



high notes

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Disney Hall holiday festivities continue with two nights of hot Latin jazz

Prepare to take an exotic journey into the splendors of Latin American music — holiday style — when Grant Gershon and the Master Chorale invite a few friends to make merry with a rocking night of songs called *celebrar*.

The concert features guest vocalists Eva Ayllón and Ricardo "Tiki" Pasillas, all accompanied by a 16-piece big band — some of the best guitar, trumpet, sax and percussion players in the business. Co-arranging the steamy rhythms with composer Roger Treece is Alex Acuña, who will also be slapping skin on an assortment of percussion instruments.

The Peruvian-born Acuña, who's performed with superstars from Weather Report and Elvis Presley, to U2 and Ella Fitzgerald, is no stranger to Disney Hall. Last year he participated in the Chorale's inaugural concert, playing tablas in the Bobby McFerrin–Roger Treece world premiere, *Messages*.

> "It was beautiful," recalls Acuña, "the resounding of the hall, the audience, the orchestra and choir. The whole environment was thrilling. It was like you were almost levitating in heavenly ways."

Sixty-year old Acuña, who says he practices all day, even if he's simply moving his hands and feet while talking on the telephone, is equally excited about *celebrar*. Sung mostly in Spanish with songs from countries including Mexico, Peru and Colombia, the program also features a bit of traditional fare such as *White Christmas* and *Silent Night*.

"I'll be playing primarily the drums and the cajon," explains Acuna, "which is a Peruvian box drum. I'm also playing Brazilian, Caribbean and African percussion instruments that differ in tuning and timbres."

Gershon says the inspiration for *celebrar* came last season after he conducted Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert with James Newton and the Luckman Jazz Orchestra.

"I saw the incredible potential for Disney Hall to be a party palace," gushes Gershon. "I wanted to capture that kind of energy in a holiday program, and to reach out to the Latino community in Los Angeles, in all its complexity and varied forms — the broad range of styles and so many different traditions represented. Not only where the tunes come from," adds Gershon, "but in the treatment from one tune to the next — from a *mariachi* approach in one to the Peruvian highlands in another." — *Victoria Looseleaf*

Alex Acuña is featured with an all-star band in celebrar.

celebrar Tue, Dec 28 at 7 p.m. Wed, Dec 29 at 7 p.m.

Los Angeles Master Chorale Grant Gershon. conductor Alex Acuña, percussion Justo Almario, tenor saxophone Eva Ayllón, soloist Sheila E. percussion Richie Gajate Garcia, percussion Grant Geissman. guitar Sheila Gonzales, alto saxophone Harry Kim, trumpet Abe Laboriel, hass Linda Martinez, piano Ricardo "Tiki" Pasillas, percussion Bobby Rodriguez, trumpet Otmaro Ruiz, keyboards Ramon Stagnaro, guitar Francisco Torres. trombone Arturo Velasco. trombone Tickets are \$19-\$79.

Children 5–12 are half-price. Call 213-972-7282, visit the Disney Hall Box Office or go online to WWW.LAMC.ORG.



Embracing a dear friend

embrace

Sun, Jan 23 at 7 p.m.

Los Angeles Master Chorale Paul Salamunovich, conductor William Beck. organ music by Maurice Duruflé Requiem music by Zoltán Kodály Laudes Organi In praise of organs music by Jacob Handl Pater Noster The Lord's Prayer music by Anton Bruckner Os justi The mouth of the just music by Edvard Grieg Ave, maris stella Hail, Star of the Ocean music by Louis Vierne Carillon de Westminster

music by Morten Lauridsen O Magnum Mysterium O great mystery

Welcome back, Paul Salamunovich, We've invited our beloved Grammy-nominated Music Director Emeritus to conduct one of his specialties, the Duruflé Requiem. Maurice Durufle recognized a kindred soul in Maestro Salamunovich and their mutual love of Gregorian chant led to a long, fruitful relationship - and a terrific Master Chorale CD with Salamunovich conducting Duruflé's (1966) Messe "cum Jubilo." Duruflé wrote three versions of the Requiem, his most famous and influential work. The Chorale is performing the 1947 version for organ and chorus made-to-order for Gehry's surround-sound chamber and splendid organ. Meticulously written, Durufle's new-age Requiem fuses Gregorian chant with 20th century technique and weaves an embracing, almost cosmic tapestry of human emotion - from ecstatic joy to the pensive. It's a gentler, more hopeful requiem that speaks eloquently to today's universal yearnings. When Paul Salamunovich retired in 2001, the Master Chorale voiced the hope that we could keep him close to us forever. Duruflé's deeply moving masterpiece makes for the perfect return engagement.

Tickets are \$19-\$79. Call 213-972-7282, visit the Disney Hall Box Office or go online to www.LAMC.ORG.

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Grant Gershon

Four years of exquisite music-making

Grant Gershon and the Los Angeles Master Chorale

GRANT GERSHON, conductor

Born: November 10, 1960, in Norwalk, California

At the Chorale: Music Director, now in his fourth season

Grant has expanded the choir's repertoire considerably by conducting a number of world premieres: Messages and Brief Eternity by Bobby McFerrin and Roger Treece, Broken Charms by Donald Crockett, Rezos (Prayers) by Tania León, Mother's Lament by Sharon Farber, Two Songs to Poems of Ann Jäderlund by Esa-Pekka Salonen (U.S. premiere).

