

# LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE & Sinfonia Orchestra

Paul Salamunovich  
Music Director

Roger Wagner • Founder

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

XXX

10TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON  
1993 - 1994

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1993 at 2:30 p.m.  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, at 7:30 p.m.

DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION



## A Holiday Celebration

PAUL SALAMUNOVICH, MUSIC DIRECTOR  
RHONDA FLEMING, SPECIAL GUEST

PERSONET HODIE

arr. Lara Hoggard

MAGNIFICAT

Hermann Schroeder

THREE CHRISTMAS MOTETS

Alden Ashforth

Hodie Christus natus est (Today Christ is born)  
O magnum mysterium (O great mystery)  
Viderunt omnes (All peoples witness)

Elissa Johnston, *Soprano Soloist*

CAROLS AND LULLABIES *Christmas in the Southwest*

arr. Conrad Susa

¡Oh, Mi Belén!  
El Desembre Congelat  
Alegría  
A la Nanita Nana  
Las Posadas  
Campana sobre Campana  
En Belén Tocan a Fuego  
El Noi de la Mare  
Chiquiriquitín  
El Rorro  
Fum, Fum, Fum!

Biscayan  
Catalonian  
Puerto Rican  
Spanish  
Spanish  
Andalucian  
Castillian  
Catalonian  
Andalucian  
Mexican  
Catalonian

DING DONG! MERRILY ON HIGH

arr. Carolyn Jennings

I N T E R M I S S I O N



# LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

## \* GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMEN

arr. Mark Riese

## AN ENGLISH NOEL

arr. Donald Waxman

Green Grow'th The Holly  
The Boar's Head  
Coventry Carol  
Wassail Song

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE

arr. Roger Wagner

We Three Kings  
What Child Is This?  
O Little Town of Bethlehem  
Gesù Bambino  
Angels We Have Heard On High  
Joy To The World!

Rhonda Fleming, Narrator

## SILENT NIGHT

Franz Gruber  
arr. Paul Sjolund

*Caroling Choirs in the Lobby*  
December 18 La Cañada Concert Choir,  
John Kelsey, Director  
December 19 Upland High School Madrigal Choir,  
Bruce Rogers, Director

\* Orchestrated by Tony Fox

The Rodgers Organ model 940, used in this performance, is made available through the courtesy of Robert Tall and Associates, Inc., San Dimas, California.

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The Los Angeles Master Chorale gratefully acknowledges 91.5 KUSC FM for its outstanding service to the cultural community of Southern California.

The Los Angeles Master Chorale Association sponsors the Los Angeles Master Chorale and Sinfonia. It does this through the generosity of its volunteer Board of Directors and all those who contribute to the Master Chorale and to The Music Center Unified Fund of the Music Center of Los Angeles County. The Los Angeles Master Chorale Associates, a volunteer organization, provides substantial support to the Master Chorale's activities. The activities of the Master Chorale are made possible, in part, through the sponsorship of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles County Music and Performing Arts Commission, and through grants from the California Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Los Angeles, Cultural Affairs Department.

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## PROGRAM NOTES

by Richard H. Trame, S.J., Ph.D.

The robust processional *Personet Hodie*, arranged by famed North Carolinian Lara Hoggard, fittingly opens this Christmas Concert. The Latin carol originated approximately 1360 as a parody of a medieval song sung by children on December 6, the feast of St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) and later on December 28, the feast of the Holy Innocents. The modern liturgical composer Hermann Schroeder (1930-91) wrote a vigorous and triumphant *Magnificat* utilizing Gregorian chant melodies, clear polyphonic lines, restrained lyricism and modern harmonies, a model of liturgical propriety. Contemporary UCLA professor-composer Alden Ashforth utilizes time-honored Latin texts, for which he has made his own alternate English translations, to create three stunning Christmas motets. *Hodie Christus natus est* (Today Christ is born) is the antiphon for the *Magnificat* at Christmas vespers. *O magnum mysterium* (O great mystery) has inspired many composers since the 16th century. *Viderunt omnes* (All peoples witness) derives its text from Psalm 98 and is the gradual for the Mass of Christmas Day.

