



## Chatham Chorale

P.O. Box 1111  
West Dennis, MA 02670

*Singing for Cape Cod since 1971*

Joseph Marchio, Music Director  
[www.chathamchorale.org](http://www.chathamchorale.org)

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### CHATHAM CHORALE PRESENTS *Viva Italia!*

*Chatham, MA / April 5, 2024* – Join the Chatham Chorale on a grand tour of music from Italy, featuring popular choruses from the operatic stage, an exquisite Magnificat by Vivaldi, and lyrical Neapolitan songs that will have audiences humming along. Soprano Patrice Teidmann and tenor Jesse Darden, along with leading Cape instrumentalists join the Chorale in concerts on Saturday, April 27, and Sunday, April 28—both at 3:00 pm, in the resonant and comfortable auditorium of Monomoy High School at 75 Oak Street, Harwich.

The shows will open with a stirring orchestral rendition of the Italian national anthem, “Il Canto degli Italiani” (Song of the Italians). Then follows “The Magnificat in G minor” by Antonio Vivaldi dates from around 1715. Like much of his sacred choral music, it was composed for Venice’s Ospedale della Pietà, an orphanage for girls where Vivaldi worked for many years. Girls sang all the vocal parts!

The orchestra is featured again in a pair of beloved Neapolitan songs. In “Funiculi, Funicula,” written to mark the opening of a funicular railway on Mt. Vesuvius, a young man cheerfully compares his sweetheart to a volcano and invites her on a romantic stroll to the summit. “O Sole Mio” (my sunshine) is most often associated with Luciano Pavarotti, but this memorable tune also served Elvis Presley well in “It’s Now or Never.”

What is a chorale by Felix Mendelssohn, based on a Lutheran hymn with the German title “Verleih uns Frieden,” doing on a program of Italian music? Like all great artists of his day, Mendelssohn made a pilgrimage to Italy, and he stayed for a long time. He composed this lovely piece in Rome in 1831.

Jesse Darden (tenor) and Patrice Tiedemann (soprano) will perform solo selections at the concerts, and will join the Chorale in the opera choruses at the heart of the program. These include Handel’s “Chorus of Enchanted Islanders” from *Alcina*; the “Chorus of Wedding guests” from *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Donizetti (with tenor); Puccini’s “Humming Chorus” from *Madama Butterfly*; and a trio of favorites by Giuseppe Verdi: the famous “Anvil Chorus” from *Il Trovatore*, the “Chorus of the Hebrew slaves” from *Nabucco* (virtually a second national anthem for Italians), and “Brindisi,” the high-spirited drinking song from *La Traviata*, with our soloists taking the parts of Violetta and Alfredo.

The Chatham Chorale is one of Cape Cod's longest-established choral ensembles, for 52 years presenting an annual concert series with programs ranging from choral masterworks to pops stylings and premieres of new works by regional composers. The Chorale also regularly collaborates with the Cape Symphony.

Tickets are \$25, with open seating. They can be purchased at [www.chathamchorale.org/tickets](http://www.chathamchorale.org/tickets), by phone (774-212-9333), or at the door the day of the concert. For more information, visit [www.chathamchorale.org](http://www.chathamchorale.org).

The Chatham Chorale is proud to participate in Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture program, in partnership with the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Discounted tickets are available to holders of EBT or WIC cards. Please see the Chorale's website for details.