

Bach Festival Society OF WINTER PARK

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Bach Festival Society Premieres New Work By Keith Lay

Winter Park, FL The Bach Festival Society of Winter Park is pleased to announce the **world premiere of award-winning composer Keith Lay's *Vision of the Earth*** in its fall Choral Masterworks concerts. The concerts, to be presented October 27, 2007 at 8:00pm and October 28, 2007 at 3:00pm, also feature Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* and Samuel F. Barber's *Cello Concerto*, performed by internationally renowned cellist Christopher Rex. *Vision of the Earth* is composed for choir, orchestra, and soprano and baritone soloists. Lay describes the work as "ever hopeful and positive, with a harmony that is always rising."

Keith Lay was born in Ohio but currently makes his home in Central Florida. A professor of Popular Music History at Full Sail, Lay has won many awards during his tenure, including Full Sail's top teaching award. In addition to his teaching, Mr. Lay has had his work recorded by internationally known clarinetist Richard Stoltzman and has been hailed by the *New York Times* as "a composer to watch for."

The text that Lay chose for this commission is from the book *Earth* by little-known English poet Frank Townshend. Born in the 1880s, Townshend carries an air of mystery, for not much is known about his life. He wrote poetry, published at least three books, and lived in India for a

while. He was also something of a transcendentalist and contributed to Theosophist and Buddhist magazines.

The Bach Festival Choir and Orchestra are pleased to be able to partner with such a fine composer as Keith Lay to present this new work to the Central Florida area. Of this partnership, Lay says, "What a fantastic opportunity to sculpt the sounds of such forces! I am sincerely indebted to John Sinclair and every member of the Winter Park Bach Festival Choir and Orchestra for this opportunity."

The Bach Festival Society feels that bringing new music to the Central Florida area is an important part of its mission to enrich the Central Florida community through the presentation of exceptionally high-quality performances. "*Vision of the Earth* is a work that joins the orchestra and chorus together as one cohesive force. We are eager to present such a fine work to the public. From the source of imagination to the ink on paper to the resounding aural and emotional experience, a work of art is always an exciting process of creation," said Artistic Director Dr. John Sinclair.

Performance Information

What: The Bach Festival Choir and Orchestra performing *Carmina Burana*, the World Premier of *Vision of the Earth*, and 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.

[Keith Lay]
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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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