

Of summer music festival Rilling returns for round eight

By BOB WEBB
Of the Emerald

The University's Summer Festival of Music began in 1970, when Helmuth Rilling came here to do a workshop and a concert. He has returned to Eugene from his native Germany every summer since then and this year is no exception. Rilling will again serve as guest conductor when the Eighth Annual Festival of Music opens with a performance of Bach's Cantata BWV 34 at 3:30 this afternoon.

In 1970 nearly all the performers were students and Eugene area residents. In 1976, about 95 per cent of the festival participants were from outside the Eugene area and represented 15 states and three countries.

"The festival has now grown to four workshops and 15 concerts," said Royce Saltzman, festival coordinator, "and involves from 175 to 200 musicians."

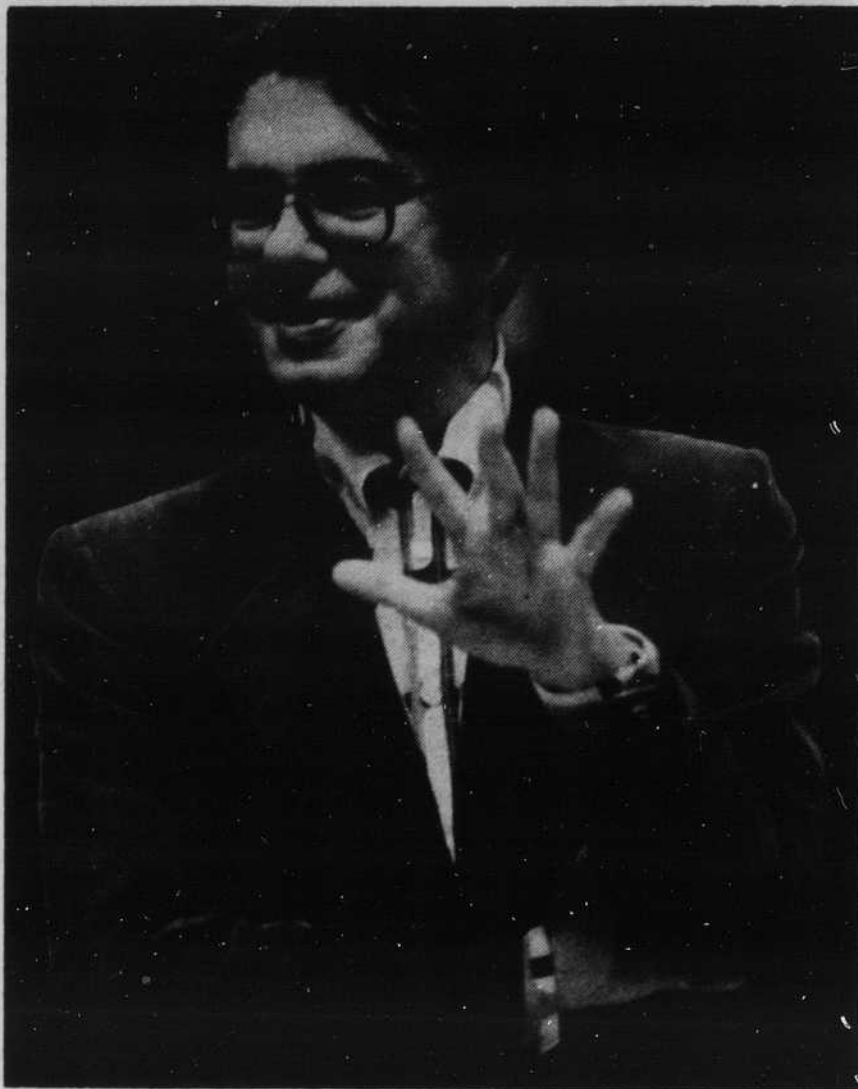
Professional artists, singers and instrumentalists from 20 states, Canada and Germany will perform this year under Rilling's direction. The 90-voice Festival Chorus will perform Mendelssohn's oratorio, *Elijah*; a 70-voice choir, the Bach Mass in B Minor and Cantata 201, and a Chamber Choir, the afternoon cantatas. An additional 60 musicians comprise the Festival Orchestra, 35 of whom will participate in the smaller orchestra required for the two major Bach works.

