

Bach Festival Society OF WINTER PARK

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Recently re-discovered Barber piece to be
performed by the Bach Festival Chamber Singers

Winter Park, FL The Bach Festival Society of Winter Park is pleased to announce that it will present a short, recently re-discovered Samuel Barber piece, "Tribute to Sydney and Louise Homer." The Bach Festival Chamber Singers will perform the piece on the Society's first Choral Masterworks Concert of the season, taking place in Knowles Memorial Chapel on the Rollins College Campus Saturday, October 27, at 8pm and Sunday, October 28, at 3pm.

The Homers retired to Winter Park, Florida, in 1940 and may well have been the most illustrious married couple ever to live here: she—an internationally known opera star, and he—a noted composer, primarily of songs that found a wide audience. Additionally, internationally renowned composer Samuel Barber was their nephew and visited them often.

To honor the Homers on their 50th wedding anniversary, Barber surprised them with a brief "musical greeting" and sent it secretly to then–Rollins College President Dr. Hamilton Holt, who passed it on to then–Music Department Chairman and Bach Festival Director Christopher Honaas. This tribute was performed in January 1945 at a large fundraising gathering honoring the Homers that was hosted by Dr. Holt at his home. The following evening a more public musical evening was held in the Annie Russell Theatre on the Rollins College campus.

For this unique remembrance event, the Bach Festival is pleased to host special guest Virginia Giguere Roose, a member of the chorus that premiered the work at the anniversary celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Homer in 1945.

Performance Information

What: The Bach Festival Choir and Orchestra performing *Carmina Burana* and the World Premiere of *Vision of the Earth*, with Christopher Rex performing Barber's *Cello Concerto*

Where: Knowles Memorial Chapel on the Rollins College Campus

When: Saturday, October 27, 8pm and Sunday, October 28, 3pm

Tickets: \$45/\$35 depending on seat location

About the Bach Festival Society

The Bach Festival Society, located in Winter Park, Florida, is one of the longest continuously operating Bach Festivals in the country and among America's great oratorio societies. The Bach Festival Society brings the highest caliber of classical music to Central Florida. Performances are held in the intimate settings of the Tiedtke Concert Hall and Knowles Memorial Chapel on the beautiful campus of Rollins College.

For more information regarding the upcoming season or to order tickets, please call the Bach Festival Society at 407-646-2182 or visit us online at www.bachfestivalflorida.org

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