

MELINDA PAULY O'NEAL

Dartmouth College	Handel Choir of Baltimore
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Conductor and Professor

Professor of Music, Dartmouth College, 1979-present (elected half-time status July 1, 2004)

- Instructor of courses in conducting, studies in vocal performance, perspectives in music performance (study program in London), introduction to music, music theory, seminar on voice and text.
- Conductor and Music Director, Handel Society of Dartmouth College (100-plus community-student oratorio society performing with professional orchestra and vocal soloists), 1979-2004.
- Conductor and Founder, Concertato Singers (24-voice chamber ensemble drawn from the Handel Society), 1979-2004.
- Conductor, Dartmouth College Chamber Singers (30-voice undergraduate ensemble), 1979-96.
- Founder/Director, Music Foreign Study Program (10-week term) in London, 1986, 1988, 1990, 2002.
- Advisor for senior fellowships, senior honors theses and culminating projects in conducting.
- Advisor/Supervisor, Conducting Fellow (post-masters, 2-year choral conducting assistant), 1991-1996.
- Chair of the Music Department, 1987-1990; Acting Chair, Fall 1995 and Co-Chair, Summer terms 2003-5; Chair of department committees for searches, tenure and promotion recommendations to full professor.
- Founder/Advisor to the Early Music Ensemble, 1980-1996.

Visiting Professor of Choral Conducting, Indiana University, Fall semester, 1999.

Conductor of Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, instructor of graduate conducting students.

Visiting Professor of Conducting and Choral Literature, University of Georgia, 1996-97.

Conductor of Concert Choir, University Chorus and Camerata, instructor of graduate and undergraduate conducting students.

Founder and Director, Dartmouth Conducting Institute, 1988-90.

Director of Choral Activities, Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX, 1977-79.

Associate Instructor in Conducting, Indiana University School of Music, Bloomington, IN, 1973-81.

Director of Choral Activities, Cocoa High School, Cocoa, FL, 1972-75.

Conductor

Artistic Director & Conductor, Handel Choir of Baltimore (community and professional), including Chandos Singers and Handel Period Instrument Orchestra (professional), oversight of Handel Children's Chorus and education programs, Baltimore, MD, 2004-present.

Conductor, Boston Vocal Artists' Sonique (professional), Boston, MA, 2002-2005.

Principal Guest Conductor, Hanover Chamber Orchestra (professional), Hanover, NH, 1991-2004.

Founder/Conductor, Groupe Vocale de St. Denis (professional), Hanover, NH, 2000-2001.

Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master, Opera Illinois (professional), Peoria, IL, 1999 (Verdi's *La Traviata*).

Guest Chorus Master, Seattle Symphony Chorale, Seattle, WA, 1995 (Berlioz's *La damnation de Faust* conducted by Gerard Schwarz).

Chorusmaster, Monadnock Music Festival (professional), Wilton, NH, June-July, 1994-96.

Founder/Conductor, New Hampshire Symphony Orchestra Chorus (community), Manchester, NH, 1984-87.

Music Director and Conductor, Plano Civic Chorus (community singers and professional orchestra), Plano, TX, 1978-79.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Music in Choral Conducting *with distinction*, Indiana University School of Music, 1988.

Document: "Berlioz's *L'enfance du Christ*: A Conductor's Analysis for Performance." Minors: musicology and vocal literature.

Master of Music in Choral Conducting, Indiana University School of Music, 1976.

Bachelor of Music Education in Choral Music *summa cum laude* with Certificate in Voice, Florida State University School of Music, 1972.

Diploma *cum laude*, Walt Whitman High School, Bethesda, Maryland, 1968.

INSTRUCTORS IN SCORE STUDY, CONDUCTING AND CHORAL-ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE

Julius Herford
Jan Harrington
Fiora Contino
Robert Shaw

Helmuth Rilling
John Nelson
Marcel Couraud
Thomas Dunn

Joseph Flummerfelt
Clayton Krehbiel
Colleen Kirk
Alan Harler

COMMISSIONED WORKS WITH PREMIÈRE PERFORMANCES

Jonathan Leshnoff: *Requiem for the Fallen*, commissioned by the Handel Choir of Baltimore; premièred by HCB and Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, Markand Thakar, conducting, 2008.

Christian Wolff: *Wake up!*, premièred by Boston Vocal Artists' Sonique, 2005.

Dennis Desormier: *The Star Spangled Banner* arr., recorded by Boston Vocal Artists, 2004.

Charles Dodge: *Musica Dei Optimum*, premièred by Groupe Vocale de St. Denis, 2000.

Charles Dodge: *The Staff of Aesculapius*, premièred by the Handel Society of Dartmouth College and Hanover Chamber Orchestra, 1998.

Dennis Desormier: *Vox*, premièred by the Handel Society Concertato Singers, 1998.

