its final devastating line "Lord grant us strength to die."

War is now inevitable. Charge opens with a seductive paean to martial glory which is followed by the inevitable consequence – war in all its uncontrolled cacophony of destruction, then the eerie silence of the battlefield after the battle and, finally, the burial of the dead. Surely nothing can be worse than this? But think again. At the very center of the work is *Angry Flames*, an excerpt from a poem about the horrors of the atom bomb attack on Hiroshima written by a poet who was there at the time and died in 1953 of leukemia brought on by exposure to radiation. But if we think that the obscenity of this mass destruction is new to our consciousness, we must reconsider as we listen, to the eerily similar passage from the ancient Indian epic *The Mahābhārata*.

From the horror of mass destruction the work turns to remember that one death is one too many, that each human life is sacred and unique. First the *Agnus Dei*, with its lyrical chorale theme, reminds us of Christ's ultimate sacrifice and this is followed by an elegiac setting of some lines I wrote (to accompany one of the dramatic interpretations we use in the museum) about the feelings of loss and guilt that so many of the survivors of the First World War felt when they came home but their friends did not.

Even the survivors can be hurt by the destruction by war. The *Benedictus* heals those wounds in its slow and stately affirmation of faith and leads us to the final, positive, climax of the work. This begins back where we started in the 15th century with Lancelot and Guinevere's declaration, born of bitter experience, that peace is better than war. The menace of the 'Armed Man' theme returns and vies for a time with Malory's desire for peace. But time moves on and we come to our moment of commitment. Do we want the new millennium to be like the last? Or do we join with Tennyson when he tells us to "Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace"?

Program notes by Guy Wilson, former Master of the Armouries

The Sierra Master Chorale

Ken Hardin, Conductor

The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace Karl Jenkins, 1999 (b. 1944)

1. **The Armed Man** based on L'Homme Armé, 1400's, anon.
2. **The Call to Prayers (Adhaan)** Traditional
Sheikh Refaat el-Sayed, solo
3. **Kyrie** Ordinary of the Mass
Liesel Shuholm, Roberta Frank, solos
4. **Save Me from Bloody Men** Psalm 56; Psalm 59
5. **Sanctus** Ordinary of the Mass
6. **Hymn Before Action** Rudyard Kipling
7. **Charge!** John Dryden/Jonathan Swift

- INTERMISSION in FELLOWSHIP HALL -

Serving Caroline's Coffee.

Treat donations go to the InConcert Sierra/SMC Scholarship Funds

8. **Angry Flames** Togi Sankichi (Hiroshima survivor)
9. **Torches** The Mahàbhàrata
10. **Agnus Dei** Ordinary of the Mass
11. **Now the Guns Have Stopped** Guy Wilson (Master, The Royal Armouries Museum)
Tasia Colin, solo
12. **Benedictus** Ordinary of the Mass
13. **Better Is Peace** Le Morte d'Arthur by Sir Thomas Malory; Alfred Lord Tennyson

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Jackie Wilson

About the music

The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins

Dedicated to the victims of Kosovo

1) The Armed Man – (French)

15th century French folk song, L'Homme armé (French)

The armed man should be feared
Everywhere it has been proclaimed
That each man shall arm himself
With a coat of iron mail.

2) Call to Prayers (Adhaan) – Islamic call to prayer (Arabic)

God is greatest.
I bear witness that there is no deity but God.
I believe that Muhammad is the messenger of God.
Come to ritual prayer.
Come to success.
God is greatest.
There is no deity but God.

Originally from Egypt, **Sheikh Refaat** resides in Sacramento with his wife and four beautiful young children. He teaches Arabic language and is frequently asked to perform the Adhaan (Call to Prayers).

3) Kyrie – Ordinary of the Mass (Latin)

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

4) Save Me from Bloody Men – Psalm 56:1 & 59:2

Be merciful unto me, O God:
For man would swallow me up.
He fighting daily oppresseth me.
Mine enemies would daily swallow me up:
For they be many that fight against me.
O thou most high.
Defend me from them that rise up against me.
Deliver me from the workers of iniquity,
And save me from bloody men.

5) Sanctus – Ordinary of the Mass (Latin)

Holy, holy, holy God
Lord God of hosts (armies)
The heavens and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna (praise) in the highest.

...continued

About the music

6) Hymn Before Action - Text: Rudyard Kipling

The earth is full of anger,
The seas are dark with wrath,
The Nations in their harness
Go up against our path:

Ere yet we loose the legions
Ere yet we draw the blade,
Jehova of the Thunders,
Lord God of Battles, aid!

High lust and forward bearing,
proud heart - rebellious brow,
Deaf ear and soul uncaring,
We seek Thy mercy now!

The sinner that forswore Thee,
The fool that passed Thee by,
Our times are known before Thee
Lord grant us strength to die!

