

Schiller Institute Presents Mozart's Requiem for JFK



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The Schiller Institute Chorus, under the direction of John Sigerson, presented a memorial concert on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, at the St. Marks Catholic Church in Vienna, Va. Nov. 22. Approximately 700 people of all ages and persuasions gathered to hear Mozart's Requiem in D minor, which was performed at the Verdi tuning of A=432.

A full video presentation of the evening's event, including greetings and excerpts from Kennedy speeches, is available at www.newparadigm.schillerinstitute.org.



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The soloists in the Mozart Requiem performance, from left to right: Amy Lynn Murray, soprano; Erica Joan Haman, mezzo-soprano; Steven Andrew Murray, tenor; Dorceal Duckens, bass.



JFK Presidential Library/Cecil Stoughton

President John F. Kennedy, shown here before the White House on Oct. 10, 1963, was the last U.S. President to embody the spirit of American optimism and progress. Excerpts from nine of his speeches, in which he spoke eloquently on the American commitment to serve future generations through the pursuit of leadership in science, infrastructure, and the arts, were played over a loudspeaker, evoking his presence, as if he were in the room.



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Former Congressman Cornelius Gallagher (D-N.J.), a close personal friend and political ally of President Kennedy, gave an audio greeting to the concert event, where he said: “I think it’s time to think about the good part of America, the good part that was in the days of the hope of John Kennedy, and hope that we can reinstate that hope for the young people in this country...”



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Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland since 2011, sent “best wishes for the commemoration concert for the beloved, departed son of Ireland,” John F. Kennedy. A more extensive greeting, from Msgr. Raymond Murray, Rector of the Cardinal O’Fiaich Memorial Library in Armagh, the ecclesiastical seat of Ireland, recalling Kennedy’s deep Irish roots, was also read.



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Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute, greeted the evening of commemoration by recalling the turning point toward pessimism which Kennedy’s death portended, and urging that America return to his spirit, ending “the paradigm of pessimism” by moving to solve the “seemingly unsolvable,” through the application of “man’s reason and spirit”—the commitment Kennedy voiced for America and the world.