



School Sisters of Notre Dame News Release

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American Premiere of *Jubel Messe*

“A Jubilee Fest,” the American premiere of Max Keller’s *Jubel Messe*, will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, 2008, at the Sheldon Concert Hall in St. Louis. The concert is a benefit for the School Sisters of Notre Dame, who are celebrating the 175th anniversary of their founding and 150 years of ministry in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Dr. Geraldine M. Rohling, PhD, an internationally recognized musicologist, conductor and composer, directs a program of “new” music for soli, mixed chorus and orchestra, which she recovered from archives in Bavaria and Austria. The music selected for the concert is from the region and time period of the founding of the congregation.

Composer Max Keller was a contemporary of Blessed Mary Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. In 1847, before leaving for America, Blessed Theresa sent five candidates on pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady in Altötting, Bavaria, to pray for the journey and the new missions in America.

The *Jubel Messe* (Jubilation Mass) was first performed in Altötting on Oct. 6, 1851. After its premiere, the composition was placed in the music archives of the Kapellstiftung in Altötting, Bavaria, where it remained silent for more than 100 years. Dr. Rohling found the composition and prepared a performing edition of the work. Her revival of the work premiered in Altötting in 2007.

The concert will also feature the *Lauretanische Litanei in B-flat* by Johann Caspar Aiblinger, director of the Royal Court Orchestra. A friend of Blessed Theresa and one of her favorite composers, Aiblinger lived at the motherhouse in Munich and composed music for the sisters.

Included in the program are works by Johann Michael Haydn and Wolfgang A. Mozart.

Dr. Rohling is a graduate of Notre Dame High School and the former Notre Dame College in St. Louis. She also taught in the music department of Notre Dame High School from 1983-87.

Tickets to the concert are \$75 (general admission seating) and \$150 (VIP which includes a Meet the Artists reception following the concert). For more information, contact the School Sisters of Notre Dame at 314-633-7032 or ssndrdo@ssnd-sl.org.

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