7) Charge! - words from John Dryden and Jonathan Swift

The trumpet's loud clangor excites us to arms,
With shrill notes of anger, and mortal alarms.

How blest is he who for his country dies.

The double double beat of the thundering drum
Cries Hark! the foes come,
Charge, 'tis too late, too late to retreat!

Charge, charge, charge, charge, charge!

8) Angry Flames - text by Toge Sankichi describes the appalling scenes after the bombing of Hiroshima

Pushing up through smoke
From a world half darkened by overhanging cloud,
The shroud that mushroomed out
And struck the dome of the sky.

Black, red, blue, Dance in the air,
Merge,

Scatter glittering sparks, already tower over the whole city.

Quivering like seaweed
The mass of flames spurts forward.
Popping up in the dense smoke,
Crawling out
Wreathed in fire,
Countless human beings on all fours
In a heap of embers that erupt and subside
Hair rent, Rigid in death,
There smoulders a curse

...continued

About the music

9) Torches - excerpt from the Mahabharata

The animals scattered in all directions, screaming terrible screams.

Many were burning, others were burnt.

All were shattered and scattered mindlessly, their eyes bulging,

Some hugged their sons, others their fathers and mothers,
unable to let them go, and so they died.

Others leapt up in their thousands, faces disfigured
and were consumed by the fire,

Everywhere were bodies squirming on the ground,
wings, eyes and paws all burning.

They breathed their last as living torches, torches, torches..

10) Agnus Dei - Ordinary of the Mass

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Grant us peace.

11) Now the Guns Have Stopped - text by Guy Wilson written about the guilt felt by some returning survivors of World War I

Silent, so silent, now, now the guns have stopped.

I have survived all, I who knew I would not.

But now you are not here.

I shall go home, alone;

And must try to live life as before

And hide my grief.

For you, my dearest friend, who should be with me now,

Not cold, too soon,

And in your grave,

Alone.

12) Benedictus - Order of the Mass

Blessed who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

The neck drapes worn by the women of the choir were hand-crocheted by alto chorister Linda Maloney. She noticed the flowers resemble the red poppies that are sold for Remembrance Day, which seemed very appropriate. Remembrance Day (also known as Poppy Day, Veterans Day, or Armistice Day) is a memorial day observed in Commonwealth countries since the end of World War I to remember the members of their armed forces who have died in the line of duty. "As I completed the first one, it hit me that the red poppy was a wonderful tie-in with the music," noted Linda. "I thought it would be meaningful to each of us wearing one to think about the connection."

About the music

The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins

Dedicated to the victims of Kosovo

13) Better is Peace -
text from Mallory/anon/Tennyson/Revelation 21:4

Better is peace than always war,
And better is peace than evermore war,
and better and better is peace,

The armed man should be feared
Everywhere it has been proclaimed
That each man shall arm himself
With a coat of iron mail.

Better is peace than always war,
And better is peace than evermore war,
and better and better is peace,

Ring, ring, ring, ring
Ring out the thousand wars of old.
Ring in the thousand years of peace.
Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring happy bells, across the snow.
The year is going, let him go,
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease.
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold,
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring, ring, ring

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand.
Ring out the darkness of the land.
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

The year is going, let him go,
Ring, ring,
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring, ring, ring, ring....

About Karl Jenkins, composer

Best known for his popular "Adiemus – Songs of Sanctuary," Welsh composer Karl Jenkins followed an unusual route to classical composition from his early years performing in jazz and pop bands and writing music for radio and TV ads.

Jenkins, a contemporary composer, believes his music should be readily accessible to a wide audience. His harmonies, rhythms and melodic lines are immediately appealing and moving for the average listener while being challenging and fulfilling for the performers.

The Armed Man was commissioned by the Royal Armouries Museum as the showcase of its Centennial celebrations. Texts on the theme of war from around the world used in the work were selected by Guy Wilson, Master of the Royal Armouries, whose hope for this specially commissioned composition was that it would allow listeners "to look back and reflect as we leave behind the most war-torn and destructive century in human history". The Armed Man juxtaposes the poetry selected by Wilson with the traditional Latin mass to create a whole that is at various moments thrilling, martial, heart-rending and reverent.

A note from the Seventh-day Adventist Church:

The Grass Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church cordially welcomes In Concert Sierra, its musicians and members, to the use of our facility.

We believe in the uplifting effect of great music. Because the Sanctuary is dedicated to worship, we request that the audience respect that dedication, and conduct themselves accordingly while in the Church building.

Please, do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary.

