

# *“Elijah”*

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

The Ocean Grove Auditorium Choir

The Festive Arts Orchestra

Caroline Whisnant, Soprano  
Melora Love, Mezzo-Soprano

Ronald Naldi, Tenor  
Kevin Short, Bass-Baritone

Cheryl Parker, Soprano  
Linda Baker-Grimm, Alto  
Phyllis Schultz, Alto

Jeffrey Allyn, Tenor  
Thomas Rich, Bass  
Michael Graf, Youth

Dr. Gordon Turk, Organist

Lewis A. Daniels, Conductor

*Sunday, September 5, 1999*

*Seven-thirty o'clock*

The Ocean Grove Auditorium Choir presents

"Elijah"

by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy  
with the

## Festive Arts Orchestra



### VIOLIN

Thomas DiSarlo  
Richard Van Stone  
Thomas Jackson  
Michele LeFevre  
Patricia Gott  
Amy Weckesser  
Timothy Thorne  
Eduardo Lopez

### VIOLIN II

Vladimir Aleksandruk  
Valerie Levicoff  
Francisco Caban  
Sergei Nuissl  
Victoria Carney  
Ellen Strange  
Janice Bland  
Lynne Budnick

### VIOLA

Marcia Hanjian  
Gregory Lipscomb  
Susan Kaufman  
Carolyn Murphy-Landis  
CELLO  
David Guggenheim  
Jonathan Fink  
Marlena Gal  
Margaret Holland

### BASS

Dennis Topper  
Elizabeth Cochran

### FLUTE

Lois Bliss Herbine  
Mary Berk

### OBOE

Rheta Smith  
Kim Kelter

### CLARINET

Allison Herz  
John Frazier

### BASSOON

John Douglas Ferrigno  
Michael Pedrazzini

### HORN

Jane Richter  
Joan Dowlin  
Paul Rosenberg  
Barbara Speare

### TRUMPET

Barbara Prugh  
Nancy Dowlin

### TROMBONE

Richard Linn  
Darrell Hendricks  
Jose Vidal

### TUBA

Peter Krill

### TYMPANI

Kenneth Miller

**Invocation**

**Mr. Benjamin Hehn  
Chair of Music Committee**

*Elijah*  
**Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy**  
**PART I**

**Elijah:** As God the Lord of Israel liveth, before whom I stand;  
There shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

**Overture**

**Chorus:** Help, Lord! Wilt thou quite destroy us? The harvest now is over, the summer days are gone: And yet no power cometh to help us! Will then the Lord be no more God in Zion? The deep affords no water, and the rivers are exhausted! The suckling's tongue now cleaveth for thirst to his mouth; The infant children ask for bread and there is no one breaketh it to feed them! Lord, bow thine ear to our prayer! Zion spreadeth her hands for aid; and there is neither help nor comfort.

**Obadiah:** Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments. For your transgressions the prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, forsake your idols, return to God: for He is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil. "If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me." Thus saith our God. Oh! that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before his presence!

**Chorus:** Yet doth the Lord see it not; He mocketh at us; His curse hath fallen down upon us; His wrath will pursue us till He destroy us! For He, the Lord our God, He is a jealous God; And he visiteth all the fathers' sins on the children to the third and the fourth generation of them that hate Him. His mercies on t'ousands fall, fall on all them that love Him and keep His commandments.

**Angel:** Elijah, get thee hence, Elijah; depart and turn thee eastward, thither hide thee by Cherith's brook. There shalt thou drink its waters; and the Lord thy God hath commanded the ravens to feed thee there; so do according unto His word.

**Quartet:** For He shall give His angels charge over thee; That they shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest; That their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

**Angel:** Now Cherith's brook is dried up, Elijah; Arise and depart, and get thee to Zerepath; thither abide; For the Lord hath commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee; And the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

**Widow:** What have I to do with thee, O man of God? Art thou come to me, to call my sin unto remembrance? To slay

my son art thou come hither? Help me, man of God, my son is sick! And his sickness is so sore that there is no breath left in him! I go mourning all the day long, I lie down and weep at night; See mine affliction! Be thou the orphan's helper!

**Elijah:** Give me thy son. Turn unto her, O Lord, my God. O turn in mercy, help this widow's son! For Thou art gracious and full of compassion. And plenteous in mercy and truth. Lord my God, let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

**Widow:** Wilt thou shew wonders, wonders to the dead? There is no breath no breath in him.

**Elijah:** Lord, my God, let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

**Widow:** Shall the dead arise, the dead arise and praise thee?

**Elijah:** Lord, my God, O let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

**Widow:** The Lord hath heard thy prayer; the soul of my son reviveth!

**Elijah:** Now behold, thy son liveth!

**Widow:** Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that His word in thy mouth is the truth: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

**Elijah:** Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, love Him with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. O, blessed are they who fear Him.

**Chorus:** Blessed are the men who fear Him, they ever walk in the ways of peace. Through darkness riseth light, light to the upright. He is gracious, compassionate. He is righteous.

**Elijah:** As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth, before whom I stand; three years this day fulfilled, I will show myself unto Ahab, and the Lord will then send rain again upon the earth.