California-based composer Conrad Susa is familiar to Master Chorale audiences since his *Christmas Garland* was performed in 1991. In this concert his *Christmas in the Southwest, Carols and Lullabies* is presented. These Hispanic folk-carols have a naive quality as they trace the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem's inn and manger. The selections also depict the birth of the child, the loving adoration of the caring Mary, the advent of the shepherds with the gifts and the ringing out of joyous bells. *Ding Dong Merrily on High* did not originate as a French Noël, as is often thought, but as a dance tune by Thoinot Arbeau. He published his dance collection in *Orchesographie* in 1596. The tune was turned into a carol by the English clergyman George Ratcliffe Woodward and the Anglo-Irish composer Charles Wood.

In his *Carol Fantasy* collection, the highly talented Mark Riese (1953-89) created an excellent choral arrangement of *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*. The tune found many counterparts in several

continental countries. The text which appears in Bramley and Stainer's *Christmas Carols, Old and New* (1871) is derived from an early 19th century London street broadside. Contemporary composer Donald Waxman has incorporated five well-known carols in his *An English Noel*. The four presented here include *Green Grow'th The Holly* which utilizes a melody attributed to King Henry VIII but with a text elaborated in the 19th century by Lady Mary Trefusis. *The Boar's Head* carol, probably of Norse origin, dates from the 14th century. Boar's head feasts became particularly popular between Christmas and Candlemas day (February 2) and were centered around Queen's College, Oxford, where the song was adapted as a carol. *The Coventry Carol* (Lully, lulla Thou Little Tiny Child), emerges from the medieval mystery play performed each year at the festival of The Shearsman and Tailors. *The Wassail Song* is one of three famed English greeting songs sung by carolers carrying a festively decorated punch bowl. This wassail prevailed in northern England, especially in Yorkshire. Its first eight measures are similar to that of *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*.

Roger Wagner's (1914-1992) *Christmas Story* binds together in his own arrangements several familiar carols separated by narrative excerpts from St. Luke's Gospel. *We Three Kings*, composed by John Henry Hopkins, Rector of Christ Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania achieved great popularity because it boasts a melody of great clarity and simplicity. Always very popular in the United States is *What Child is This?*, based on the 1642 melody Greensleeves. It received its text in 1865 from William Chatterton Dix.

After a visit to the Holy Land in 1865, American Episcopal Bishop Philip Brooks wrote the poem *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. After many tries at a melody, his

organist Lewis Redner (1831-1908) awoke on Christmas morn in 1868 with the fully-formed melody ringing in his ears. The American tune was first sung on December 27, 1868. *Gesù Bambino* was composed in 1917 for the St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir in New York and has become Pietro Yon's (1886-1943) most famous and enduringly loved work. It serves as an excellent example of a newly composed carol from ethnically mixed America. *Angels We Have Heard on High* derives its text from a poem written by James Chadwick, Catholic Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle. He utilized an 18th century French Noël probably from Lorraine. The carol was first published in the 1860 collection *Holy Family Hymns*.

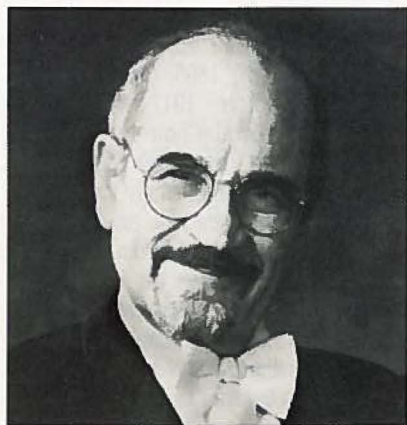
*The Virgin's Slumber Song* in its origins may reach back to Elizabethan times. *Joy to the World!* is classified as a Dissenters (non-Anglican Protestant) repeating carol using the tune "Antioch" and setting Isaac Watts' paraphrase of Psalm 98. Its melody has wrongly been described as having been arranged by Handel.