About the Sierra Master Chorale

Chorale members:

Alto

Peggy Brewer
Sally Buckthal
Valarie Bush
Susan Chalpin
Susan Clark
Tasia Colin
Barbara Dakin
Nancy Donahue
Susan Duey
Kathy Eldredge
Roberta Frank
Joan Goddard
Vicki Goss
Julie Hardin
Linda Maloney
Kathy McDaniel
Christine Newsom
Shirley Porter
Carolyn Valle
Mimi Vishoot
Cynthia Yaguda
Susan Zlimen

Bass/Baritone

Charles Atthill
Darren Barr-Engstrom
Bill Derrick
Rod Fivelstad
Lance Goddard
Fred Hall
Reed Hamilton
Barry Howard
Charles Landau
Bruce Lattyak
Doug Morgan
Steve Nicholson
Dave Olsen
Keith Porter
Stephen Tassone
Sarito Whatley

Tenor

David Bess
John Bush
Ken Getz
Larry Graham
Henry Hansen
John Kinsman
Jerry Maloney
Max Reeves
Dan Richards
Kevin Shuholm
John Simon
Barry Turner
Michael Vierra

Soprano

Vicki Cambron
Kathy Chastain
Cathy Collings
Collette Cooper
Mary Anne Davis
Shoshana Doan
Connie Dorland
Andrea Fox
Barbara Hall
Jill Horrigan
Cheryl Maxwell
Marsha Ostrom
Sarah Pressler
Cathy Rado
Gwendy Reeder
Susan Schimmel
Liesel Shuholm
Nina Stillwell
Anne Thorsby



Thank you to our volunteer rehearsal pianists - Aileen James & Nancy McRay

Bold = section leaders

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Vision:

Established in 2008,
the Sierra Master Chorale
is an auditioned group of men
and women who strive for vocal
excellence and variety in programming
so that both the listening audience
and the performers share
a sense of great
enjoyment and pride.

"We love to sing!"

About the Orchestra

We welcome our orchestra members, many who have played with the Sierra Master Chorale for many seasons, and a few new faces as well. It is always a joy for the chorale to perform great literature with an orchestra - and this is a exceptional one!

Violin 1:

Richard Altenbach, concertmaster
Nancy Hill
Randi Soule
RoseMay Mickelson

Violin 2:

Kristen Autry
Daniel Zuckerman
Matisse Geenty
John Abdallah

Viola:

Melinda Rayne, principal
Eleanor Angel
Laura Huey
Shawn Prudhomme

Cello:

David Eby, principal
Susan Lamb Cook
Alan Clark
Elisabeth Grunin

Bass:

Benjamin McClara, principal
Vince Antolini

Flute:

Kirsti Powell

Trumpet:

Michael Meeks, principal
Glenn Smith
John Frantz

Percussion:

Kit Bailey, principal
John Basa
Gary Campus

Organ:

Isabelle Demers

Isabelle Demers, organ

We are very excited to have Isabelle return to InConcert Sierra. Isabelle received her PhD from Juilliard in June 2011 and her dissertation - an analysis of Bach's St. John Passion - was awarded the Richard French Prize for best dissertation at commencement. In March 2012, she had her Davies Hall and Disney Hall debuts with abundant standing ovations at each concert. Isabelle just announced that she has accepted an important appointment as Assistant Professor of Organ at Baylor University, succeeding Professor Joyce Jones who has had a legendary tenure there. Isabelle is a rising star and a brilliant young organist who is bringing the art of organ playing to new levels. We congratulate Isabelle and appreciate her joining us.

Ken Hardin, Sierra Master Chorale conductor

Hardin learned the art of conducting at an ideal time when he was able to work with superb Los Angeles musicians such as Rodgers and Hammerstein's conductor and music director Jay Blackton, conductor/composer Johnny Green, and acclaimed choral conductors like Paul Salamunovich, Roger Wagner and John Alexander. Hardin is a noted classical and jazz pianist, and principal pianist for the Reno Philharmonic. He is the artistic director of InConcert Sierra and successfully brings our community the best in rising young chamber artists and musicians with established high-caliber careers. He also has a studio for voice and piano students, serves on several adhoc committees, and enjoys spending time with family and friends as often as possible.

About our dedication in memory of Edric Weld

Edric Weld (1924-2011) was a great friend to the Sierra Master Chorale (SMC). In 2007, Edric moved from Florida to Grass Valley to be near his family. His realtor gave him a season pass to InConcert Sierra's (then TCCA) concert season because of his love for classical music. He also attended many area classical music offerings, but after making an acquaintance with a member of Sierra College Choir, and finding that he and his dog "Lady" could walk to practices each week, they began attending just about every rehearsal. Although his daughter Judith fondly laughs about her father's long history of being late to appointments, he was usually the first to arrive at choir practices, and would stand quietly outside until the church was unlocked. When Sierra College dropped the large performance choir course offering, its members took action to keep the group together under the direction of Ken Hardin by creating the SMC. Edric continued to attend practices faithfully each week, as well as the performances. In 2009 when the Chorale moved its rehearsals to the Seventh Day Adventist Church, it was too far out of town for Edric and Lady to walk, so some of the choir members would pick him up and take him home from the practices so he could continue to be "part of the choir".