PREMIÈRE PERFORMANCES

Ileana Perez Velazques: *El tiempo*, Boston Vocal Artists' Sonique, 2005.

Jon Appleton: *Lament of Kamuela*, Dartmouth College, 1992.

David Evan Jones: *Invitation to the Dance*, Dartmouth College, 1988.

RECORDING

Handel Choir of Baltimore performing Handel's *Alexander's Feast* in collaboration with Bach Sinfonia (period instruments), Daniel Abraham, conductor. Dorian Recordings, January, 2007.

BOOK-IN-PROGRESS

A Performer's Guide to the Vocal Music of Hector Berlioz. Proposal approved by the Research and Publication Committee, American Choral Directors Association; completion anticipated August 2011.

ARTICLES-IN-PROGRESS

"Passion and Authenticity: A Conversation with Marin Alsop" in *Wisdom, Wit and Will: Women Choral Conductors On Their Art* edited by Joan Catoni Conlon (GIA Publications, forthcoming in 2009).

"Conducting Berlioz." Invited by the Berlioz Society, UK; presentation December, 2009.

"Berlioz' Solo Songs and Choruses: An Untapped Resource." Invited for *Language and Music: Text in the Choral Art—A Festschrift in Honor of the 80th Birthday of Dr. Thomas Dunn*.

"Tonal Cohesiveness in Berlioz's *L'enfance du Christ*." Invited by the Berlioz webpage www.hberlioz.com.

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

"Orchestral Songs and Choruses by Hector Berlioz" in *Podium Notes* of the Conductors Guild. Spring, 2005.

"Berlioz's Vocal Music—Some Programming Ideas," *Choral Journal*, November, 2002.
Reprinted by permission for the Hector Berlioz webpage, 2003:
<http://www.hberlioz.com/Special/moneal.htm>

"Coming to Terms with Historical Performance Practices," in *Becoming the Complete Choral Conductor*, ed. Guy Webb. Boston: ECS Publications, 1994. Revised version in the *Journal of the Conductors Guild*, January, 2000.

"Teaching Choral Conducting," in *Georgia Music Educators Journal*, January, 1997.

"An Introduction to Performance Practice Considerations for the Mozart *Requiem*," *ACDA Choral Journal*, April, 1991. Revised version in the *Journal of the Conductors Guild*, February, 1999.

"A Choral Library," *Dartmouth College Alumni Magazine*, February, 1990.

GUEST LECTURER AND PAPERS

New Music Project presentations at Conductors Guild conferences: Jonathan Leshnoff's *Requiem for the Fallen* (Baltimore, 2008); Berlioz's *Orchestral Songs and Choruses* (Boston, 2005); Arvo Pärt's *Te Deum* (New York, 2003); and John Adams' *Harmonium* (Houston, 2001).

Guest Lecturer for Vocal Literature Class: "Berlioz's Vocal Solo Repertoire," Towson University Center for the Arts, Towson, MD, March 14, 2007.

Guest lecturer for University Music Class: "Conductor's Viewpoint—Mozart Celebration," Towson University Center for the Arts, Towson, MD, March 2, 2006.

Co-organizer and featured speaker on three-person panel: "Vocal vs. Instrumental: Is the Divide So Very Wide?" Conductors Guild Conference, Boston, MA, January 7, 2005.

Guest Lecture for Vocal Repertoire Class: "Hector Berlioz: Chanson (ou Mélodie) et Aria." Towson University Center for the Arts, Towson, MD, October 6, 2004.

Guest Lecture for Choral Conducting Class: "Orchestral Conducting." University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, April 15, 2004.

Lecture-demonstration on Berlioz's solo songs and choruses, and consultant on performance of *La damnation de Faust* at a Symposium on Berlioz, Indiana University-Bloomington, April 24-27, 2003.

Lecturer, Dartmouth Alumni Educational Tour to Prague, Vienna and Salzburg, June 22-July 2, 1999.

Guest Speaker, "Expectation-Reality; Tradition-Change." Dartmouth Class of 1956 Annual Dinner, New York City, 1998.

Presenter, "Separating the Conductor from the Composer," for Preparation of Tomorrow's Conductors III Conference at SUNY-Buffalo, 1991.

Guest Lecturer, Indiana University School of Music for the graduate score study seminar: "Berlioz's *L'enfance du Christ*: Considerations for Performance," 1993.

Lecturer, School for Lifelong Learning at Dartmouth College: "Music and Options in the View of Death," 1993. Lecturer, Friends of the Hopkins Center:

"Mahler's Symphony No. 2: Life, Death and Resurrection," 1994.

MUSIC EDITIONS

Berlioz's "Choeur de bergers" from *Les franc-juges*: piano-vocal score prepared in collaboration with Gregory Hayes, 2008.

