

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY SEASON



HODIE CHRISTUS NATUS EST
TODAY CHRIST IS BORN

Lynn E. Sjolund
Music Director/Conductor

Friday, December 11, 8:00 pm

Sunday, December 13, 4:00 pm

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
MEDFORD, OREGON

PROGRAM

Settings of the "Vespers on Christmas Day" are featured in the first group of selections. In each composition the composer has taken this text of great sensitivity and artistry and added his own interpretation in sound, showing how understandings and interpretations change from ethereal early chant to contemporary exuberance.

THE TRANSLATION OF THE LATIN TEXT:

*Today Christ is born, today the Saviour has appeared:
Today the Angels sing, the Archangels rejoice:
Today the righteous rejoice saying:
Glory to God in the Highest. Alleluia.*

THE COMPOSERS AND THEIR TIME OF COMPOSITION ARE:

Gregorian chant	anonymous (c. 800 A.D.)
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (for double chorus)	(1526-1594)
Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (for five-part chorus)	(1562-1621)
Neils la Cour	(harmonized from the chant, 1983)
Francis Jean Marcel Poulenc	(composed 1952) (1899-1963)

BARDS BRASS QUINTET

Bring a torch	French carol
I wonder as I wander	Appalachian folk carol
March of the Kings	13th Century Provençal carol
Go tell it on the mountain	Christmas spiritual
I saw three ships	English carol

THE WOMEN OF THE CHORALE

The Joys of Christmas	Kirke Mechem (1963)
<i>The Joy of Love (English): This is the Truth</i>	
<i>The Joy of Bells (French): Din don! merrily on high</i>	
<i>The Joy of Mary (German): Joseph dearest, Joseph mine</i>	
<i>The Joy of Children (Burgundian): Patapan</i>	
<i>The Joy of Dance (Spanish): Fum, fum, fum</i>	
<i>The Joy of Song (English): God bless the master of this house</i>	

INTERMISSION

THE ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE

Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling	Hector Berlioz
Maria walks amid the thorn	Ron Jeffers (German)
Da droben vom Berge	Ron Jeffers (Austrian)
<i>From the mountain above blows the cooling winds; There Mary sits and rocks her child. She rocks it with her snow-white hand. So she never needs a rocking string.</i>	
<i>The small child awakens, she holds it towards heaven. There the little angels sing, the world sings: Death is overcome, also all suffering and pain! God be loved and praised in the highest</i>	
He is coming soon	Linda Wegner, Sop. Olaf Christiansen (Finnish)

THE AUDIENCE, THE BRASS, AND THE CHORALE

The audience is invited to sing with the Chorale where words are included in the program

Away in a manger	Martin Luther
1. <i>Away in a manger no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.</i>	
3. <i>The cattle are lowing the baby awakes But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes I love the Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.</i>	

Oh come, all ye faithful

J.F. Wade

3. *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God in the highest:
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Silent Night

Franz Gruber/David Willcocks

Good King Wenceslas

The Men of the Chorale

Traditional Czech

Eric Smith, bass; Paul Richardson, tenor

Angels we have heard on high

Traditional French

1. *Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plain,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strain.
Chorus: Gloria in excelsis Deo (repeat)*
2. *Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous songs prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be that inspire your heav'nly song?
Chorus:*
3. *Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing:
Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord the newborn King.
Chorus:*

Joy to the world!

Lowell Mason/G.F. Handel

1. *Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing!*
2. *He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love.*

We are pleased to announce that a portion of the receipts from this concert is being used to help the needy of our community. It is our sincere hope that this contribution will relieve some of the suffering and hardship of our neighbors at this time of year.

Singers wishing to join the Rogue Valley Chorale are invited to call the director to arrange for a brief audition/interview.

Members of the Chorale are planning to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of its founding by participating in a two week tour to Austria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia starting June 23. Patrons or singers interested in touring with the group may contact Charlene Fike for details.

LYNN SJOLUND, Chorale conductor, is well-known as a conductor and clinician for choral groups. This season he will be directing at Oregon State University, and in New Orleans and Mexico. In April of 1992 he directed the All-Northwest Men's Choir as part of the American Choral Directors conference. Mr. Sjolund also has directed opera productions for the Rogue Opera and is currently director of the company's programs for youth. After retiring from the Medford Public Schools, Mr. Sjolund spent three years as director of choral activities at Loyola University of the South in New Orleans. In February of 1992 he was awarded the Outstanding Music Educator award from the National Federation of High School Associations. The award recognizes his contributions to the quality of performance in high school music programs.