The story of how Fathers Franz Gruber and Joseph Mohr hurriedly composed *Silent Night* for choir and guitar because their Obendorf parish organ had completely broken down from old age is a fable. The organ was still functioning for many subsequent years. What Gruber and Mohr did in composing *Silent Night* was a normal and quite usual procedure among Austrian church musicians, they composed an Austrian folk-like melody for Christmas Mass. Their distinction, however, is that they composed probably the most enduring, famous and beloved carol. Indeed, after 1818 Gruber made numerous adaptations of *Silent Night* including arrangements for small and large orchestra. This performance concludes with an arrangement by local composer Paul Sjolund.





## PROFILES



PAUL SALAMUNOVICH was appointed Music Director of the Los Angeles Master Chorale in 1991 and is only the third maestro to lead the chorus since its inception. The 1993-1994 season marks his third at the helm of this renowned choir.

His association with the Master Chorale dates from the organization's founding. A Los Angeles native, he became a charter member of the Los Angeles Concert Youth Chorus in 1946, which evolved into the Roger Wagner Chorale in 1949. When Wagner established the Los Angeles Master Chorale in 1964, he was appointed Assistant Conductor and served in that capacity until 1977. He also appeared as guest conductor of the Chorale in 1975 and 1986.

During his career, Salamunovich has conducted choruses, workshops and seminars throughout North America, Europe and Australia and has prepared choirs for such notable conductors as Stravinsky, Wallenstein, van Beinum, Ormandy, Solti, Mehta, Shaw, Salonen and Rattle.

He has also conducted the Master Chorale for motion picture soundtracks, the most recent being *Grand Canyon*, 20th Century Fox, 1991; and the 1992 Francis Ford Coppola production of *Dracula*. An esteemed music educator, Salamunovich was on the faculty of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles for 27 years, and was promoted to Professor in 1980, serving as such until his appointment as Music Director of the Chorale. He also holds honorary doctorates from both the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

In addition to his work with the Chorale, Salamunovich continues to serve as Director of Music at St. Charles Borromeo Church in North Hollywood, a position he has held since 1949. Under his direction this choir has also recorded soundtracks for motion pictures and has been featured in several televised specials. In 1988, the St. Charles Choir became the only American choir ever to be invited to sing the Mass for the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul at the Vatican, where they performed the Vaughan Williams *Mass in G Minor*, with the Pope presiding, for the investiture ceremony of new cardinals and archbishops from throughout the world.

Salamunovich also continues to lead the St. Charles Children's Choir, which has performed with the Master Chorale, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the San Francisco and New York Opera Companies. Under his aegis, they also recorded the classic Walt Disney album "It's a Small World".

He resides in North Hollywood with his wife, Dorothy, and has four sons and four grandchildren.



RHONDA FLEMING, *Special Guest*, has appeared in over 40 motion pictures including such classics as *Spellbound*, *Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* and *Gunfight at the OK Corral*. She starred on Broadway in *The Women*, in *Kismet* at The Music Center and made her stage musical debut in Las Vegas at the new Tropicana Hotel. She has performed at the Hollywood Bowl in a Cole Porter concert and starred in a national concert tour featuring the music of George Gersh-

win. Rhonda currently devotes much of her time to the new Rhonda Fleming Mann Resource Center for Women with Cancer at UCLA. This unique center provides psychosocial care to women and their families to help lessen the emotional burdens created by cancer. She is a dedicated supporter of Childhelp USA, World Opportunities International, The Music Center and many other organizations. She is married to Ted Mann, producer and founder of Mann Theatres.

Founded in 1964 by the late Roger Wagner, the LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE, under the direction of Paul Salamunovich, celebrates its 30th anniversary with the 1993-1994 season. The 120-voice Chorale is recognized as one of the nation's pre-eminent choral groups and has been described as "a major cultural asset to the City (Los Angeles)", by Martin Bernheimer, Music Critic for the Los Angeles Times. As an independent and flexible ensemble, it is the largest choral organization of its kind in the United States.