**Ahab:** Art thou Elijah? Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

**Elijah:** I never troubled Israel's peace. It is thou, Ahab, and all thy father's house. Ye have forsaken God's commands, And thou hast followed Baalim! Now send, and gather to me the whole of Israel unto Mount Carmel; There summon the prophets of Baal. and also the prophets of the groves who are feasted at Jezebel's table. Then we shall see whose God is the Lord. Rise then, ye priests of Baal; select and slay a bullock, and put no fire under it; Uplift your voices and call the god ye worship; and then I will call on the Lord Jehovah: And the God who by fire shall answer, Let Him be God. Call first upon your God, your numbers are many: I, even I only remain, one prophet of the Lord; Invoke your forest gods and mountain deities.

**Chorus:** Baal, we cry to thee: hear and answer us! Heed the

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**Chorus:** Baal, we cry to thee: hear and answer us! Heed the

His people Israel hath made thee King. But thou, Ahab, hast done evil to provoke him to anger above all that were before thee; As if it had been a light thing for thee to walk in the sins of Jeroboam. Thou hast made a grove and an altar to Baal, and served and worshipped him. Thou hast killed the righteous, and also taken possession. And the Lord shall smite all Israel as a reed is shaken in the water; and He shall give Israel up, and thou shalt know He is the Lord.

**Jezebel:** Have ye not heard he hath prophesied against all Israel? Hath he not prophesied also against the king of Israel? And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Doth Ahab govern the Kingdom of Israel, while Elijah's power is greater than the king's. The gods do so to me and more if by tomorrow about this time I make not his life as the life of one of them whom he hath sacrificed at the brook of Kishon! Hath he not destroyed Baal's prophets? Yea, by sword he destroyed them all. He also closed the heavens and called down a famine upon the land. So go ye forth and seize Elijah, for he is worthy to die; slaughter him! Do unto him as he hath done.

**Chorus:** Woe to him! He shall perish; he closed the heavens; and why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Let the guilty prophet perish! He hath spoken falsely against our land and us, as we have heard with our ears. So go ye forth; seize on him! He shall die.

**Obadiah:** Man of God, now let my words be precious in thy sight! Thus saith Jezebel: "Elijah is worthy to die." So the mighty gather against thee, and they have prepared a net for thy steps; that they may sieze thee, that they may slay thee. Arise then, arise, and hasten forth thy life! To the wilderness journey! The Lord thy God doth go with thee: He will not fail thee, He will not forsake thee. Now be gone, and bless me also.

**Elijah:** Though stricken they have not grieved! Tarry here, my servant, the Lord be with thee. I journey hence to the wilderness. It is enough, O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers, I desire to live no longer; now let me die, for my days are but vanity. I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts. For the children of Israel have broken Thy covenant, and have thrown down thine altars, and slain all thy prophets with the sword. And I, even I, only am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

**TENOR:** See, now he sleepeth beneath a juniper tree in the wilderness, and there the angels of the Lord encamp round about all them that fear Him.

**Trio:** Lift thine eyes to the mountains; whence cometh help? Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber.

**Chorus:** He watching over Israel slumbers not nor sleeps. Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.

**Angel:** Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey before thee. Forty days and forty nights shalt thou go, to Horeb, the mount of God.

**Elijah:** O Lord, I have labored in vain! Yea, I have spent my strength for naught. O that Thou wouldst rend the heavens, that Thou wouldst come down. That the mountains would flow down at Thy presence, to make Thy name known to Thine adversaries, through the wonders of Thy works! O Lord, why hast Thou made them to err from Thy ways? And hardened their hearts, that they do not fear Thee? O that I now might die! O that I now might die!

**Angel:** O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him, and He shall give thee thy heart's desires. Commit thy way unto Him and trust in Him. And fret not thyself because of evil doers

**Elijah:** Night falleth round me, O Lord! Be Thou not far from me! Hide not Thy face, O Lord, from me; My soul is thirsting for Thee, as a thirsty land.

**Angel:** Arise now! Get thee without! Stand on the mount before the Lord; for there His glory will appear and shine on thee! Thy face must be veiled, for He draweth near.

**Chorus:** Above Him stood the Seraphim; and one cried to another: Holy, holy, holy is God the Lord, the Lord Sabaoth. Now His glory hath filled all the earth.

**Chorus:** Then did Elijah the prophet break forth like a fire. His words appeared like burning torches. Mighty kings by him were overthrown. He stood on the mount of Sinai, and heard the judgments of the future; And in Horeb, its vengeance. And when the Lord would take him away to heaven, lo! there came a fiery chariot, with fiery horses; and he went by a whirlwind to heaven!

**Tenor:** Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm. Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away forever.

**Quartet:** O come everyone that thirsteth, O come to the waters, O come unto Him. O hear, and your souls shall live forever.

**Chorus:** And then shall your light break forth as the light of morning breaketh, and your health shall speedily spring forth then; and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you. Lord, our creator, how excellent Thy Name is in all the nations. Thou fillest heaven with Thy glory! **AMEN!**

## BENEDICTION