

Bach Festival wins Grammy

■ Best Choral Performance is given to Helmuth Rilling and the Oregon festival

Helmuth Rilling and the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and Orchestra won the 2001 Grammy Award in the field of Best Choral Performance for "Penderecki: Credo."

The award was announced Wednesday at the 43rd Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. It is the first Grammy award for the Bach Festival, which has nine CDs released and distributed by the Hänssler label.

Bach Festival executive director

Royce Saltzman was thrilled with the award.

"Being in Oregon, away from the cultural centers of New York, Los Angeles or other cities, makes it harder for us to be compared on the same level," Saltzman said, after being notified of the award. "This affirms the quality of what Helmuth Rilling and our musicians can do."

"Credo" is scheduled for an encore performance during the 2002 Festival.

Soloists on the Credo CD include alto Milagro Vargas, a faculty member of the University of Oregon School of Music; soprano Juliane Banse; and bass-baritone Thomas

Quasthoff. The Phoenix Boys Choir also appears on the recording.

The "Credo" recording was the climax of a two-year artistic journey. A co-commission of the Oregon Bach Festival and the Internationale Bachakademie Stuttgart, "Credo" began as Penderecki's setting of the full Catholic Mass text. Penderecki put his finishing touches on the 53-minute work in Eugene on July 4, just days before its premiere as the final concert of the 1998 Festival. It was dedicated to Rilling, who like his friend Penderecki, celebrated his 65th birthday that year.

— From staff reports

Debate

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President Holly Magner, Emerald editorial editor Michael J. Kleckner and student activities editor Jeremy Lang will represent the newspaper.

These four will focus their questions on the candidates' platform specifics and how the ASUO works.

Kleckner said he encourages all students to attend the debate and take advantage of the opportunity to learn about the candidates.

"We want students to get a more in-depth and personal look at the candidates," he said.

After candidates finish answering questions asked by monitors, the debate will turn into an open forum, and audience members will have the chance to ask their own questions.

ASUO publicity coordinator Stephanie Chaney, who is working on election events, said that sometimes students vote without being completely informed, and the goal of the debate is to help prevent this.

"A lot of students don't even know what the ASUO does," she said. "The debate is the place for students to find out more about who and what they're voting for."

Jesus

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period, a slew of books, articles and television shows have attempted to recreate the historical Jesus. Although these different views have been called both accurate and heretical, all have fanned the flames in the ongoing debate regarding who Jesus really was as a person.

One of the leading scholars in the field, John Crossan, will be giving a lecture on the subject at 7:30 p.m. today in Room 175 Knight Law Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

A professor emeritus with the DePaul University religious studies department, Crossan is the author of 18 books that explore Jesus' life and the society in which he lived. Four of the books have been best sellers.

Daniel Falk, assistant professor of religious studies at the University, helped arrange Crossan's visit to the

University and has explored the issue himself.

He said there is no certainty regarding who Jesus was because he did not leave any written records and no one outside of the early Christian faith wrote anything of substance about him.

"That gives us very little to go on, and for a historian, that makes it very problematic," he said.

Falk said it would be hard to simply apply what is known of Jesus' culture because he was probably different from the norm.

"He was from a different culture, and he was somewhat counter-culture in his own culture," he said.

But Falk said finding the real Jesus has always been an intriguing scholarly pursuit because countless generations of Christians have applied their own cultural characteristics to the image of him. This has clouded the issue and probably left an image of Jesus in many people's minds that likely doesn't correspond with reality, he said.

This reality, however, is open to question because of the dearth of concrete information, and hence the debate over the historical Jesus, Falk said.

He said some researchers have

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Daniel Falk
religious studies
assistant professor

been harshly criticized for their work in finding the true historical Christ.

"On religious grounds, people get upset when you say Jesus didn't say something from the scripture," Falk said.

He said that Crossan has been applauded in scholarly circles because of his research methods. While conservative Christian schol-

ars often criticize his conclusions, Falk said they admit Crossan's methods do have merit.

Falk said Crossan's work is based on gospels by the apostles Thomas and Peter that were excluded from the New Testament. The works are different from the other gospels in that they are non-apocalyptic or based on the principle that Christ will not necessarily usher in a new era.

Although a Christian himself, Falk was not troubled by Crossan's work.

"It doesn't offend me or trouble me," he said. "It's a piece of scholarship."

Falk will be discussing the issue himself while teaching the class "Jesus and the Gospels" next term.

Steve Ellisen, director of Campus Crusade for Christ, said he supports historical research on Jesus as long as it does not start on a basis of rejecting miracles. He said several historians do not believe in the possibility of miracles, so they research

Christ without the context of miracles.

Yet Ellisen said if researchers do take into account the possibility of miracles, he strongly supports researching who Christ was.

"I think that understanding the historic Jesus and who he was is an extremely important endeavor," he said.

But Ellisen said he was deeply offended by people who attempted to create a scandalous image of Christ for profit.

Andrew Goble, religious studies professor and department head, said even though he isn't an expert in the field of Christian research, he has appreciated the work done by people like Crossan.

He said that of the major religions, only Christianity has an ongoing debate about the historical truth of one of its leading figures.

"Outside of Christianity, I'm not generally aware of this type of debates over founding figures," he said.

Law School 101

An Introduction to Legal Education for Students of Color

Friday, February 23

Program begins at 9:45 am
and ends at 2:00 pm

William W. Knight Law Center
1515 Agate St., University of Oregon

To Register please contact Teresa Specht:
(541) 346-1810 or
tspecht@law.uoregon.edu

*No Fee to Attend

You are invited to attend **break-out sessions** with current law students and discuss timely current events that affect the legal profession and all of us as **citizens**. Program activities include a simulated law class, lunch and an admissions information session.

The program includes remarks by **Ibrahim Gassama**, Associate Professor at the University of Oregon School of Law and distinguished recipient of several awards for his contribution to human rights. Most recently, Gassama was honored with the SALT award for his work on behalf of South Africa and its citizens. Also speaking is Associate Professor **Keith Aoki**. He has served on the editorial board of the Harvard Environmental Law Review and on the editorial staff of the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review. A highlight of the program is a film about Native American issues and experience. Introducing and discussing the film is **Dean of the UO law school, Rennard Strickland**, a distinguished legal scholar and specialist in Native American law and heritage.