Press: "Gershon has found a richness of tone and a strength of phrasing that could launch the Chorale onto a new tier of musical importance." -LA. Weekly

"Gershon is a direct, unfussy conductor, who values clarity, clean execution and immediate statements." — Los Angeles Times

"visionary" - Daily Breeze

Hailed by the Los Angeles Times for creating "a dark, rich sound awash with resonant sparkling amplitude."

Programming has been applauded for being "as warmly spiritual as it is ambitious."

Other appearances: St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Houston Grand Opera, Juilliard Opera Theatre, the Finnish chamber orchestra Avanti! and music festivals in Edinburgh, Vienna, Helsinki, Ravinia, Rome, Madrid and Aspen

Previous assignments: Los Angeles Philharmonic assistant conductor, 1994–97

On disc: Two Grammy Award-nominated recordings — *Sweeney Todd* (New York Philharmonic Special Editions) and Ligeti's *Grand Macabre* (Sony Classical)

Glass-Salonen with the Master Chorale

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

Founded: 1964 as one of three original companies at the Music Center; now in its 41st season

Music Directors:

Grant Gershon, since 2001 Paul Salamunovich, 1991–2001 John Currie, 1986–1991 Roger Wagner, 1964–1986

Awards: ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming

Press: "the most exciting chorus in the country under Grant Gershon" — Los Angeles Times

"singing and direction are firstrate" — *Billboard*

"sonically exhilarating" — Gramophone

On disc: with Music Director Grant Gershon featuring Esa-Pekka Salonen's *Two Songs to Poems of Ann Jäderlund* and Philip Glass' *Itaipu*

with Music Director Emeritus Paul Salamunovich includes the Grammy-nominated Lauridsen-Lux Aeterna, Christmas, and a recording of Dominick Argento's Te Deum and Maurice Duruflé's Messe "Cum Jubilo."

motion picture soundtracks with Paul Salamunovich include A.I. Artificial Intelligence, My Best Friend's Wedding, The Sum of All Fears, Bram Stoker's Dracula and Waterworld



Los Angeles Master Chorale

Grant Gershon | Music Director

The Rena Waltz Pierson Music Directorship, a gift of the Pierson and Lovelace Families to honor Lillian Lovelace's mother

rejoice to be full of joy; to be glad or greatly delighted; to exult

nozart

K-Mozart 105.1 FM is the Official Radio Station of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Tonight's concert will be broadcast on Sunday, December 19 at 8 p.m.

Latecomers will be seated at the first convenient pause in the performance. Use of tape recorders, telephones, pagers, and/or cameras is prohibited in the auditorium. Programs and artists subject to change. Patrons cannot be paged during a performance.

rejoice Sunday, December 5, 2004 at 7 p.m. | Walt Disney Concert Hall

Los Angeles Master Chorale Grant Gershon, conductor Samela Beasom, soprano | Rachelle Fox, soprano | Randy Bills, tenor | Jinyoung Jang, bass Helene Quintana, mezzo-soprano | Frederick Swann, organ Resonet in laudibus Let us resound music by Jacob Handl O Magnum Mysterium O Great Mystery music by Jacob Handl Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen See how a rose sprang up Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming music by Michael Praetorius and Jan Sandström Buccinate Blow the trumpet In dulci jubilo With sweet rejoicing In dulce jubilo With sweet rejoicing

Hodie, Christus natus est Today, Christ is born

Fuga sopra il Magnificat Canone doppio all' Ottava In dulci jubilo Mr. Swann

In ecclesiis In the churches Ms. Beasom | Mr. Bills

INTERMISSION

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" from Cantata No. 147 Magnificat in G major

Los Coflades de la estleya Brethren of the League of the Star Ms. Beasom | Ms. Quintana

Eso rigor e repente That sudden hardship

Weihnachts-Oratorium Christmas Oratorio Cantata No. 4: Fallt mit danken, fallt mit Loben Bow with thanks, bow with praise Ms. Beasom | Ms. Fox | Mr. Bills | Mr. Jang

Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah

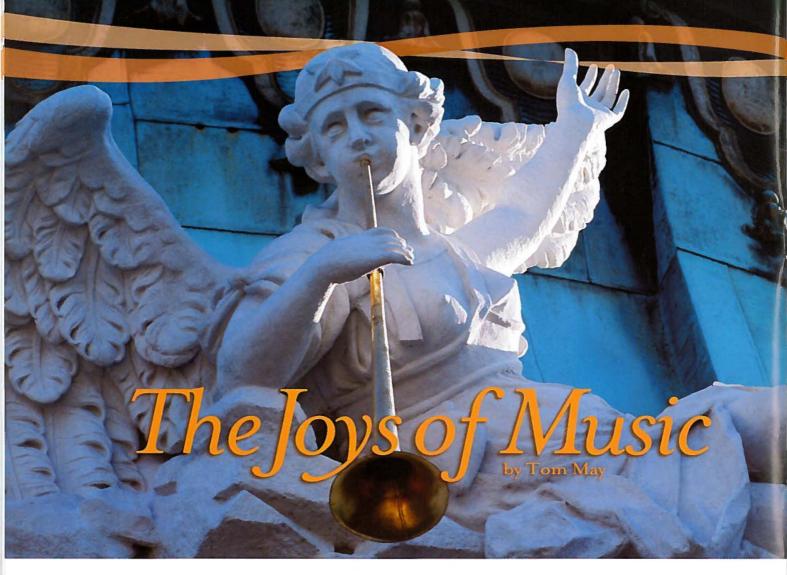
music by Michael Praetorius music by Giovanni Gabrieli music by Michael Praetorius music by Jetse Bremer music by Jan Pieters Sweelinck music by Johann Sebastian Bach music by Giovanni Gabrieli

rejoice.

