

ESSENTIAL VOICES USA

Invites you to a

“SING OUT MR. PRESIDENT”

SING ALONG

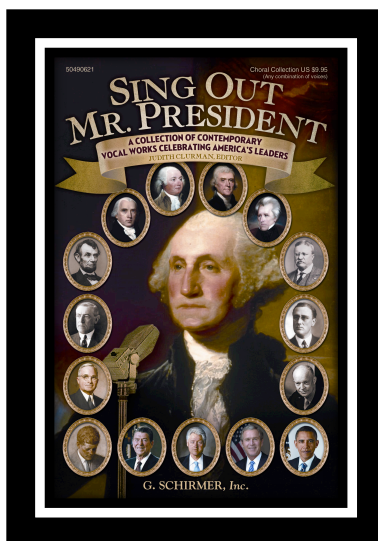
In Washington D.C.

Conducted by Judith Clurman

President’s Weekend – Sunday, February 17, 2013 at 4PM

**St. John’s Church at Lafayette Square – “The Church of the Presidents”
1525 H Street, N.W. Washington D.C.**

Sponsored Hal Leonard, G. Schirmer, The Music Source, & Essential Voices USA



Hal Leonard Inventory #HL 50490621

Listen to a sample of the music:

<http://www.essentialvoicesusa.com/mp3/Sing-Out-Sampler.mp3>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, New York, NY

On Sunday, February 17, 2013 at 4PM at St. John’s Church at Lafayette Square – “The Church of the Presidents”, 1525 H Street, N.W. Washington D.C. singers from Judith Clurman’s **Essential Voices USA** will be joined by students from the **St. Alban’s School** and **National Cathedral Schools**, members of the **St. John’s Choir** and as they celebrate the presidency, lead the audience members, and sing through the newly published **G. Schirmer** collection **Sing Out Mr. President**, **David Ludwig’s The New Colossus** (which was performed at the 2013 inaugural day prayer service at St. John’s), **Leonard Bernstein’s Take Care of This House**, **Moses Hogan’s** arrangement of **Lift Every Voice for Freedom**, **Gene Scheer’s American Anthem**, and **Ben Harlan’s** arrangement of **Mansions of the Lord** (which was performed at Ronald Reagan’s funeral at the National Cathedral).

They will be assisted by pianist **William Test** and organist **Ben Hutto**, the Director of the Music Ministry and Organist at St. John’s. Judith Clurman will have a short discussion with composers **Larry Hochman**, and **David Ludwig** about their music, who will be on-hand to meet the audience.

Admission - \$10.00 Singers of all ages and their families are encouraged to come sing and/or listen to the wonderful music. Everyone in attendance will be given copies of the music.

Sing Out Mr. President is a collection of 16 short settings of words of Presidents of the United States, from George Washington to Barack Obama, published by G. Schirmer (Judith Clurman Choral Series) and distributed by Hal Leonard (Inventory #HL 50490621). It includes: **Samuel Adler (FDR)**, **Milton Babbitt (James Madison)**, **Robert Beaser (JFK)**, **Jason Robert Brown (Lincoln)**, **Thomas Cabaniss (Theodore Roosevelt)**, **Larry Hochman (Jefferson)**, **Michael Gilbertson (Washington)**, **Jake Heggie (Adams)**, **Nora Kroll-Rosenbaum (Bush)**, **Andrew Lippa (Wilson)**, **David Ludwig (Truman)**, **Paul Moravec (Eisenhower)**, **Nico Muhly (Jackson)**, **Georgis Stitt (Obama)**, **Zachary Wadsworth (Clinton)**, and **Jesse Wiener (Reagan)**.

Along with music **John Adams**, **Leonard Bernstein**, **Aaron Copland** and **Steve Stucky**, *Sing Out Mr. President* has been listed as one of the five top works about American Presidents by Public Radio. It has been recorded on the **Sono Luminus Label** (DSL-92162).

“In 2004,” Judith Clurman says, “I assembled a concert to celebrate the American presidency. I asked twelve diverse composers to write a short work, based on words of presidents. Originally titled *Mr. President*, the cycle of pieces served as the centerpiece of the program that I conducted at the Library of Congress on October 26, 2004. The texts reflected the unique spirit of each president. Then, over the years, a few of the original works were replaced and the music was expanded to include texts our most current Presidents - Reagan, Clinton, Bush, and Obama. I subsequently performed these works in programs with professional choruses and high school workshops throughout the country.”