Since its inaugural performance in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on January 27, 1965, the Master Chorale has continued to present its own concert series with its orchestra, the Los Angeles Sinfonia. As the resident chorus of The Music Center of Los Angeles, the Master Chorale also serves as chorus for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and, for two productions each season, the Music Center Opera. It has appeared with many of the world's leading orchestras during tours of the United States and the Soviet Union and was invited, in 1973, to sing with Eugene Ormandy's Philadelphia Orchestra at the Presidential inauguration concert at the Kennedy Center.

The Master Chorale has commissioned and performed many world premieres, the latest being Lalo Schifrin's *Cantares Argentinos* (1992-1993). During this 30th anniversary season, the Chorale will present seven concerts, two *Messiah Sing-Alongs*, and the "Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers" as guest choir. Highlights will include Mendelssohn's *Elijah*; "An American Collection" featuring Morton Gould's *Tbling* and *Solfegging* along with a commissioned work by David Baker; appear-



ances by actress Rhonda Fleming as narrator for *The Christmas Story*; a concert of major works by Mozart and Haydn; an evening of "Choral Masterpieces" during which the Chorale will be joined by members of ten Southern California university choirs during the second half; and finally, the *Carmina Burana* of Orff and *Nänie* of Brahms. The season will emphasize the Chorale's virtuosity with repertoire that ranges from the classic to the Broadway stage.

In March of 1993 the Chorale was the featured choir at the Biennial National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association held in San Antonio, Texas and, in June, 1993 hosted the prestigious Chorus America National Conference. Members of the Master Chorale also appeared on the international broadcast of the 1993 Grammy Awards ceremony. Under Maestros Esa-Pekka Salonen, John Mauceri, André Previn, Carlo Maria Giulini, and Zubin Mehta, the Chorale has made ten recordings with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra.

The Chorale's extensive education and outreach programs serve more than 16,500 students throughout Southern California with a special in-school touring program and the largest annual High School Choir Festival in the State.

Roger Wagner, the Master Chorale's first Music Director, served in that capacity until 1986 after which he became Music Director Laureate until his death in September, 1992. John Currie of Edinburgh, Scotland, led the Chorale from 1986-1991. Paul Salamunovich was appointed Music Director in 1991 as only the third maestro to lead the Master Chorale.

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Marian Bodnar  
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Martha Cowan  
Pamela Hall  
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Marie Hodgson  
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Christine Sorenson  
Gina Surratt  
Duanna Ulyate  
Inyong-um  
Nancy von Oeyen

### ALTO

Nicole Baker  
Natalie Beck  
Kimberly Bernhardt  
Helen Birch  
Leanna Brand  
Aleta Braxton  
Asha Cheriyan  
Sue Christman  
Cheryll Desberg  
Sally Etcheto  
Amy Fogerson  
Michelle Fournier  
Carol Gentry  
Eileen Holt  
Kyra Humphrey  
Joan Keeseey  
Sara Minton  
Sheila Murphy  
Anita Nardine  
Nancy OBrien  
Helène Quintana  
Carol Reich  
Claudia Sobol  
Mary Stark  
Kathryn Stewart  
Nancy Sulahian  
Mary Ella Van Voorhis  
Mary Helen Waldo  
Barbara Wilson  
Diana Zaslove

### TENOR

Lenard Berglund  
Agostino Castagnola  
John Dennison  
John French  
Paul Gibson  
Jack Golightly  
Jody Golightly  
Tim Hewitt  
Michael Horton  
John Klacka  
Greg Koppenhaver  
Charles Lane  
Stephen Madrais  
Sean McDermott  
Larry Minton  
Ken Neufeld  
Marvin Neumann  
Jay Pearce  
Daniel Plaster  
Kirk Prather  
John Revheim  
George Sterne  
John St. Marie  
Paul Vorwerk  
Gary Walker  
Fred Winthrop