music by Johann Sebastian Bach music by Johann Pachelbel music by Juan de Araujo music by Gaspar Fernandes

music by Johann Sebastian Bach

music by George Frideric Händel



The abundance of the Baroque — in works that find ingenious ways to tell and retell familiar stories — illuminated by its limitless capacity for the impulse to rejoice.

here's a remarkable slant to human imagination: we're much more adept at describing varying states of unhappiness and misery than sheer well-being. Of course, it's become a cliché that bad news is what sells. Poets and novelists have always grappled with the phenomenon that our attention almost inevitably gravitates toward the dark side. *Paradise Lost* is what comes to mind when we think of the genius of Milton — not *Paradise Regained*. We can't get enough of Hannibal Lecter's latest incarnation.

But music, with its direct access to emotional states — both expressing and provoking them — is equally vital across the entire gamut, from suffering to joy. In this, music enjoys a unique privilege among the Arts. The fact that a musical piece resists being reduced to words is not a signal of fuzzy, vague generality. Quite the opposite: music captures nuances of sensibility with an uncanny focus. As the poet Wallace Stevens phrased it, "Music is feeling, then, not sound." Composers of the era generally known as the Baroque which spans widely in time as well as space — were keenly aware of this special power. The Baroque in fact embraces many different styles across an international spectrum. But its guiding thread is a conviction of beautiful order sustaining the cosmos, an order which gives meaning and clarity to our emotions. And when it comes to the feelings associated with joy, the Baroque composers reach wildly imaginative extremes. Tonight's program samples the range of that splendor, whether in the glorious and communal sound effects of antiphonal echoing or the intimate spirituality of the individual's dialogue with the divine.

ontained in the word "re-joice" itself is the idea of amplified intensity. Jubilation can't easily be confined to the individual — it cries out to be shared, to be echoed by the larger community. This spontaneous impulse is apparent throughout the evening's program. But it's intriguing to consider what role it may have played in particular during the experimental fervor of the years when the Renaissance was giving way to the Baroque in music.

The tremendous accomplishments in which the visual arts gloried were by now widespread. Perhaps a desire to emulate



these, along with a new confidence inspired by technical advances, drove composers on a quest for grandiose effects. As the official composer for St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice during Shakespeare's lifetime, Giovanni Gabrieli explored a veritable acoustic architecture. This highly public aspect of the baroque - what Music Director Grant Gershon notes is sometimes called "the colossal baroque" - revels in the layering of antiphonal choirs, the interplay of human voices with a full panoply of ringing brass, and an extremely sophisticated calculation of sound effects. Such music is still capable of inducing thrills, no matter how coddled we are by surround-sound and the comforts of custom-made home electronics.

This is a period of remarkable synthesis as well: fusions which incorporate past traditions within a new outlook or which braid distinctive styles from Northern and Southern Europe into a new whole. The Italian Gabrieli spent some time in Germany and, as an influential teacher, imparted his insights to a new generation of German composers. One of these was Michael Praetorius. An earnest Lutheran born over a century before J.S. Bach, Praetorius generated a vast volume of work from already existing, well-known hymn tunes and melodies.

The old Christmas carols Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen and In dulci jubilo (employing a so-called macaronic interlacing of Latin with vernacular German) are classic examples of this kind of synthesis of old and new. Praetorius transplants the former into a new setting of stunningly rich and resonant harmony, while a Gabrieli-like fondness for echo effects permeates the double-choir fragmenting and recombination of the latter (known as a carol in its English version as Good Christian Men, Rejoice, the original melody is attributed to a 14th-century German mystic who had visions of dancing with angels). Contemporary Dutch composer Jetse Bremer adds yet another link to this tradition with his own quasi-minimalist riffing on In dulci jubilo.

Resonet in laudibus

music by Jacob Handl text from the 13th or 14th century Resonemus laudibus cum jocunditatibus Ecclesiam fidelibus. Appanuit quem genuit Maria. Let us resound with praise, with rejoicing, faithful of the Church. He appeared whom Mary bore.

Deus fecit hominem ad saum imaginem et similitudinem. Appanuit quem genuit Maria. God created man in His own image and likeness. He appeared whom Mary bore.

Dues fecit omnia Celum, terram, maria cunctaque nascentia. Appanuit quem genuit Maria. God created all things: Heaven, earth, the sea and all living things. He appeared whom Mary bore.

Ero nostro concio in chrodis et organo benedictat Domino. Appanuit quem genuit Maria. *Therefore, our conscience in heart and [organ]* will bless the Lord. He appeared whom Mary bore.

Et Deo qui venias donat et leticas nos eidem gracias. Appanuit quem genuit Maria Let us offer thanks unto God who came and gave us gladness. He appeared whom Mary bore.

O Magnum Mysterium

music by Jacob Handl text is the responsory from the fourth lesson of Matins for Christmas Day

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentem in praesepio. Noe. Noe.

O, great mystery and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the newborn Lord lying in their manger. Noël. Noël.

