The Master Singers of Lexington

ADAM GROSSMAN, Music Director
ERIC MAZONSON, Accompanist

Newsletter

April 2026

Creating a concert experience: Adam Grossman



Orlando di Lasso ..... *Frau, ich bin euch von Herzen hold*
Es jagt ein Jäger vor dem Holz

Johannes Brahms..... *Vier Quartette, Opus 92*

Hugo Wolf ..... *Der Feuerreiter*

Josquin des Prez ..... *Baises moy*
Mille regretz

Camille Saint-Saëns ..... *Deux chœurs, Opus 68*

Francis Poulenc..... *Sept chansons*

In programming this concert, *Lieder & Chansons*, a few disparate ideas came together. One is that everything else I had selected for this season is in either English or Latin, so I started thinking about other languages.

One of my first thoughts was that since we began our season with Lasso's setting of Psalms148 and 150, a lengthy, sacred work in Latin, it might be fun to end with some of his shorter, secular pieces in German. I also, for no particular reason, had been thinking about Francis Poulenc. Add in that Wolf's *Der Feuerreiter* is a piece that I've always wanted to perform again (we sang it in 2003) and the program started to take shape.

With Lasso and Josquin we have two Renaissance masters, and then two Romantic composers in Brahms and Saint-Saëns. While Wolf and Poulenc don't really line up, there is still a rough parallelism between the German and French halves. It's a lot of great music that I hope will be as intriguing and enjoyable to listen to as it is to rehearse.



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Singer Spotlight: Susan and Clark Jarvis

Susan and I started singing with The Master Singers (the 'of Lexington' wasn't a thing then) in the fall of 2001. In fact, our audition rehearsal was September 12, 2001 - an interesting evening for much more than just singing. We knew several people in the group as well as Adam. Susan was coming from singing with The Boston Cecilia and The Cecilia Chamber Singers. In the early 90's, Adam had been the conductor of The Cecilia Chamber Singers and I joined them a few times when they needed basses. When we auditioned for The Master Singers, I wasn't singing in a chorus and Susan was ready to leave Cecilia - we wanted to sing together so we looked for a smaller chorus in the area and the Master Singers were an obvious choice.



Currently I am the treasurer of the Master Singers - I took over from Susan several years ago. Susan's background is in financial analysis and bookkeeping - I've lost track of all the groups and tiny companies she has been the treasurer, bookkeeper, or controller for over the years. Susan and I had met while singing in another smaller chorus in Cambridge - we first really got to know each other when I took over from her as treasurer of that group - history does indeed repeat itself.

We have loved singing with Adam, Eric, and the Master Singers over the years - making new friends and reconnecting with old friends. The extensive repertoire of so many styles and periods, the pops concerts, the diverse instrumentalists, and the many commissioned pieces that the Master Singers have debuted have kept the singing interesting over the years. All together, these 20-some years have been a very rewarding experience.



photos: Edward Hynes

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The Master Singers of Lexington, P.O. Box 172, Lexington, MA 02420, United States

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