



NEWS RELEASE

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USI Madrigal Ensemble preparing for second tour of Poland

The University of Southern Indiana Madrigal Ensemble, under the direction of Daniel R. Craig, will tour Poland from May 11-25. The ensemble will travel by bus to Chicago and board a 12-hour flight to Warsaw. From Warsaw, they will fly to Gdansk, on the northern coast at the Baltic Sea. While in Gdansk, the singers will present concerts of secular and sacred music ranging from medieval to modern masterworks. They will perform in the largest cathedral in the world, Mariacki Cathedral, as well as several large churches and auditoriums as a part of the Gdansk Millennium celebration. While at the Mariacki Cathedral, the ensemble will perform "Exultate Justi in Domino (Exult Righteous in the Lord)" by Andrej Hackenberger, who was the court composer of the Mariacki Cathedral during much of the late Renaissance. This piece has been transcribed from ancient musical notation by Craig, USI assistant professor of music, especially for this tour. In Gdansk, the singers will be hosted by the Gdansk chamber choir, Continuo, a mixed chorus based at the Gdansk Polytechnika Institute.

On May 17 the ensemble will travel southwest to the industrial city of Poznan, where they will be hosted by the Chamber Choir of Adam Mickiewicz University. While in Poznan, the USI singers will participate in the Poznan International Music Songfest and will present a joint concert with the AMU Chamber Choir. In the joint concert, Craig has been asked to conduct a combined performance of the "Ave Maria" text by Franz Biebl.

On May 19, the singers will go to Malbork, the site of the castle of the Teutonic Knights, the largest castle in the world. This superstructure was built in the 13th century to house the warring Germanic knights after the Crusades. Malbork will be the choir's "home base" while they perform concerts in the Pelplin Monastery, the Castle of Kwidzen, the Cathedral Church of Frombork, and the Castle of the Teutonic Knights. The Pelplin monastery is the former home of many notable Renaissance composers. The Cathedral Church in Frombork is the where Nicholai Copernicus charted the skies. While in Malbork, the singers will be hosted by the Lutnia and Resonance Choirs under the direction of Wawzyniecz Zamkowski. These are "town choirs" sponsored by the local government. One part of the tour in Malbork will consist of a tour of the Stutthoff concentration camp, which was built to be as large as Auschwitz but was liberated before it grew to such proportions.

While in Poland the ensemble will sing in English, Latin, Swedish, German, Italian, Polish, Russian, French, and Hebrew. Several pieces were given to Craig by Polish composers and directors in an attempt to preserve Polish culture in a time when western influences are reigning supreme.

The ensemble will include 36 singers and six staff members — Larry Goss, USI professor of engineering technology who will handle video taping; Sandi Lawrence, USI director of Health Services; Neal Biggers, accompanist; and student Ryan Lehr of Evansville, staff assistant. Joining them in Poland will be Goss's son, Phillip, who is staff translator.

The USI Madrigal Ensemble will present a "bon voyage" concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at St. Boniface Catholic Church, located on the corner of Wabash Avenue of Flags and Michigan Street on Evansville's west side. The concert is free and open to the public; donations will be accepted toward the expense of the 1997 concert tour.

For more information, call Craig, assistant professor of music at USI, 812/464-1736.

(attached is list of singers and hometowns)

4/1997

USI Madrigal Ensemble

Evansville

Jeremy Brack, 1802 Briar Ridge
Ryan Frey, 6013 W. Mill
Kasey Krug, 4128 Aspen
Alysia Lamb, 6616 E. Cherry
Ryan Lehr, 350 Woodward
Mindy Mattingly, 5800 Berry Lane
Catherine Moore, 5710 Ashbrooke
Holly Parker, 204 W. Berkey
Melissa Puckett, 1812 E. Illinois
Michele Rodriguez, 917 N. Weinbach
Jonelle Schmitt, 5941 Danville
Jason Stoermer, 821 Harmon

