



SAVE THE DATE

ON **NOVEMBER 23RD** THE HARVARD RADCLIFFE CHORUS WILL PERFORM TWO JOYOUS, CELEBRATORY PIECES BY **GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL** AND **ANTONIO VIVALDI** AT 8 PM IN SANDERS THEATRE. I HOPE THAT YOU CAN JOIN ME AS I SING THE ***CORONATION ANTHEMS & GLORIA..***

Handel's ***Coronation Anthems*** have withstood the test of time. Shortly before George I passed away on June 11, 1727, he signed an act naturalizing Handel as a citizen of Great Britain and commissioned him to write the coronation anthems for his son..

After their premiere, the four anthems (*Zadok the Priest*, *Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened*, *The King Shall Rejoice*, and *My Heart is Inditing*) became a huge successes. Popular during Handel's lifetime, they are performed frequently and have been a feature of every British Coronation ceremony since their premiere at the coronation of George II. A grand piece, fitting for the subject, it has many large musical gestures that will be magnified by the acoustics of Sanders Theatre.

Vivaldi composed this ***Gloria*** in Venice, probably in 1715, for the choir of a home for the illegitimate daughters of Venetian noblemen and their mistresses and spent most of his career there. Vivaldi, a priest, music teacher and virtuoso violinist, composed many sacred works for them including hundreds of instrumental concertos to be played by the girls' orchestra.

Characteristic of all of Vivaldi's music, the joyous, sunny nature of the ***Gloria*** gave this work an immediate and universal appeal. During his lifetime he enjoyed considerable success and good fortune, but squandered it, and upon his death, was buried in a pauper's grave in Vienna. For two centuries after his death, the Gloria lay undiscovered until the late 1920s, when it was found in a pile of forgotten manuscripts. A bastardized version of it was performed in 1939 but the now familiar original version was published and performed, in Brooklyn, in 1957.

I hope you'll be able to attend what promises to be a very special event. I'll be able to tell you more about times and tickets soon!