



International Choral
Kathaumixw

Gala
Opening Concert

Powell River, British Columbia
Canada

PROGRAMME

Dal Matterson, Master of Ceremonies

PARADE OF CHOIRS

led by the Powell River Clansmen Pipe Band

FANFARE from LA PERI.....Dukas
VSO Brass

VICE-REGAL SALUTE

O CANADA

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PARTICIPATING CHOIRS

OFFICIAL OPENING

Lieutenant Governor David Lam

SALISH GREETING AND DANCE

Susan Pielle and Evan Adams

NORWEGIAN RADIO CHILDRENS CHOIR (Norway)

Ingunn Bjorland, conductor

NYONZA SINGERS AND DANCERS (Uganda)

Wassanyi Serukenya, conductor

MANCHESTER BOYS CHOIR (Great Britain)

Adrian Jessett, conductor

Jubilate Deo.....Gabrieli

Nun Danket Alle Gott.....Pachelbel

ELMER ISELER SINGERS

VSO BRASS

Elmer Iseler, conductor

INTERMISSION

SONG OF THE SALISH CHIEF.....Berring

SPEECH OF THE SALISH CHIEF

Music by Peter Berring
Text by Earle Birney

CONDUCTED BY DON JAMES DIRECTED BY CAROL COULSON

Elmer Iseler Singers
Osnabruckner Jugendchor
Powell River Youth Choir

Orchestra
Lydia Adams, piano
Kathy Rudolph, flute
Graham Boyle, percussion
John Rudolph, percussion
Dave Brown, bass

SALISH CHIEF SPEAKER	Jackie Timothy
SALISH CHIEF ACTOR	Murray Mitchell
UNCLE & VISITING CHIEF	John Dominic
ELDERS (Basket Weavers)	Susan Pielle, Betty Wilson Elizabeth Harry
DAUGHTER	Peggy Sue Harry
SALISH KIN	Gabe Harry, Leon Timothy, Jolene Louis, Candis Galligos, Joey Rossi, Sheena Rossi, Christie Pielle, Shane Timothy, Stewart Barnes, Curtis, Nicholas Mitchell, Craig Moses, Crystal Dominic, Elisha Dominic, Erin Mitchell, Toma Timothy
BASKET WEAVERS	Serena Gorrill, Amy Barnes, Danielle Yarocki, Amanda Rooyakkers, Andrea Rooyakkers, Meredith Bingham, Megan Rankin,
ANIMALS, RED ROOTS & YELLOW LEAVES	Nicole Stride, Roxanne Scoretz, Andrea Hughes, Tanya La Fave, Tanya Olsen, Daniela D'Onofrio, Megan Burnett, Crystal Hatch, Stacie Gruntman

PETER BERRING

(Winnipeg, 1954 -)

Peter Berring is a composition graduate of the University of British Columbia. Although his background includes jazz, rock and classical music he has devoted much of his energy to choral composing. Recent premieres include REQUIEM, a forty-five minute work for chorus, solo soprano and orchestra, and STRINGS in the EARTH and AIR which was commissioned by the National Youth Choir of Canada. His FANFARE and ANTHEM was premiered at the 1988 Kathaumixw.

SONG of the SALISH CHIEF was first performed during Vancouver's centennial celebrations in 1986. It is based on part of a 1954 radio play, THE DAMNATION OF VANCOUVER by the renowned Canadian poet Earle Birney. Although the play was primarily of local interest, the Chief's narration, with its powerful evocation of a dying culture, received wider attention as a separate poem. Peter Berring's musical setting brings the text to life in a way that is moving and yet sensitive to the power of the words themselves. The success of the work can be seen in its growing popularity as a concert piece. It has been performed several times in Canada and will have its American premiere in Seattle in February. No negotiations are also underway with the KING'S SINGERS for a British performance. Powell River, where pristine beauty and industry mix, is perhaps the ideal setting to hear this troubling work.

