



**"Underground Railroad"
An Evening with
Kathleen Battle
With the Baltimore Symphony and
Morgan State University Choir**

An Evening with Kathleen Battle concert with the Baltimore Symphony and Grammy-nominated Morgan State University choir featured several Jacqueline Hairston Spirituals, newly arranged for the occasions on Thursday, May 27, 2010 at The Music Center at Strathmore and Saturday, May 29, 2010 at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, Baltimore, MD. Superstar Kathleen Battle sang a moving program celebrating the roots of African-American music and freedom via the Underground Railroad. Hairston's Spirituals arranged for the Ms. Battle and the Morgan choir accompanied by the Baltimore Symphony included: Hale Smith's arrangement of "Balm in Gilead" and "Let Us Break Bread Together;" and Margaret Bonds' arrangement of "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands. Two Hairston spirituals were *a cappella* and brilliantly performed by Ms. Battle & the Morgan choir: her published arrangement of "Fix Me, Jesus," and the world premiere of "Dontcha Let Nobody Turn You Round." Ms. Battle's sensitively performed encore for both evenings was Jacqueline Hairston's arrangement of "Were You There."