Edric's father was the headmaster for Holderness School in New Hampshire, and when he was young, Edric used to love to sit upstairs and listen to the visiting piano teacher working with the school's students in his family living room. The father of Edric's first wife directed the Cleveland Institute of Music, which annually holds a chamber music competition. When Edric and his wife moved to Cleveland, they hosted ensembles from the competition for living room rehearsals in preparation for the competition. While Edric studied the flute for a while, his role as audience member was more precious to him. Edric always enjoyed the processes that are part of learning music, from the beginning "sight reading" to the performance level. He often commented to us about how much progress the Chorale had made on a given evening's practice.

Edric was drafted into the Army and served as a radio operator in Europe for 2 1/2 years during World War II. He was "on the ground" during the liberation of the concentration camps. His daughter said he never talked much about his time in the Army but readily spoke up about the pain and damage that war and weapons could cause.

Edric had a great love of learning, from his B.A. at Harvard, his M.A. from Yale, to his years as a professor at Westminster College in Missouri, and then at the Institute of Urban Studies at Cleveland State University in Ohio. He was an avid reader, loved to ski and travel, garden and compost and had a passion for maps. But, his lifelong connection with music is what brought him to become "a part of the Sierra Master Chorale" that we will always remember. Whenever the chorale had an opportunity to have a social event, when possible, Edric was there, visiting with the singers and quietly cleaning up after us. He was forever the "Gentleman".

by Linda Maloney (Alto) & Jerry Maloney (Tenor)

**Edric's family and his Sierra Master Chorale friends are honored to dedicate
The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace in memory of Edric Weld. He is missed.**

Thank you to our 2012-13 season contributors!

Contributions and pledges noted below have been received as of April 1, 2012 for our 2012-13 season

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In Memory of Edric Weld:

Sierra Master Chorale members
The family of Edric Weld

Legend:

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InConcert Sierra presents music of great composers showcasing the finest guest artists and local musicians. Our concerts are affordable, accessible, and presented in intimate settings. InConcert emphasizes outreach to youth and the education of audiences.

Putting the Sierra Master Chorale with orchestra on stage is a monumental effort. We construct and erect our stage, purchase and rent musical scores, pay musicians, and spend great energy and hard work in preparing

It is a rewarding experience for the singers, orchestra, and you – our audience. And it is expensive!

If you were moved by today's performance, please consider a tax-deductible contribution.

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The Weld family in memory of Edric Weld

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In Memory of Alex Johnson

Libby Zuniga & Louis V. Johnson

In Memory of Edric Weld

Family of Edric Weld; Julie & Ken Hardin, Sierra Master Chorale

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Jackie Wilson

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then
again



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7:30 pm

**The Center for the Arts, Grass Valley
Admission: \$17**

A fundraiser
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Laura June Breen Vocal
Competition –
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nostalgic tunes from the
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To learn more about how you can impact the future of classical and choral music in our community through InConcert Sierra...please contact the office at 530-273-3990 or julie@inconcertsierra.org

Intermission Cookie Donors

Peggy Brewer, Vicki Cambron, Lisbeth Noel, Marian Jones, Barbara Thomas, Isabelle Thomas, Carolyn Valle, Mary May Vereen, Lois Van Etten, Pat Vixie, SMC choir members and the InConcert Sierra board

Thank you to everyone involved in making the SMC concerts happen!

Rik Augustin (décor), Barry Dorland - Art Duey - Ken Hardin (stage extensions), Connie Dorland, Linda & Jerry Maloney, NUHS band, Pastor Tim McMillen, Riser Crew, Seventh-day Adventist Church, Sierra Stages, Nina Stillwell

We apologize for any unintentional omissions or misspellings. Please bring any to our attention.

***Thank you to all of our concert
and office volunteers — we can't make
musical magic without you!***

At InConcert, we promise to steward your dollars wisely in the pursuit of high quality music experiences for all ages. Help us keep live **classical** music performances thriving in the Sierra Foothills.

All levels are greatly appreciated!

\$25 Advocates:

listing in program and lots of gratitude!

\$50 Friends:

1 chamber concert passes + listing

\$100 Bronze Key:

2 chamber concert passes + listing

\$250 Silver Key:

4 chamber concert passes / invite to Appreciation party + listing

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above and a season compilation CD

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above + priority notices

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above + reserved seating

\$5000 Artistic Director Circle:

above + preferred parking, invites to after concert dinners and private events

\$10,000 Stepping Up Circle:

Personalized Package of Perks!

Thank you to BriarPatch Co-op Community Market and Nevada County Box Office at Miners Foundry for their service as community box offices. Tickets for all of our events will be available at both locations.

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InConcert Sierra

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