“Years passed, and in February 2011, I was fortunate to serve as Artist-in-Residence for National Public Radio when my Essential Voices USA performed a daily broadcast of each of these pieces. They were later recorded on the Sono Luminus CD, *Celebrating the American Spirit*.”

“It is my hope that these works will inspire the public, teachers, and students through the stirring words of these presidents and these sixteen remarkable musical settings. Perhaps studying and performing these pieces could help bring an era of American history to life through collaboration between American history teachers and music teachers.”

BIOGRAPHIES

Judith Clurman's **Essential Voices USA** (EVUSA), one of New York's preeminent choral ensembles, brings together a roster of seasoned professionals and auditioned volunteers. With this unique choral model, created by Clurman, the size of the ensemble is constantly changing, dictated by the specific musical needs of each project. Currently in residence with The New York Pops on Carnegie Hall's subscription series, EVUSA is no stranger to New York's iconic performance venues; the group produces its own classical concerts, workshops, and recordings at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music, and participated in the Leonard Bernstein Celebration at Symphony Space. EVUSA also regularly participates in The Composer Speaks, a series of concerts in workshop format, created and moderated by Judith, which has included the music of Larry Hochman, Bruce Ruben, Paul Schoenfield, Shulamit Ran, and Joshua Schmidt. Increasing its reach beyond New York, EVUSA was featured on NBC's national broadcasts of the 2011 and 2012 Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting. Its collaboration on Clurman's critically acclaimed CD *Celebrating The American Spirit* (Sono Luminus), which also features Kelli O'Hara and Ron Raines, was featured on NPR on Inauguration Day, 2013. The group also recorded the song “The Music In My Mind” for Marvin Hamlisch's children's book, *Marvin Makes Music*. Judith conducted student members of EVUSA at the Washington National Cathedral in a recording of “Peace” by Howard Shore, with words by Eleanor Roosevelt. Still to come for Essential Voices USA is the “Sing Out Mr. President” Sing-Along at the “Church of the Presidents” in Washington DC, a performance and recording of Mozart's “Raunchy Canons,” and another turn at Carnegie Hall in “The Wizard and I: The Musical Journey of Stephen Schwartz.”

Emmy and Grammy-nominated conductor, vocal educator, and choral specialist **Judith Clurman** has conducted and collaborated with the New York Philharmonic, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Boston Symphony, New York City Ballet, Mostly Mozart Festival, Lincoln Center's Great Performers series, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the American Songbook Series, TodiMusicFest, and the New York Pops (Carnegie Hall). She served as Julliard's Director of Choral Activities (1989-2007), Co-Director for Harvard's Leonard Bernstein: Boston to Broadway Festival, faculty member/vocal specialist for the National Endowment for the Arts/Columbia University Institute of Classical Music, and as Visiting Artist/Conductor at Cambridge University, the Zimriya (Israel), and the Janacek Academy (Czech Republic). She created the Lincoln Center Tree Lighting, serving as musical director/conductor for nine years, and commissioned and premiered works by America's most revered

composers. As Associate Music Director of *Jesame Street*, her work with The Muppets earned her a 2009 Emmy nomination for Outstanding Achievement in Music Direction and Composition. Judith served as founding conductor of New York Concert Singers and Project Youth Chorus and music director of Prism Concerts and the 92nd Street Y's Music of the Spirit. The recording of Clurman's *Son Sonora Voices* for Tania Leon's ballet *Inura*, was nominated for a 2013 Grammy Award (Contemporary Classical Composition). Judith currently conducts Essential Voices USA (EVUSA), is Visiting Artist at the Curtis Institute, and collaborates with the Omaha Symphony. She conducted *The Music in My Mind* for Marvin Hamlisch's children book. Her critically acclaimed CD, *Celebrating the American Spirit*, (EVUSA, Kelli O'Hara, Ron Raines), was featured on NPR on Inauguration Day, 2013. Judith's publications/arrangements are published by G. Schirmer, Schott, Subito, and Boosey & Hawkes. She's recorded for New World, Sono Luminus, and Delos. She is currently a member of ASCAP, ASCAP's Special Classification Committee, and the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. www.judithclurman.com



Sing Out Mr. President and *The New Colossus* are recorded on the
Sono Luminus CD DSL-92162

WEBSITES

<http://www.halleonard.com/product/viewproduct.do?itemid=50490621&lid=9&promotion=595&subsiteid=5&>

www.judithclurman.com

www.essentialvoicesusa.org

<http://www.stalbansschool.org/st.johns>

<http://www.stjohns-dc.org/>

<http://www.sonoluminus.com/p-355-celebrating-the-american-spirit.aspx>

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