JACOB HANDL

Born: 1550 in Ljubljana, Slovenia

Died: July 18, 1591, probably in Prague

Assignments: ca. 1585, court singer for Maximillian II of Vienna; 1586, Kantor at St. Jan na Brzeha in Prague

Best known for: Conservative yet forward-looking compositional techniques utilizing both major and minor diatones. His works are masterful fusions of the Italianate and Dutch-influenced styles and represent an archetype of his period. Handl also penned some 445 motets.

Notable compositions:

Selectiores quaedam missae (4 books), 1580

Opus musicum (4 books), 1586-91

O Herre Gott, 1587

Harmoniae morales (3 books), 1589–90

rejoice



MICHAEL PRAETORIUS

Born: ca. 1571, in Creuzburg an der Werra, Germany

Died: February 15, 1621, in Wolfenbüttel, Germany

Studied: at the University of Frankfurt an der Oder, the Lateinschule at Zerbst, and with Giovanni Gabrieli

Assignments: 1587: organist at St. Marien Church, Frankfurt; 1595: organist then Kapellmeister for Duke Heinrich Julius of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel

Best known for: a deep religious faith which is evident in his more than 1,000 sacred works for Lutheran liturgies. Praetorius also owned a rather avant-garde compositional outlook often employing dense scoring for as many as sixteen distinct voices as well as a highly ornamented Italian vocal style. Though unfinished, his *Syntagma musicum* still remains a significant early primer on music theory and composition.

Curious fact: "Praetorius" is a Latin translation of the German surname Schultheiß, which means "bailiff."

Notable compositions: *Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen*, 1600

Terpsichore Dances, 1612 In dulci jubilo (from the Polyhymnia caduceatrix), 1619

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen

music by Michael Praetorius text is anonymous from a late 16th-century hymn in honor of the Virgin Mary, adapted by Praetorius in 1609

Es ist ein' Ros' enstsprungen aus einer Wurzel zart; wie uns die Alten sungen, aus Jesse kam die Art und hat ein Blümlein bracht mitten im kalten Winter, wohl zu der halben Nacht. See how a rose sprang up from a tender root, as the prophets proclaimed. This kind is of Jesse and has produced a little flower in the middle of cold winter, at midnight, no less.

Das Blümelein, so kleine, das duftet uns so süß, mit seinem hellen Scheine vertreibt's die Finsternis. Wahr' Mensch und wahrer Gott, hilft uns aus allen Leiden, Rettet von Sünd' und Tod. This tiny flower, so small, spreads fragrance so sweet, its splendor glows and drives away the gloom. Truly human yet truly God, He helps us in all our suffering, and saves us from sin and death.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming music by Michael Praetorius and Jan Sandström text is anonymous

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, When half spent was the night.

Buccinate

music by Giovanni Gabrieli text from Psalm 81:3–11, translation from Revised Standard Version

Buccinate in neomenia tuba in insigni die sollemnitatis nostrae. Quia praeceptum Israhel est

et judicium Deo Jacob. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast day. For it is a statute of Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.

Testimonium in Joseph posuit illud cum exitet de terra Egypti linguam quam non noverat audivit. Divertit ab oneribus dorsum eius manus eius in cophino servierunt.

He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt. I hear a voice I had not known: I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.

In tribulatione invocasti me et liberavi te exaudivi te in abscondito tempestatis probavi te apud aquam contradictionis. In distress you called, and I delivered you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder;

I tested you at the waters of [objection].

Audi populus meus et contestabor te Israhel si audieris me non erit in te Deus recens neque adorabis Deum alienum.

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you! O, Israel, if you would but listen to me! There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.

Ego enim sum Dominus Deus tuus qui eduxit te de terra Egypti dilate os tuum et implebo illud. Et non audivit populus meus vocem meam et Israhel non intendit michi. I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would have none of me.

In dulci jubilo

music by Michael Praetorius text attributed to Heinrich Suso, ca. 1295–1366. Legend has it that on one night in 1328, the German mystic and Dominican monk Suso (or Seuse) had a vision in which he joined angels dancing as the angels sang to him "Nun singet und seid froh or In dulci jubilo."

In dulci jubilo nun singet und seid froh! Unsers Herzens Wonne leit in praesepio, und leuchtet als die Sonne, matris in gremio. Alpha es et O!

With sweet rejoicing now sing and be glad! Our hearts' delight is lying in a manger and shines forth like the sun on His mother's lap. The Alpha and the Omega!

In dulce jubilo

music by Jetse Bremer, 1959– The text in this setting follows in the "macaronic" style (a blending of two different languages) by interweaving Latin with Middle Dutch.

In dulce jubilo, singet ende weset vro, Al onse herten wonne leit in presepio. Das lichtet als die sonne in matris gremio. Ergo merito

Des sullen alle harten zweven in gaudio. In sweet rejoicing now sing we all and be happy.

Our hearts' delight lies in a manger. He shines like the Sun in his Mother's lap. Therefore, it is worthy that all hearts shall [be lift up] in joy.

O Jesu pavule, na di is mi so wee Nu troost al mijn gemoede, tu puer inclyte. Dat staat in dijnre goede, tu puer optime, Trahe me post te al in dijns vader rijke, O princeps gloriae.

O, infant Jesus, next to you I am so sorrowful. Comfort my mind, pure Child with all your goodness. Purest Child, lift me up behind you into your Father's Kingdom, O, Prince of Glories.