PRIESTS

Dr. Robert Butkus
Bruce Charbonneau

EUROPEANS

Edith Collins, Mia
Jongkind, Damae Jongkind,
Dobes Vandermeer, Britta
Jongkind, Lois Millar,
Thyrza Page, Shirley Maedel

STREET WALKERS

Angela McKenzie, Judith
Millar, Lynn Gendron

WATER

Jill Osmond, Dayna Gaddes,
Emily Gavronski

TALL SHIP SAILORS

Derek John, Bob Butkus,
Bruce Charbonneau

TEXT

CHORUS A

Where once we hunted, white men have built many
longhouses.
But they move uneasy as mice within them.
They have made slaves from waterfalls
And magic from the souls of rocks.
They are stronger than grizzlies.
But their slaves bully them,
And they are chickadees in council.
Some of you say "Give us time,
We will grow wise, and invent peace."
Others say: "The sun slides into the saltchuck;
We must follow the Redman into the trail of darkness."

NARRATOR.....

CHORUS B

Yea, are we not all sons of the same brown Asia
tribe?
My fathers, roaming ever eastward,
Crossed Bering, made human half the world.
Your fathers, whitening over Europe,
And ever westering, circled back to us,
Bringing us your woes, clasped in your totems,
Carved in those Powers of lead and steel
We had not known, unknowing had not lacked,
Yet from the knowing needed.

NARRATOR.....

CHORUS C

Red roots and yellow weeds entwined themselves
Within our women's hands, coiled to those baskets darting
With the grey wave's pattern, or the wings
Of dragonflies, you keep in your great cities now
Within glass boxes. Now they are art, white man's taboo,
But once they held sweet water.

NARRATOR.....

CHORUS D

But there were nights we returned from the mountains
With deer on our shoulders,
Or from the still coves with ducks.
Then all the longhouses made music,
There was roasting of spicy roots,
There were sweet small plums,
The green shoots of vines, and lily bulbs
That grew for us unprompted.
It was not till your time, sir
I saw a Salish go hungry

NARRATOR.....

CHORUS E

Like dolphin our kindred came, arching over the waves
My father stood tall on the houseroof,
Threw down soft cloaks of marten and mink.
White rugs of mink, white rugs of the wild goat's wool
Tossed down for the catching, red capes of the cedar bark,
And root-mats brown as the last cloud
in the suns down-going.
The men made jokes, there was squirrel-chatter of women
After at the tides full brim they danced
And my father put on the great-eyed mask of his Power.
With his secret kelp whistle spoke owl words as he swayed.
My uncle held his drum close to a tide pool,
Rubbed the skin cunningly with his hands,
Made the downy whosh of the owl in the night.
A Shamon drew frog talk from cockle shells,
Hidden in the pool of his fingers.
The old men sang of great chiefs that had been,
Their songs dying as the wind
Then swelling as the shell hoops spoke to the ritual sticks.
Once there was silence, no one stirred.
I heard the beat of my heart,
One and one
Then like an arrows thud one beat of the drum
And suddenly all the drums were thunder,
And everyone leaped singing and surging,
surging in the last dance.

NARRATOR.....

CHORUS F

Red roots and yellow weeds entwined themselves within our women's hands.

"Give us time, we will grow wise and invent peace"

Red roots and yellow weeds entwined themselves within our women's hands.

"We must follow the Redman into the trail of darkness."

NARRATOR....."Peace to my cousins, comfort and peace."

OPENING CEREMONIES

PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCER	Carol Coulson
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Don James
LIGHTING DESIGN	Mike Butler
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Mel Low
PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS	Brian Stanley, John Ashton, Don Johnson, Dennis Edmundson, Dave Harris, David Low
COSTUME & PROPS	Carol Coulson
SOUND	James Brett
STAGE SALISH ART DESIGNER	Johnny Dominic
PRODUCTION STAFF	Far Off Broadway Barb Harry, Ann Nelson, Ellen Nicholson, Ryan Parry, Teresa Nicholson, Wendy Nicholson, Carolanne Leishman, John Butler, Darren Karpuik

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Slamman Band Members, for their participation and
expertise in Salish traditions.
Our Lady of the Assumption School
Powell River School of Dance
J.P. Dallos Elementary School
Sea Cadets
Royal Canadian Legion
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Auterhoff Piano and Organ
Powell River School of Dance

and all the volunteers and parents who helped make
this production possible.