



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

Ephrata Cloister

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Special Spring Concert Planned

Ephrata Cloister Chorus To Hold Spring Concert On May 12

EPHRATA, PA. – The heavenly voices of the Ephrata Cloister Chorus will fill the historic meeting house, kicking off their Spring Concert season on May 12, at 4:00 p.m., at the Historic Ephrata Cloister, 632 West Main Street, Ephrata.

Featuring music composed by members of the Ephrata Cloister, a former celibate German religious community, the concert will also have music from other early American communities, and a special rarely performed selection from Renaissance composer Hans Leo Hassler, titled *Missa Octava*. This selection will also be accompanied by a string quartet.

The chorus's four-part harmony will echo through the 1741 meeting house in a double choir; one chorus singing in reply to the other. "The acoustics of the meeting house and the string quartet lend an air of excitement to the performance," says Dr. Daryl Hollinger, Ephrata Cloister Chorus Director. "To have music such as this performed in the historic setting is a rare opportunity not to be missed."

The Spring Concert at 4:00 p.m. is the end of a day-long celebration of women's history at the historic site, including demonstrations and exhibits of women's chores and daily lives. Beginning at 10:00 a.m. and continuing until 4:00 p.m. the event is titled *Mothers, Daughters, Sisters*. Admission to the concert and *Mothers, Daughters, Sisters* program is \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 youth 3-15 years old.

Make sure to stop by the Museum Store at the Ephrata Cloister, to purchase the Ephrata Cloister Chorus's newly released third CD entitled *The Song of the Turtle Dove*. For more information please call the Historic Ephrata Cloister at (717) 733-6600. Additional chorus performances throughout the year are also found on the Historic Ephrata Cloister's website at www.EphrataCloister.org.

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Caption: The Ephrata Cloister Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Daryl Hollinger, performs music once composed at the Historic Ephrata Cloister, along with selections of other early American music. (Photograph Courtesy of Dennis Studio, Denver, PA)