Ubi sunt gaudia, nergens anders waar dan daar die engelen zingen nova cantica. Daar hoort men snaren klingen in Regis curia Eia qualia zijn de weelden daar. Men leeft er boven wijzen Christi presentia. Halleluja. Where are joys? Nowhere else than where the angels sing new songs. There one hears harps playing in the royal halls. Oh, of what [wonderful] kind are the luxuries there! Those who live [in the Heavens] demonstrate Christ's power. Hallelujah.

Hodie, Christus natus est

music by Jan Pieters Sweelinck text from the Christmas Day Vesper liturgy and is a paraphrase of Luke 2:11, 13–14 and Psalm 33:1.

Hodie Christus natus est; hodie Salvator apparuit: Alleluia! Today, Christ is born; today, the Saviour has appeared: Praise God!

Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli: Noe! Noe! Today, the Angels sing on earth, the Archangels rejoice: Noe!! Noe!!

Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia! Noe! Alleluia! Noe! Noe!

Today, the just rejoice, saying: Glory to God on high. Praise God! Noel! Praise God! Noel! Noel!

Fuga sopra il Magnificat

music by Johann Sebastian Bach chorale fugue for organ on "Meine Seele erhebet den Herren" My Soul Praises the Lord, BWV 733, composed in 1708

While not rivaling most of his celebrated fugues in either scope or grandeur, J.S. Bach's fugue on the Magnificat (the Blessed Virgin's song of joy recorded in St. Luke's Gospel) is an example of his skillful and inventive chorale writing. This littleknown gem most likely dates from Bach's first years as organist to the Duke of Sachsen–Weimar and is one of his earliest works.

Canone doppio all' Ottava In dulci jubilo music by Johann Sebastian Bach BWV 608, composed in 1713



GIOVANNI GABRIELI

Born: ca. 1555 in Venice, Italy

Died: August 12, 1612 in Venice Studied: with famous uncle, composer Andrea Gabrieli, who was organist at St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice

Assignments: 1575–1579: court musician for Duke Albrecht V in Munich; 1585: organist for a religious confraternity; also in 1585: organist at St. Mark's Cathedral and, after his uncle's death in 1586, its principal composer

Best known for: his association with St. Mark's Cathedral and the "founding" of the Venetian style of contrapuntal music. Gabrieli's choral works were often written for multiple choirs, divided into as many as 14 separate parts. He was also the first notable composer to include instrumental parts in choral compositions. Gabrieli was a popular teacher throughout Europe and taught the likes of Heinrich Schütz and Michael Praetorius.

Curious fact: Gabrieli

consciously used St. Mark's striking architectural layout with its two choir lofts facing each other — to experiment with sound effects.

Notable compositions: Jubilate Deo, 1597

Canzon primi toni a 10 (from the Sacrae Symphoniae), 1597

In ecclesiis and Buccinate, published in 1615 after his death

JOHANN PACHELBEL

Born: August 1653, in Nuremberg, Germany

rejoice

Died: March 9, 1706, in Nuremberg

Studied: with Heinrich Schwemmer and Georg Kaspar; also at the University of Altdorf

Assignments: 1673: assistant organist at St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna; 1677: court organist at Eisenach where he would befriend the Bach family and later teach both Johann Sebastian and Johann Christoph Bach; 1678: organist at the Predigerkirche in Erfurt; 1695: organist at St. Sebalduskirche in Nuremberg

Best known work: Canon and Gigue in D major for three violins and continuo, though his keyboard and church music are of greater relevance. Pachelbel's work with the chorale-prelude was of some influence to J.S. Bach.

Curious fact: Like the Bachs, the Pachelbels were a family of composers. One of Johann's sons emigrated to America, settling in Charleston, SC, and was perhaps' the most polished musician of the Colonies in the first half of the 18th-century.

Notable compositions:

Hexachordum Apollinis, a collection of six keyboard arias, 1699

Canon and Gigue in D major for three violins and continuo, 1700

Fugue in D minor for organ, ca. 1706

Der Herr is König for double chorus, 1706

In ecclesiis music by Giovanni Gabrieli text is a paraphrase of Psalms 103, 28, 81 and 46

In ecclesiis benedicite Domino. Alleluia! In omni loco dominationis benedic anima mea Dominum. Alleluia! In the churches bless the Lord. Praise God! In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise God!

In Deo salutari meo et Gloria mea. Deus auxilium meum, et spes mea in Deo est. Alleluia! In God is my salvation and my glory. God is my help, and my hope is in God. Praise God!

Deus noster, te invocamus; te laudamus; te adoramus. Libera nos; salva nos; vivifica nos. Alleluia! Our God, we call upon you, we praise you, we adore you. Free us, save us, enliven us. Praise God!

Deus ajutor noster in aeternum. Alleluia! Alleluia! God is our eternal help. Praise God! Praise God!

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

music by Johann Sebastian Bach from Cantata No. 147, written for the Feast of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary. Text is a verse of Martin Jahn's 1661 hymn Jesu, meiner Seelen Wonne. First performance on July 2, 1723 in Leipzig, Germany.

Jesus, bleibet meine Freude, Meines Herzens Trost und Saft, Jesus wehret allem Leide, Er ist meines Lebens Kraft, Meiner Augen Lust und Sonne, Meiner Seele Schatz und Wonne; darum laß ich Jesum nicht Aus dem Herzen und Gesicht.

Jesus will remain my joy, the essence of my heart, its hope; Jesus protects from every grief, He is the strength of [my] life, the sun and pleasure of my eyes, the joy and wealth of my soul; so, I will Jesus not [leave] from my heart and sight. Magnificat in G major music by Johann Pachelbel

text from Luke 1:46-55

Magnificat anima mea Dominum. Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo. Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae: ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes. My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit has rejoiced in God, my Saviour. For He has regarded the lowliness of his slave: behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed.

Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: et sanctum nomen ejus. Et misericordia ejus a progenie

in progenies timentibus eum. For He who is mighty has done great things to me; Holy is His name. And His mercy is for them who fear Him from generation to generation.

Fecit potentiam in bracchio suo: dispersit superbos mente cordis sui. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

Deposuit potentes de sede, et exaltavit humiles. Esurientes implevit bonis: et divites dimisit inanes. He has deposed the mighty from their seats, and elevated the humble. He has filled the hungry with goodness and the rich He has sent away empty.

Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiae suae. Sicut locutus es ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini ejus in saeculo. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering His mercy, as it was uttered to our fathers, to Abraham and his descendants for ages.

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, for ages upon ages. Amen.



omposers like Praetorius show an uncanny ability to strive for innovation while never losing track of their listeners. The need to remain grounded in the community — indeed to encourage its eager participation — is of course essential for the religious function in which so much of this music has its context. But one long-ignored angle is shedding new light on the Baroque: the geographical mixture of Old World and New that occurred in the music produced within the Spanish colonies of Latin America. Here we find yet another kind of fusion, with unexpected consequences: a hybrid of European-style polyphony and harmonic language with the complex rhythmic textures of both indigenous peoples and African slaves.

Representing this aspect of the Baroque are the pieces by Juan de Araujo and Gaspar Ferndandes. The story of the Nativity is here clothed in language that incorporates a newfound rhythmic vitality. To be sure, the flesh-and-blood of dance permeates the spirit of much Baroque music it can be felt even in the most abstract ruminations of Bach's instrumental masterpieces. But we sense a different kind of groundedness in the strikingly urgent, physical rush of joy that Araujo evokes in *Los Coflades de la estleya*, a so-called negrilla whose text also attempts to imitate the sounds of Creole speech. Its heavy syncopations foreshadow that whole wonderful taxonomy of rhythmic nuances we know from Latin music. Contemporary composers such as Osvaldo Golijov (in his enormously successful *Pasion segun San Marcos)* have continued to explore the syncretism of classical traditions with indigenous Latin American folk music — now no longer limited to the perspective of the colonizers. At the Church of the Virgin of Ocotlan in Tlaxcala, Mexico, the statues on the façade were made by hand in rubblework during the early 1700s. Every year after the rainy season, the façade is whitewashed which is why it looks like it's made of frothy sugar icing. This example of Mexican colonial architecture in the Churrigueresque style suggests ascension, light, happiness and movement.

Los Coflades de la estleya

rejoice

music and lyrics by Juan de Araujo, 1646–1712m the maestro at cathedrals in Lima, Cuzco and La Plata (present day Sucre, Bolivia).

Los coflades de la estleya vamo turus a Beleya y velemo a ziola beya con Siolo en la poltal. ¡Vamo, vamo curendo aya! oyelemo un viyansico que lo compondla Flasico ziendo gayta su fosico y luego lo cantala Blasico, Pellico, Zuanico y Toma y lo estliviyo dila:

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché molenio de Safala. Brothers and sisters of the League of the Star, let us all go now to Bethlehem, where we'll see our lovely Lady with our little Lord in the stable.

Let's go, let's go running there! We'll hear a carol that Francisco will compose, with a gourd to keep the beat; then Blas, Pedro, Juan, and Tomás will sing it, and the refrain will go:

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché! O, blacks from Safala!

Bamo a bel que traen de Angola a ziolo y a ziola Baltasale con Melchola y mi plimo Gasipar ¡Vamo, vamo curendo aya!

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché molenio de Safala. Let's see what Balthazar, Melchior and my cousin, Gaspar are bringing from Angola to our Lady and our little Lord. Let's go, let's go running there!

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché! O, blacks from Safala!

Vamo siguiendo la estleya — ¡Eya! lo negliyo coltezano — ¡Vamo! pus lo Reye cun tesuro — ¡turo! de calmino los tlesban — ¡aya! Blasico, Pelico, Zuanico y Tomá, ¡aya! vamo tura aya!

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché molenio de Safala. So all you blacks who work at court — O yeah! yes, let's go and follow the star — Let's go! behind the kings with the treasure — All of us! they carry across the desert — To the stable! And you, Blas, Pedro, Juan, and Tomás, let's all get going now,

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché! O, blacks from Safala!

Vamo turuz loz Neglios — plimos pues nos yeba nostla estleya — beya que sin tantuz neglos folmen — noche mucha luz en lo poltal — ablá Blasico, Pelico, Zuanico y Tomá, plimos ¡beya noche ablá!

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché molenio de Safala. Let's go then, all you blacks — Cousins! for it guides us there, our star — Lovely! from it, like lighting dazzling bright — Tonight! Lots of light upon the stable — Will shine! And you, Blas, Pedro, Juan, and Tomas, cousins, what a lovely night there will be!

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché! O, blacks from Safala!

Vaya nuestra cofladia — linda Pues que nos yeba la eztleia — nuestla tlas lo Reye pulque haya — danza que pala al nino aleglan — ira Blasico, Pelico, Zuanico y Tomá, ¡linda nuestla danza ira!