LINDA BORECKI, Chorale accompanist, was featured in the Chorale's November series as an organist. She is a graduate of Concordia College, Portland, where she majored in church music and studied organ with Nancy LeRoi-Nichol. In 1982 she completed a degree in organ literature under the tutelage of Jorg-Neithardt Keller at the Westfalen Church Music School in Herford, West Germany. Ms. Borecki served at Trinity Lutheran Church, Vancouver, Washington, and University Congregational Church in Seattle, before moving to the Rogue Valley with her family in 1988.

THE BARDS BRASS The Bards Brass Quintet was founded in 1985 with four of the present members. In 1991, Susan Foster was asked to join the group as trombone and euphonium player. Steve Thickett plays trumpet and fluegel horn; Mr. Hudson, trumpets; Mr. Knox, tubas; and Ms. Henderson, French horns.

The name for the group comes from their association with Ashland, which they consider their home base. The group performs for weddings, "Concerts in the Park," chamber music concerts and special events. A variety of instruments are used during concerts to better achieve the sound intended by the composers. Music composed for brass instruments is often associated with singing because of the sound of the instruments and the methods employed in making sound. The Bards Brass are noted for their full sound and the variety included in their performances. Mike Knox serves as Manager for the ensemble.

MEMBERS OF THE CHORALE

SOPRANOS:

Gaylene Adamson
Debby Bakalyar
Jeanne Bringham
Anne Canon
Cris Craig
Connie Fisher
Kathleen Finnigan
Karen Foster
Beth Gilman
Kathy Gordon
Leslie Hall
Mary Kay Harmon
Nancy Carol Nelson
Shirley Nelson
Alice Nykreim
Susan Olson
Esther Tack
Darlene VanDenBerg
Linda Wegner

Idris White

Alisa Zastoupil

ALTOS:

Mary Jo Bergstrom
Laurie Breckenridge
Joani Bristol
Dianne Carter
Anita Caster
Donna Daniels
Kathleen Davis
Kay Dix
Robin Dressler
Beverly Eads
Charleen Fike
Barbara Hewitt
Barbara Johnson
Judith Lowrey
Nancy Mason
Cathy Morrison

Mary Jane Morrison

Diane Newland

Myrna Pedersen

Nancy Purdy

Judy Schultz

Doris Sjolund

Virginia Sloat

Marjorie Swanson

Theresa Wyatt

Bill Matthews

Brian Nelson

Milt Nelson

Paul Richardson

David Works

BASSES/BARITONES:

Brent Barr

Jerry Darby

Paul Edenstrom

Dave Goddard

Carrol Graber

Tom Howser

Jerry Miller

Tom Parks

Eric Smith

Dick Swanson

Dave Uhreen

Michael Wells

Peter Yeager

TENORS:

Ross Davis

Ken Deveney

Ed Houck

Deane Jack

Phil Lind

ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Darby, President

Brent Barr, Vice President

Mary Jo Bergstrom, Secretary

Bill Haberlach, Treasurer

Peggy Larson

Sue McQueen

Phyllis Skinner

Margie Cowling

Ross Davis

Marabel Frohnmayer

Marie Houck

Diane Newland

Chuck Watson

Debbie Bakalyar

Chapman Dix

Faye Hutchings

MEMBERS OF THE BARDS BRASS QUINTET

Larry Hudson, trumpets, is Director of Bands at Hedrick Junior High School. He graduated from Southern Oregon State College with a degree in Music Education, and took his Master of Trumpet Performance and Literature degree from the University of Oregon. He is the Principal Trumpet with the Rogue Valley Symphony and has also played with the Britt Festival and Cascade Music Festival orchestras.



Steve Thickett has held the position of Director of Bands at North Medford High School for the past two years. He received his degree in Music Education from Southern Oregon State College, and took his Master of Music Education degree from Lewis and Clark College in Portland. Steve plays trumpets, cornets, and the flugel horn, which is a mellower sounding counterpart of the trumpet. He is Second Trumpeter with the Rogue Valley Symphony, has played with the Rogue Music Theatre, and is also an accomplished jazz trumpeter.

Terrie Henderson, French horns, has lived in the Rogue Valley since the mid-1970's, after moving here from San Diego. She attended San Diego State University on a music scholarship. She has played Principal Horn with the Rogue Valley Symphony since 1980, plays with the Rogue Music Theatre, and is Band Instructor at New Hope Christian School.

Susan Foster majored in Music Education at the the University of Southern California and completed a Masters of Music Education at the University of Oregon in 1990. She is now on the faculty of Ashland High School as Director of Bands and is

a member of the Rogue Valley Symphony. She joined the Bards Brass Quintet, playing trombones and euphonium, in 1991.

Mike Knox was born in the Rogue Valley and has played tuba for 34 years. He has occupied the chair of Principle Tuba with the Rogue Valley Symphony twice, from 1968-1972 and again from 1975 to the present.