

Excerpts from Concert Reviews of Performances led by Jerry McCoy

University of North Texas (UNT) A Cappella Choir

Tarik O'Regan, composer

Someone just sent me the YouTube video of your performance of Triptych with choir and percussion.

It's incredible! What a fantastic performance. One of the best I've ever heard.

Keep up the incredible work that you do and please pass on my huge congratulations to the singers and percussionists at UNT.

Stan Schmidt, Past President of Collegium Records USA

"...this listener is completely overwhelmed. It is hard to come up with words to describe the sound of (McCoy's) choir because one wants to use the best words to speak about the best."

UNT Grand Chorus

Scott Cantrell, Music Critic for the Dallas morning News, Review of Verdi's Requiem

...The thrilling choral sounds were no surprise. Professor Jerry McCoy has made the school a choral-music mecca.

Dallas Morning News, Review of Alexander Nevsky

...the UNT Grand Chorus, prepared by Jerry McCoy, was fabulous: firm, focused, fine-tuned, and genuinely exciting.

Oklahoma State University (OSU) Chamber Choir

Jeffrey Wynn Davies, Executive Director, the Association of British Choral Directors

Both your own presentation and your choir's (OSU Chamber Choir) residency at Chester were overwhelming successes. As delegates moved to the last major convention session, comments bubbled around everywhere about your tour de force in the Chapel. 'Brilliant...stylish and so assured... amazing programme... moving performance.

Andrew Carter, composer

...the Villa Lobos was delicious...It was really professional, polished, and inspiring!... We in England ride on the crest of a wave from hearing you and your choir.

Gunilla Luboff, CEO, Walton Music Corporation

Your (OSU Chamber Choir) concert was wonderful! The tone was beautiful and the music making extraordinary.

Bruce Browne, Conductor, Choral Cross-Ties and Director of Choral Studies, Portland State University

Your performance at the convention was stellar! The Monteverdi was elegantly sculpted, and the Rytmus was savvy and sassy and very elite.

Bob Chilcott, composer and member emeritus of the King's Singers

What people often fail to realise is how difficult it is to do what you do - the repertoire that you sang required such incredible finesse, and I thought you did it beautifully. I thought the Sestina was particularly beautiful - I'd not heard it before, and it really took me away!

Simon Carrington, Member Emeritus the Kings Singers and Director of Choral Activities, Yale University

The OSU Chamber Choir is the finest college chamber choir I have heard in this country.

John Goldsmith, Conductor, Bielefeld Singers

I just had to write to express my admiration for the superb performance of your chamber choir in Chicago. There were many good choirs there at the 1999 ACDA convention, and some really good choirs, but only one SUPERB choir...yours! Yours was the most polished, most musical, most refined, most exquisitely tuned and modulated choral of them all...professionals included!

David Griggs-Janower, Music Director, Albany Pro Musica

...Your choir is fabulous. ...What impressed me most was how musical you and your singers are! (Your performance) was so incredibly beautiful and musical that I wanted to capture it as the perfect example of phrasing!

Theron Kirk, composer/professor

Your performance of the Monteverdi Sestina was undoubtedly one of the finest choral performances I have ever heard of any piece of music! This, after more than a week remembering it.

Morten Lauridsen, Composer and Professor of Music Emeritus, USC

...Your performances were first class - beautifully done in all ways, highly musical and sensitive to both text and music.

University of Arizona Combined Choirs with the Tucson Symphony

Daniel Buckley, Music Critic for the Tucson Citizen, Tucson, Arizona

...Dr. Jerry McCoy proved an able guest conductor in Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, lending nimble and lively snap to the opening movement's jazzy syncopations, a sense of spacious, pastoral beauty to its inner movement, and idiomatic dimension to the many cross-cultural references of its finale. ...(The chorus) delivered a robust, well-blended and powerful sound.

Santa Fe Desert Chorale

Craig Smith, Music Critic for The Santa Fe New Mexican

The (Santa Fe) Desert Chorale's Songs of the Feminine ...proved to be effective, thoughtfully programmed, and nicely performed. Under guest conductor Jerry McCoy, the Chorale continued to demonstrate the excellent blend and musicianship that are making this 15th anniversary season a pleasure...

"... powerful...vivid...wonderful...well-performed.

Norma Lynn and John Seagrave, Music Critics for Arts Alive and Well!

...This was a program rich in scope, given by a hard-working, disciplined chorus singing very juicy, substantive material, with much musical and vocal nuance. Dr. McCoy and the (Santa Fe) Desert Chorale can be proud of a sensational program.

...Stabat Mater Dolorosa, by Norwegian Trond Kverno...let out all the stops with rich, interesting harmonies, contrasts, exciting drama, and volume.

Texas Choral Artists

Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Matthew Erikson, Music Critic

CLASSICAL MUSIC YEAR IN REVIEW - THE YEARS FIVE BEST CONCERTS

...Nr. 3 Texas Camerata and Texas Choral Artists, Bach's Mass in B minor, (September): How do you approach a performance of Bach's towering masterpiece? With the preparation and degree of detail behind (Texas Choral Artists' and Texas Camerata's stirring presentation. Jerry McCoy made the two groups into a taut, blissful ensemble. The beautifully executed Crucifixus brought tears to the eyes.

Dallas Morning News, Scott Cantrell, Music Critic

...well-balanced, satin-finished sound. ... There was a good, wide dynamic range and considerable expressive sophistication. It was an evening of quite accomplished choral singing.

Dallas Morning News, Scott Cantrell, Music Critic

...Jerry McCoy had his 23 voices singing with fine focus and expressive finesse...

Dallas Morning News, Olin Chisolm, Music Critic

...With heartening vocal purity and precision of tone –qualities in evidence throughout the evening --the Texas Choral Artists gave a haunting performance of this work (Rachmaninoff's Blazhen muzh).

Fort Worth Chorale/Schola Cantorum of Texas

Ft. Worth Star Telegram, Wayne Lee Gay, Music Critic

The whole first half presented the 61-voice ensemble not so much as a choir of voices but as a sort of virtuosic instrument, capable of a huge range of colors and effects.

Dallas Morning News, Scott Cantrell, Music Critic

A beautiful and deeply moving program of ancient and modern music whose texts had broad moral implications was presented by the Fort Worth Chorale...

Additional Comments by Various Reviewers

'...inspiring and transcendent...'

'...memorable sounds and deep emotion...'

'...exhilarating...spine tingling...'

'...a choir that deserves to be heard...'

'...an outstanding musical asset to Fort Worth.'

'...a disciplined and endearing performance...'

'...a Gregorian chant for Easter sung hauntingly by the men of the chorale...'

'The choir sounded full, articulate and well-blended... The orchestra often painted tone pictures that magnified the mood or meaning of the words...'