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché molenio de Safala. Move out, you members of the League —Lovely! for our star is guiding us — Our own star! behind the kings, for there — Dancing! to make the Child happy — They go! O yes, Blas, Petrito, Juanico, and Tomas, our dance will go nicely,

Gulumbé, gulumbé, gulumbá guaché, guaché! O, blacks from Safala!

Eso rigor e repente

music by Gaspar Fernandes, 1570–1629, the music director at the Cathedral in Puebla, the principal city of colonial Mexico. The lyrics are 17th century Latin American Portuguese and Spanish.

A group of Guinean Blacks sing and dance on Christmas Eve as they bring their gifts to the Christ-child. One of the few villancicos from this period to include direct and indirect references to slavery, the Africans' lowly status in Puebla and to an ethnic bias, rivalry and animosity that apparently existed between Guinean and Angolan Africans, this work is nonetheless filled with antic-



ipation and hope for a new and better world promised by the birth of Christ. Fernandez was well known for utilizing text genres such as the negro, negrito and guineo, and his music has served as a invaluable historical record of the African musical legacy to the Americas.

Eso rigor e repente. Juro aqui se ni yo siquito. Que aunque nace poco branquito turu somo noso parente.

No tememo branco grande.

Tenle primo, tenle calje! Husihe husiha paraçia. Toca negriyo tamboritiyo. Canta parente!

That sudden hardship [enslavement?]. Certainly here I'm not favored. But although the child was born a little white, we all amount to brothers. We have no fear of the great white one. Come on, cousin, put on your shoes, get dressed! Play, black children, play the little drum. Sing brothers and sisters!

Sarabanda tenge que tenge, sum bacasu cucumbe. Ese noche branco seremo'ese noche branco seremo!

O jesu que risa tenemo! O que risa Santo Tomé! Dance, make noise, have fun, Sum bacasu cucumbe. Tonight we'll all be white! Oh Jesus, what laughter we have! Oh, what laughter, Saint Thomas!

Vamo negro de Guinea a lo pesebrito sola, no vamo negro de Angola que sa turu negla fea.

Queremo que niño vea negro pulizo y galano, que como sa noso hermano tenemo ya fantasia.

Toca viyano y follia baylaremo alegremente! Let's go, Guinean blacks, to the little manger by ourselves. Don't let the Angolan blacks go because they're all unpleasant-looking. We want the child to see only polished and handsome blacks, such as our brothers, who already have fine clothes. Play a Spanish song and gaily dance.

Gargantiya regranate yegamo a lo siquitiyo, manteyya rebocico confite curubacate.

Y de curiate faxu e la guantee camisa, capisayta de frisa canutiyo de tabaco.

Toca presa pero beyaco guitarria alegremente! Toca parente! Sarabanda tenge que tenge....

Necklaces of precious stones we bring to the little one, a mantilla and little shawl, candy and dried fruit. And we bring a small sash, gloves, shirt, a little hooded cape made of wool, and a little cane pipe for tobacco. Play fast but skillfully on the merry guitar! Play, everybody.

Weihnachts-Oratorium Christmas Oratorio

Cantata No. 4: Fallt mit danken, fallt mit Loben *Bow with thanks, bow with praise*

music by Johann Sebastian Bach text from Galatians 3:23–29, Luke 2:21 translation by Dr. Thomas Somerville BWV 248, composed for New Year's Day, Saturday June 1, 1735, the Festival of the Circumcision and Naming of Jesus; movement numbers from the New Bach Edition published by Bärenreiter in 1960

t's hard to wrap our minds around the reality that Johann Sebastian Bach produced his enormous body of work with a factory-like efficiency — much of it as part of his day job, written for a very specific purpose: next Sunday's church service, or a royal birthday or a teaching exercise. How then did he manage to create such towering masterpieces in every genre he touched? And Bach's are masterpieces not just for an elite. They exude the robustness we find with Shakespeare: an art that offers something for everyone, across all levels of knowledge and background.

The one genre of his time Bach didn't take up was that of opera — explicitly, that is, for "drama through music" is the very essence of the sacred choral music so central to his oeuvre. The story of redemption was for Bach the fundamental human drama. It reaches its most cosmic proportions in the grand canvases of the Mass in B minor and the *St. Matthew Passion*, where his musical invention achieves an existential intensity.

But Bach is a master as well at depicting the sacred in the ordinary emotions and drama of everyday life. His weekly Sunday cantatas and liturgical music entail a plethora of variations on this theme. Like Praetorius before him, Bach often takes a familiar chorale tune — such as the one known in English as Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring — and creates something entirely new, here wrapping it in a cocoon of gorgeous counterpoint that conveys peace of mind.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Born: March 21, 1685, in Eisenach, Germany

Died: July 28, 1750, in Leipzig, Germany

Studied: with his father, Johann Ambrosius, who taught him the violin and trumpet and with Johann Pachelbel

Assignments: 1700: chorister at the Michaelis monastery in Lüneberg; 1703–07: organist at the Neuekirche in Arnstadt; 1708: court organist and orchestra leader for the Duke of Sachsen-Weimar; 1717: Kapellmeister at Cöthen; 1723: Kantor at the Thomas School in Leipzig

Best known for: Das Wohltempierte Klavier, a collection of 48 fugues and preludes which essentially standardized the practice of equally tempering keyboard instruments. J.S. Bach is also widely known for his works for unaccompanied violin and cello, his concerti, cantatas, and oratorios, among others.