Featured soloists for the Summer Festival are Delcina Stevenson, Michael Sells and Douglas Lawrence from Los Angeles; Philip Frohnmayr and Louis Welcher from Salt Lake City; Alyce Rogers from Portland — and Dorothy Bergquist, James Miller and Neil Wilson from Eugene.

The festival will also feature a six-member chamber group, The Musical Offering from Los Angeles.

"The quality of Rilling's work continues to attract fine musicians for the orchestra and choir," explains Saltzman. "Instrumentalists represent various symphony organizations on the West Coast, and many of the singers come from major colleges and universities throughout the United States."

Festival audiences have also increased, from 500 in 1970 to a total of 2,700 for the six evening concerts last year. Attendance at the afternoon cantata series totaled an additional 2,500. Tickets sold out for three evening performances.



Helmuth Rilling

Emerald photo

This year, for the first time, the Festival will take a performance to Portland: Bach's Mass in B Minor, in the Civic Auditorium, on Saturday. Saltzman said the Portland concert expresses the "desire to expand the festival's outreach and visibility."

Johann Sebastian Bach is traditionally the musical focus of the Summer Festival of Music, "since he, more than any other composer, has influenced musical thought and compositional technique from the eighteenth century to the present," said Saltzman.

Other composers who will be featured this summer are Felix Mendelssohn, Johannes Brahms, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Robert Schumann.

Helmuth Rilling has been acclaimed internationally as one of the great interpreters of Bach. The past seasons here at the festival have made him known for his sensitive interpretations of such major choral works as the St. Matthew Passion of Bach, the Missa Solemnis of Beethoven, and the great requiems of Mozart, Brahms and Verdi.

In Germany, Rilling conducts five choirs, and the Bach-Collegium Orchestra of Stuttgart which he founded in 1965. The choirs include the distinguished

Gaechinger Kantorei and the Figuralchor of the Gedächtniskirche (Memorial Church) of Stuttgart, and the Frankfurter Kantorei.

In the next two weeks, a series of eight cantatas will be performed on as many afternoons (see schedule below) with \$1 for a single admission. Tickets for the entire series may be purchased for \$5. Senior citizen's cantata series tickets are \$2.50 with a single admission of 50¢. There is no reserved seating for the cantata series.

There is reserved seating for the six evening concerts and the lecture-rehearsal (again see schedule). Festival series tickets for these concerts are \$30, \$20, and \$15. Single admission tickets for Bach's Mass in B Minor and Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah* are \$7.50, \$5 and \$3.50. General admission to all other concerts is \$5, \$3.50 and \$2.50.

Tickets will also be sold for the lecture-dress rehearsal of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* for \$1.50 with no reserved seating.

Tickets for all of the above may be purchased at the door or from the Summer Festival Box Office located in the music school building. The box office phone number is 686-3764.

SCHEDULE OF CANTATA PERFORMANCES

Cantata performances will be conducted in Beall Concert Hall by advanced conducting students under the supervision of Helmuth Rilling.

Tuesday, July 5, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 34

Wednesday, July 6, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 23

Thursday, July 7, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 74

Monday, July 11, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 19

Tuesday, July 12, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 40

Wednesday, July 13, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 73

Thursday, July 14, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 73

Friday, July 15, 3:30 p.m. — Bach Cantata BWV 147

Saturday, July 9 — 8:30 p.m. — Chamber music Concert

The Musical Offering

Sunday, July 10 — 3:30 p.m. — Lecture Concert: Bach Cantata 201

Thursday, July 14 — 8:30 p.m. — Orchestra Concert

Brahms: Variations on a Theme by Hayden

Mozart: Horn Concerto, K. 417

Schumann: Symphony No. 4 in D Minor

Friday, July 15 — 8:30 p.m. — Chamber Music Concert

The Musical Offering

Sunday, July 17 — 8:30 p.m. — Mendelssohn: *Elijah*

LECTURE-REHEARSAL

Saturday, July 16 — 2:30 p.m. — Mendelssohn: *Elijah*

PORTLAND CONCERT

Saturday, July 9 — 8 p.m. — Bach: Mass in B Minor

SCHEDULE OF FESTIVAL CONCERTS

All in Beall Concert Hall

Friday, July 8 — 8:30 p.m. — Bach: Mass in B Minor

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