



**PENINSULA WOMEN'S CHORUS HOSTS DYNAMIC
TREBLE VOICE FESTIVAL IN PALO ALTO
AND INTRODUCES NEW MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

**For immediate release
February 15, 2010**

In Palo Alto, April 18, 2010

PWC Program highlights include:

Music by: Ko Matsushita, "Dona Nobis Pacem;" Stephen Paulus, "Day Break;" Cristian Grases, "Oblivion;" Alberto Grau, "Como Tu;" Carol Barnett, "Song of Perfect Propriety"

Palo Alto, California - The Peninsula Women's Chorus (PWC) will host the third annual New Music for Treble Voices festival at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Palo Alto, on Sunday, April 18, at 4:00 p.m.

This exciting event celebrates the incomparable thrill, soaring beauty, and unrivaled power of treble voices united in song. The PWC, under the direction of Dr. Martin Benvenuto, will partner with San Francisco based professional chorus Volti, the Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir Ensemble and Ancora, under the direction of Robert Geary. These choruses will present an afternoon of new music especially created for the unique sound of upper voices. The PWC selections range from a multi-chorus mass piece to a fantastical Spanish fairytale and a song about modern female swashbucklers.

The PWC, well known for its vibrant, compelling performances and dedication to musical excellence, is also committed to community outreach and the support of music programs for our local youth. This season, the chorus introduces its inaugural Mentorship Program (PWCMP). The program is open to high school girls with choral experience and a passion for learning new, advanced and innovative vocal literature. Each auditioned student is mentored by a PWC singer, attending rehearsals and offering them a unique opportunity to work with one of the best women's choruses in the country. Participation in this year's New Music for Treble Voices festival marks the culmination of the project. The PWC is thrilled to welcome six talented young singers to its 2009/2010 Mentorship Program: Ashby Cogan (Menlo-Atherton High School), Virginia Crowley (St. Francis HS and Peninsula Girl's Chorus), Eynne Fagan (Cupertino HS), Shreya Kumar (Notre Dame HS and Vivace Youth Chorus), Rachel Sanville (St. Francis HS), and Vivian Taina (Cupertino HS). For more information about the PWC and its mentorship program, please visit our website at www.pwchorus.org.

Local composer Frank Ferko has said of the PWC, "...absolutely exquisite music-making all the way around..." Rebecca Wallace of the Palo Alto Weekly has written about the PWC, "...the sounds blended so purely, with such power and control." This April, welcome spring and experience the unique, up-lifting experience of this dynamic treble voice festival.

Tickets: \$20/general admission; \$15/student & senior admission; available at the door and online at: www.pwchorus.org and www.voltif.org \$10/student rush tickets at the door only and subject to availability.

The Peninsula Women's Chorus (PWC) is a 50-voice non-profit 501c3 choir that performs challenging contemporary and classical music locally, nationally and abroad. It is considered the premier women's vocal ensemble in the San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 1966, the PWC has made a significant impact on the emergence of women's choral music. The PWC is a two-time winner of Chorus America's prestigious ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming and has performed three times by invitation at the national American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) convention. The PWC has also won 3rd place in the 2006 Bela Bartok Choral Competition. Dr. Martin Benvenuto has directed the PWC since the fall of 2003. The PWC is funded in part by a grant from the Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Inc., Arts Council Silicon Valley, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara and California Arts Council and is affiliated with Foothill Community College in Palo Alto.