Berlioz's "La Belle Voyageuse": piano-vocal score and full choral-orchestral score for SA chorus in French. Includes English translation, International Phonetic Alphabet transcription of the French in the score, and historical and performance notes. Toad Hill Music Engravers, 1994.

Berlioz's *L'enfance du Christ*: choral piano-vocal score with libretto in French. Includes English floating translation and International Phonetic Alphabet transcription of the French. Toad Hill Music Engravers, 1993.

INTERNATIONAL CONCERT TOURING

Handel Society of Dartmouth College to Germany and Austria, 1999 and 2002.

Dartmouth College Chamber Singers European (seven) tours 1982-1996 with regional or national tours in alternate years.

GRANTS

For the Handel Choir of Baltimore 2004-present: Maryland State Council on the Arts, Baker Foundation, France-Merrick Foundation, Baltimore Community Foundation, Baltimore County Commission on Arts and Sciences, Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, Gladding Foundation, Harley W. Howell Charitable Foundation, Joseph Meyerhoff Fund, corporations and individuals. Contributor to research for and writing of grant proposals and reports.

For the Handel Society of Dartmouth College through the Handel Society Foundation of New Hampshire: Byrne Foundation grant for publication of the *History of the Handel Society*

of *Dartmouth College, 1807-2007* by Alexander Heywood, with accompanying compact disc of historical and modern recordings, 2003.

Handel Society Foundation of NH grants to the Handel Society of Dartmouth College for performers' fees and outreach concerts, annually, 1993-present.

Leslie Humanities Center grant for "A Berlioz Bicentennial Celebration" sponsoring guest Professor Hugh Macdonald to present three lectures in conjunction with the Handel Society's performance of *Roméo et Juliette*, 2003.

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts Special Projects Grant, 1994 and 1996.

Office of the President of Dartmouth College and the Dickey Center for International Understanding grants for Chamber Singers and Handel Society international concert touring, 1994-2003.

Griffith Fund grants from Dartmouth College Music Department for Conducting Assistant, 1998-2004.

Griffith Fund grants from Dartmouth College Music Department for professional ensemble of period instruments, Chamber Singers' concerts, 1992-97.

Bernstein Grant, Dartmouth College, for Chamber Singers to perform Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* with period instruments and guest soloists as part of "Age of the Marvelous" all-college symposium supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Fall, 1991.

Hewlett Foundation Grant and Griffith Fund support to found and direct the Dartmouth Conducting Institute, 1988-90.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Establishment of Melinda O'Neal Award by the Handel Society of Dartmouth College, May, 2007.

Julius Herford Outstanding Dissertation Award by the American Choral Directors Association, 1990.

Individual Artist Fellowship from the NH State Council on the Arts, 1992.

Dartmouth College Senior Faculty Fellowship for Research, Spring, 1991.

Pi Kappa Lambda, Golden Key National Honor Society, Who's Who Among Teachers.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Conductor's Guild, American Choral Directors Association, College Music Society, Berlioz Society, Chorus America, National Collegiate Conductors Organization (charter member).

GUEST CONDUCTOR, CLINICIAN, ADJUDICATOR

Baltimore School for the Arts
Baltimore City Public School System Professional Development Workshop
Baltimore Baroque Band (Peabody Conservatory) and Pro Musica Rara
Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* Summer Sing, Washington, D.C.
Peabody Early Music Department, Baltimore, MD
Peabody Preparatory, Baltimore, MD
Kentucky All-Collegiate Festival, Louisville, KY
Metropolitan Opera Regional Voice Competition, Norfolk, VA
All-Cape Choral Festival, Falmouth, MA
University of Georgia Choral Festival, Athens, GA
University of Jacksonville Choral Festival, Jacksonville, FL
New Hampshire Symphony Orchestra, Manchester, NH
Hanover Chamber Orchestra, NH
Seattle Choral Festival, Seattle, WA
Manhattan Choral Festival, NY
Northeast Kingdom Chorus, VT
Vermont Symphony Orchestra
Central Vermont District Festival
Vermont Youth Orchestra
Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra
Bel Canto Singers, NH
Ft. Worth Symphony, TX

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SERVICE

Conductors Guild National Board Member, 1998-2004; Nominating Committee, 2004-present.

Research and Publications Committee, American Choral Directors Association, 1991-present.

- Chair of Monograph Series, 1995-2003; 2008-present
- Reviewer of dissertations and documents for Julius Herford Award, 1993-2002.

Maryland State Arts Council Arts in Communities Grant Review Panel, 2007-present.

Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance Board Member, 2007-present.

Handel Society Foundation of New Hampshire Board (Founding Member), 1991-2007.

Choral Arts Foundation of the Upper Valley (formerly the organization above), Advisory Board, 2008-present.

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts Review Panel, 1997 and 1993.

National Endowment for the Arts Music Advisory Panel on Choruses, Washington, D.C., 1992.

