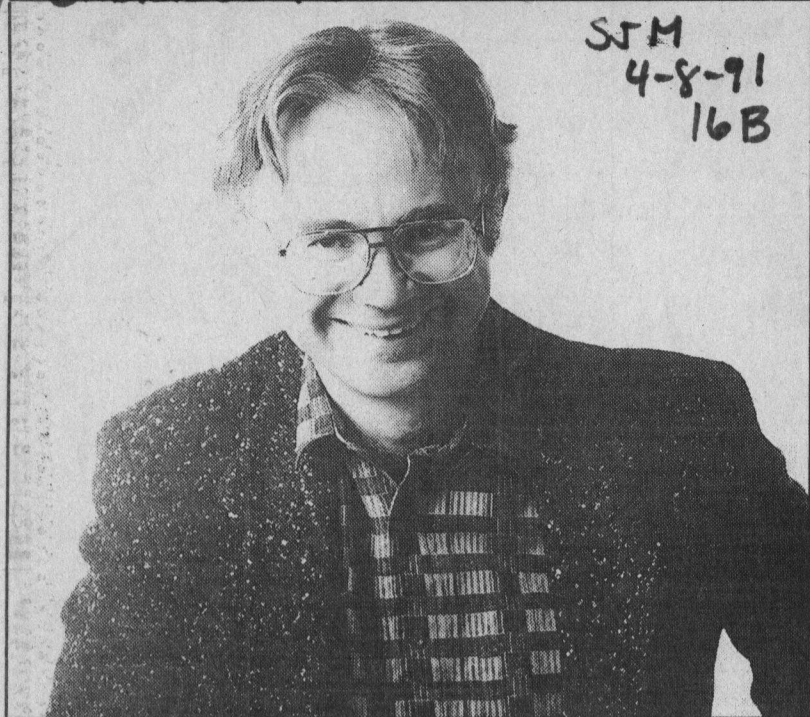


Classical Music

✓ CABRILLO MUSIC FESTIVAL



John Adams will lead several of his own compositions

✓ Cabrillo Music Festival has new leader, new hall

By Judith Green
Mercury News Arts Writer

COMPOSER John Adams will take over the baton from music director Dennis Russell Davies for the 1991 Cabrillo Music Festival, which will run July 25-Aug. 4 at a new home in Santa Cruz County.

Davies is on sabbatical for the festival's 29th season, though he helped Adams plan its repertoire.

'Klinghoffer' heard

The programs will feature the first American hearing of an excerpt from Adams' new opera, "The Death of Klinghoffer" (July 25), as well as his cantata "The Wound Dresser" (July 28), an anti-war piece with text by Walt Whitman, who dressed wounds as a medical orderly during the Civil War. The American premiere of Adams' "Eros Piano" will be given Aug. 2.

Guest artists include baritone Sanford Sylvan, for whom the title role in "Klinghoffer" was written; pianist Richard Goode; violinist Stephanie Chase; soprano Dora Ohrenstein, a longtime member of the Philip Glass Ensemble; and conductor JoAnn Falletta of the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic.



Bernstein

The festival will include its first-ever dance program, featuring Tandy Beal & Company of Santa Cruz and live orchestra (Aug. 3). Traditional Persian music and dance will be performed by Group Parvaneh and Ballet Afsaneh (Aug. 4).

Nazim Ozel will play a Turkish flute called a *ney* and "the amazing 500-string Semi-Civilized Tree" (Aug. 3). And the festival will present a concert in Mission San Juan Bautista by the Oakland-based gospel choir Elements of Praise (July 28).

After Adams, the most-heard composer will be Benjamin Britten, with performances scheduled of his "Phantasy Quartet" for oboe and strings (July 25); "The Arrival and Adventures of Belle Rose in the Kingdom of the Pagodas" (Aug.

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2), an excerpt from the ballet "The Prince of the Pagodas"; "Songs and Proverbs of William Blake" (Sylvan and Goode, Aug. 3); and the powerful "Sinfonia da Requiem" as the festival finale (Aug. 4).

The complementary repertoire will be heavily neo-romantic, acknowledging Adams' roots in 19th-century music. Among the major works to be heard: the late Leonard Bernstein's "Serenade," a "Platonic dialogue" for violin and orchestra (July 26); two versions of Franz Liszt's "The Black Gondola," for solo piano (July 25) and orchestrated by Adams (July 28); "Kindertotenlieder" ("Songs on the Death of Children") by Gustav Mahler (Aug. 4); and the 1947 version of Stravinsky's "Petrouchka."

On Aug. 1, Ohrenstein will perform "Urban Diva," an original cabaret piece that includes contemporary vocal showpieces such as John Cage's "Aria."

The Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County has raised \$35,000 to turn Santa Cruz's barn-like Civic Auditorium from a 1,950-seat arena to a 970-seat concert hall, defined by an acoustical shell and other technical assistance.

The festival, which has performed under increasingly cramped conditions in the Cabrillo College theater and an array of local churches, as well as a problematic tent on the University of California, Santa Cruz campus, will become one of the auditorium's two principal tenants. The Santa Cruz County Symphony (which Falletta directs) is the other.

The tradition of San Juan Bautista Day (July 28) will be maintained. Two concerts are scheduled for July 28 in the mission: a 4 p.m. orchestral program and the gospel singers at 8 p.m.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED

To receive a festival brochure, call (408) 662-2701. Single tickets will be on sale June 1 from (408) 429-3444