Other Indiana

Amboy -
Jonathan Tyler, RR 1
Borden -
Emily Lockmund, 22619 Tom Evans
Brownstown -
Jeremy Cross, 4354 W. 150N
Charlestown -
Nicholas Ballard, 135 Parkland
Ronnie J. (Jimmy) Pierce, 190 High
Greencastle -
Brian Moell, 901 S. Locust
Guilford -
Antoinette Cox, 19858 Platt
Jasper -
Luke Carie, 961 2nd Avenue
Linton -
Heather Gilmore, 709 N. Main
Loogootee -
Paula Anne Strange, RR 5
Montgomery -
Rachael Bradley, RR 2
Mt. Vernon -
Jason A. Porter, 346 Riviera
Kent Starnes, 5114 Hartmann
Corey Woolsey, 615 W. Second
New Albany -
Sara Morgan, 724 Vincennes
Newburgh -
Ryan Eastham, 5788 Garden Valley
Princeton -
Troy Rhinefort, 1614 Brentwood
Scottsburg -
Steven Stump, 150 E. Lovers Lane
Spencer -
Jennifer Tammillo, 8 Westward Rd.
Valparaiso -
Chanda Davis, 497 W. 100S
Wadesville -
Greg Bryant, 1000 Oliver
Lisa Bryant, 1000 Oliver

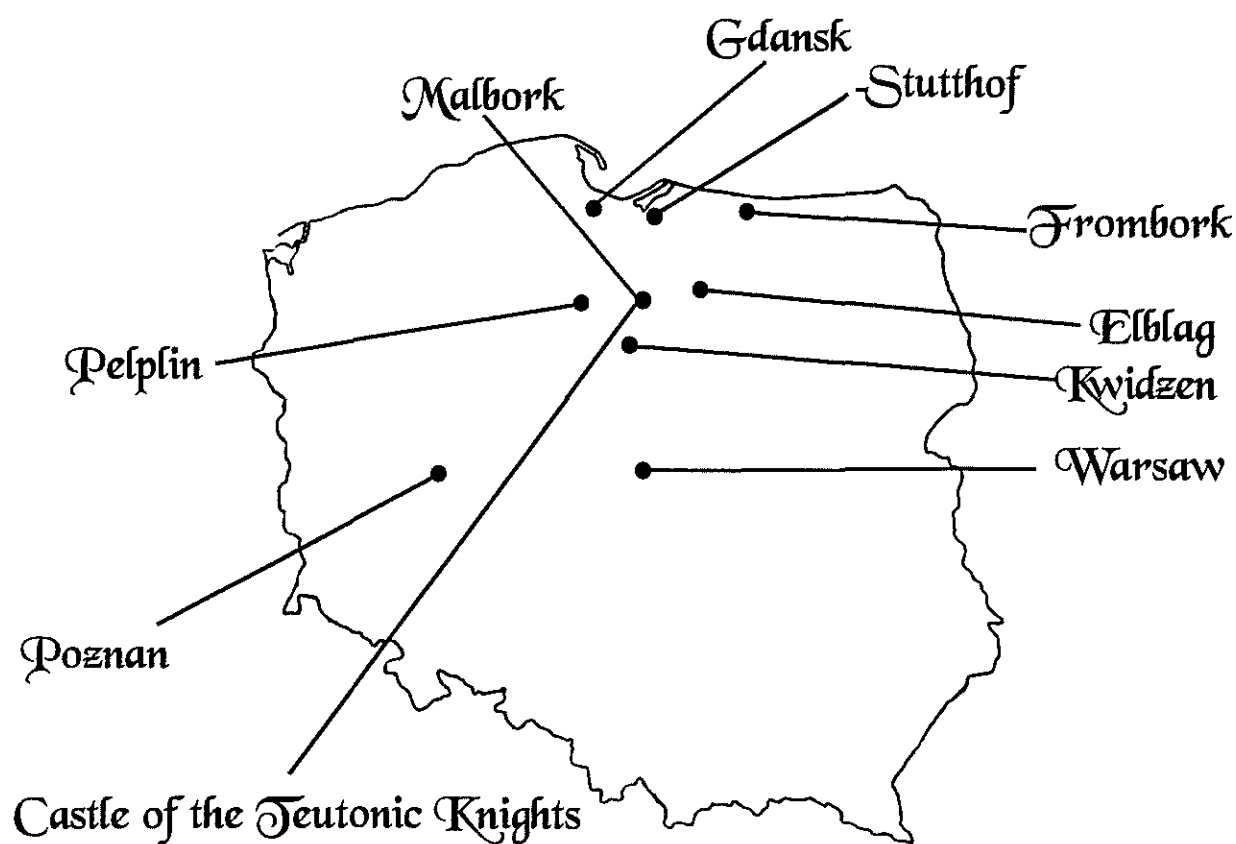
Illinois

Mt. Vernon -
Matthew Hinz, 3517 Piccadilly

Kentucky

Morganfield -
Margaret Lyon, 629 St. Rt. 141 N

The USI Madrigal Ensemble
Summer Concert Tour
May 11-25, 1997



Poland