

Pacific Boychoir

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL

FOUR PAGES TO KEEP UP WITH
THE PACIFIC BOYCHOIR



Back to Brasil!

With about ten days notice, a group of 11 PBA choristers returned to Brasil at the end of the summer to join the Youth Orchestra of the Americas and the UC Berkeley Chamber Chorus for performances of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* under the direction of maestros Kent Nagano and David Robert Coleman.

The Youth Orchestra of the Americas brings together the finest young orchestral musicians from across North and South America. Fresh off a European Tour under the direction of Placido Domingo, the orchestra landed in Brasil to produce the Baroque masterpiece.

Singing the double choir parts was the UC Berkeley Chamber Chorus under the direction of Marika Kuzma. Given the short notice it was vital that the Chamber Chorus had just performed *St. Matthew* in May.

Unlike the first trip to Brasil where the tour choir traveled around quite a bit, these traveling Troubadors were in São Paulo for five days preparing for and performing two concerts at the Sala São Paulo, then Rio for one night for a concert at the Teatro Municipal.

In the days leading up to the first perfor-

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To the left (top), Max with his new Palmeiras jersey and the mascot for the trip, Terrell Owens, and (bottom) the Americans with their new soccer friends in São Paulo.

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From left to right, the boys buy Gauraná at the Extra grocery store, Seth peers out from behind some coconuts, and the boys on the beach in Rio de Janeiro with Sugarloaf in the background.



Brasil II, cont.

mance, PBA staff Kevin Fox, Andrew Brown, and Fernando Tarango kept the boys busy with outings to a professional Brazilian football match, to the local hypermercado, to the park for their own football match, as well as frequent visits to the Hotel Maksoud's pool.

On the way to Brasil, the group stopped in Dallas, where a Terrell Owens bobblehead became the mascot for the trip, a source of much amusement for photo opportunities.

In Sala São Paulo, the boys sang the ripieno parts from the highest balcony, requiring a swift and tactful trip down three floors in record time to get to the stage for a bow. At the Teatro Municipal in Rio, the boys sang from the stage, as they did in May for concerts with the American Bach Soloists.

Going back to Brasil allowed the boys to meet up again with João, the Classical Movements escort from the first Brasil tour, as well as the license plate man in Rio!

You can see photos and read stories from the second Brasil trip (as well as all other PBA tours since 2001) on the PBA's website, pacificboychoir.org.



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PBA SEPTEMBER SPECIAL

Choir school

by Head of School Pamela Weimer

Nineteen boys arrived with new backpacks and lunchboxes and big smiles on their faces on Wednesday, September 6, 2006 as the PBA started our third year of the day school and our first year in the new location.

The new school building was a challenge to get ready, but the boys didn't care about that!

They were interested in playing in the new gym, or peeking into the new classrooms and most importantly, saying hello to returning friends and meeting the new boys who had decided to make PBA their school.

The smiles continued throughout the day as they met the new teacher for English and History, Dr. David Montgomery, and got their daily schedule of classes.

In the first month of school, we have performed for three schools and the 5/6th grade class has been on their first field trip. We are deep into our planning for the school trip to Denmark in November and the eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C.

The initial shake-down of the beginning of any school year has happened and things are humming (excuse the pun). We are gearing up for starting a kindergarten in the Fall and talking with older boys about giving the PBA day school a serious look in grades 5-8.

And those first-day smiles... they continue to this day. New parents keep telling me how amazing it is that their son is excited about coming to school. They love doing the music and being with each other in academic classes. We have a happy school. We have a happy faculty because we have a happy school, and I am a happy school head because this is what we have been envisioning from the beginning!



Above, choir school boys settle into new voice parts in the new rehearsal room. Below, an English class with Dr. Montgomery, the new English and History teacher



Boy Choir Magazine

A new online newsletter about boys choirs, Boy Choir Magazine, was launched this September. Every issue features a choir, and for its inaugural issue, the PBA was the featured choir! PBA Director Kevin Fox, Troubador Carey Appeldorn, and his mother Diane Appeldorn were all interviewed for the issue. Boy Choir Magazine also features interviews with others involved in creating, recording, and promoting music by boy choristers around the world. Visit boychoirmagazine.com to see the current issue.

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Michaelmas Choral Festival

The weekend of September 21-24, seven PBA choristers and two staff members headed across the Bay Bridge to join choristers from men and boys choirs from across the country for the second annual Michaelmas Choral Festival at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.

Begun in 2005 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of Dean Alan Jones, this year's festival commemorated the seating of the Right Reverend Marc Andrus as the new Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California.

Directed by Grace's Organist and Choirmaster Jeffrey Smith, the combined choir featured choristers from the Cathedral of All Saints Albany, NY, Cathedral of the Incarnation Garden City, NY, Christ Church Cathedral Nashville, KY, Christ Church Cathedral Lexington, KY, Christ's Church Rye, NY, St John's Church Bangor, ME, and St. Paul's Parish K Street, Washington, DC. Brass players from the San Francisco Symphony joined the massed choir for evensong.



Grace Cathedral choristers and PBA choristers in the cathedral choir room

The PBA boys had a little over a week to learn about 20 mass parts, anthems, Anglican chants, responses, and hymns by Mendelssohn, Rheinberger, McNeil Robinson, Bernard Rose, and others.

Calendar

- November 1-8 Denmark tour
- November 8-13 Eighth grade to Washington DC
- December 9 Harmonies of the Season
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Belvedere
- December 16 Harmonies of the Season
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland
- December 17 Family Holiday Concert
St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Oakland
- March 2, 2007 Rachmaninov *Vespers*
Grace Cathedral, San Francisco
- March 3, 2007 Rachmaninov *Vespers*
St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Oakland
- April 26-29, 2007 Berlioz *Damnation of Faust* with
the San Francisco Symphony



The camp potluck was a rare occasion where all the elected PBA Head Boys were in the same place at the same time. From left to right and in order of election: Gabriel Fanelli, Alex Bensick, Josh Jubelirer, Mack Kary, and current Head Boy Timothy Hunt. Do you know how many tours they were on together??