### BASS

Mark Beasom  
Mark Beckwith  
Andrew Black  
William Campbell, Jr.  
Alfred Chan  
James Drollinger  
Albert Eddy  
Jim Ellfeldt  
Michael Freed  
Bruce Goldes  
Stephen Grimm  
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Edward Levy  
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Sara Orme-Weisz, *Flute II*

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Jon Titmus  
Diane Muller  
Heather Kueker

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Kenneth Larsen

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Alvin Veeh  
Terry Cravens

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# LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

## LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1993-1994

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### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Paul Salamunovich, *Music Director*  
Maurice Staples, *General Manager*  
Mrs. Hugh Grinstead, *President, Master Chorale Associates*  
Jennifer Schultz/Victoria Van Trees, *Co-Chairs, Junior Society*  
Natalie Beck/Burman Timberlake, *Singers' Representatives*

### ARTISTIC STAFF

Paul Salamunovich, *Music Director*  
Robert Hunter, *Accompanist*  
Paul Chihara, *Composer in Residence*  
Dale R. Jergenson, *Director of Touring Outreach*

### ADMINISTRATION

Maurice Staples, *General Manager*  
Rae Macdonald, *Production Manager*  
Mark Praigg, *Assistant to the General Manager*  
James J. Johnson, *Marketing Associate*  
Susan Stamberger, *Development Director*  
Jo LaBrecque, *Public Relations*  
George Sebastian, *Marketing Consultant*

The Los Angeles Master Chorale is a member of Chorus America, American Arts Alliance, Downtown Arts Partnership, American Council for the Arts, Association of California Symphony Orchestras, California Confederation of the Arts.

The Box Office is staffed by members of I.A.T.S.E. Local 857, Treasurers and Ticket Sellers.

Dear Friends of the Master Chorale,

At this enchanted season of the year when miracles occur everywhere, we of the Master Chorale Associates are hoping for a small miracle.

Our Student Concert Scholarship Program continues under the capable leadership of Anna and Don Greathouse. Deserving students from schools all over Los Angeles County are invited to attend Master Chorale Concerts directed by Maestro Paul Salamunovich at The Music Center. For the majority of these students, this is their first visit to The Music Center and their first chance to hear a great symphonic choir.

The small miracle that we would like to see take place depends on your donation for sponsoring these students, our audiences of tomorrow. Your contribution of \$60.00 will enable one student to attend all of the Master Chorale Concerts this season!

Please send your check to the Student Concert Scholarship Program, Master Chorale Associates, % Mrs. Gloria Moore, 421 South Norton Avenue. Los Angeles, CA 90020.

Our wish for you all is a blessed holiday season.

Bonnie Grinstead, *President*

Los Angeles Master Chorale Associates

### LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE ASSOCIATES

#### 1993/94 Board Members

Bonnie Grinstead, *President*

Beverly Thrall, Ann Louise Adamson, *First Vice Presidents*  
Barbara Schneider, Meredith Salamunovich, *Second Vice Presidents*  
Dona Schultz, Jennifer Schultz, *Third Vice Presidents/Hospitality*  
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Anne Eastwood, *Recording Secretary*  
Irene Marquard, *Corresponding Secretary and Preview Dinner Manager*  
Madge van Adlesberg, Anne Eastwood, *Historians*  
Cornelia Korney, *Volunteer Coordinator and Parliamentarian*

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Catharine Staton  
Nancy Miller, Elda Turnacliff, *South Bay Chapter Co-Chairs*,  
Dorothy Salamunovich, *Advisor*  
Maurice Staples, *General Manager*,  
Los Angeles Master Chorale (Ex officio)

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Please print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (Dr., Mr., Ms., Miss)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: (Day) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

(Evening) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$40.00 (Active), \$50.00 (Sustaining) and \$100.00 (Patron).

Please make your check payable to:

Los Angeles Master Chorale Associates.

Please return this completed membership form with your check to:

Los Angeles Master Chorale Associates  
135 North Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-626-0624

Thank you! We are delighted you are joining us.