Curious fact: The "echo aria" (No. 39 from tonight's Cantata) recycles music (a practice known as "parody," without the contemporary connotations) from the secular cantata *Hercules at the Crossroads*, written for a royal birthday.

Notable compositions:

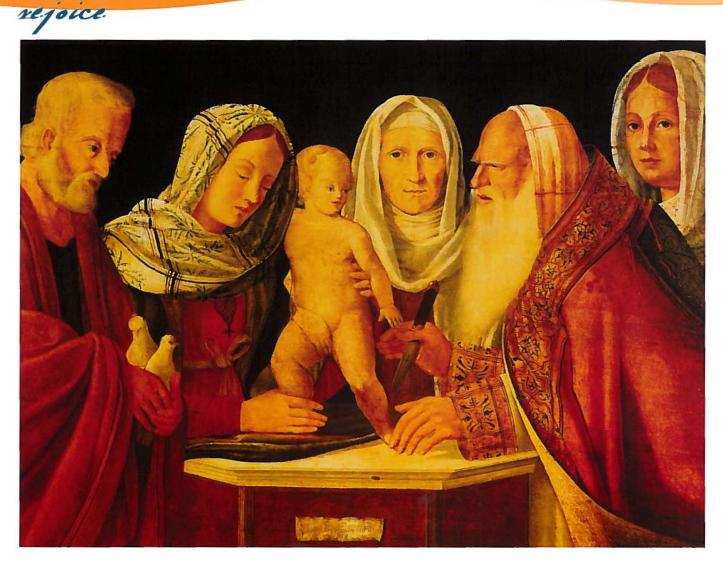
Well-tempered Clavier, 1722 Easter Oratorio, 1725

St. Matthew Passion, 1727 Christmas Oratorio, 1734–35

Jesu, meine Freude, 1735

Completion of the Mass in B minor, 1748-49

Quote: "The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." — J.S. Bach



The Circumcision by Giovanni Bellini (c. 1430–1516) founder of the Venetian school of painting. Musee des Beaux-Arts, Tours, France And Bach brings his narrative and dramatic gifts together in ways that constantly elicit emotional involvement from the listener. His Christmas Oratorio presents a cycle of six cantatas which trace the drama of the entire Nativity, with all its paradoxes of humility and glory. Tonight's cantata is the fourth in the cycle, intended for New Year's Day (also marking the feast of Jesus' circumcision). Its framing chorales - warmly scored with horns - invoke a joyful rhythmic impulse. The cantata's most enchanting moment is the soprano's "echo aria" in the center, with its decision to choose joy over despair. Few composers depict joy so convincingly as Bach, for his music also embraces the bittersweet path leading to it.

Text for Christmas Oratorio, Cantata No. 4

36. Chorus

Fallt mit danken, fallt mit Loben vor des Höchsten Gnadenthron!

Bow with thanks, bow with praise before the Highest's throne of grace!

Gottes Sohn will der Erden Heiland und Erlöser werden, Gottes Sohn dämpft der Feinde Wut und Toben.

God's son will become the earth's Savior and Redeemer, God's son will choke the enemy's fury and rage.

Fallt mit danken, fallt mit Loben... Bow with thanks, bow with praise...

37. Evangelist (Tenor)

Und da acht Tage um waren, daß das Kind beschnitten würde, da ward sein Name genen-



net Jesus, welcher genennet war von dem Engel, ehe denn er im Mutterleibe empfangen ward.

And when eight days were accomplished, so that the child should be circumcised, then was his name called Jesus, which was given him by the angel before he was conceived in his mother's womb.

38. Recitative (Bass) with chorale

Immanuel, o süßes Wort! Emmanuel, oh sweet word!

Mein Jesus heißt mein Hort, mein Jesus heißt mein Leben. My Jesus is named "my shepherd," my Jesus is named "my life."

Mein Jesus hat sich mir ergeben, mein Jesus soll mir immerfort vor meinen Augen schweben.

My Jesus has given himself to me, my Jesus shall evermore appear before my eyes.

Mein Jesus heißet meine Lust, mein Jesus labet Herz und Brust. My Jesus is named "my delight," my Jesus comforts heart and soul.

Chorale

Jesu, du mein liebstes Leben meiner Seelen Bräutigam, Jesus, you my dearest life, my soul's bridegroom

Komm! Ich will dich mit Lust umfassen, mein Herze soll dich nimmer lassen, der du dich vor mich gegeben an des bittern Kreuzes Stamm! ach! so nimm mich zu dir!

Come! I will embrace you with delight, my heart shall never let you go; who has given yourself for my sake on the bitter cross-stem! ah! so take me to you!

Auch in dem Sterben sollst du mir das Allerliebste sein; in Not, Gefahr und Ungemach seh ich dir sehnlichst nach. Even in death shall you be my most dearly loved; in trouble, peril and distress I look to you most longingly. Was jagte mir zuletzt der Tod für Grauen ein?

With what dread lately did the thought of death pursue me?

Mein Jesus! Wenn ich sterbe, so weiß ich, daß ich nicht verderbe. My Jesus! When I die, I know that I shall not perish.

Dein Name steht in mir geschrieben, der hat des Todes Furcht vertrieben. Your name stands written within me, which has driven away the fear of death.

39. Aria (Echo) (Soprano)

Flößt, mein Heiland, flößt dein Namen auch den allerkleinsten Samen jenes strengen Schrekkens ein?

My Savior, is your name washed away by even the tiniest seed of that terrible fear?

Nein, du sagst ja selber nein! (Nein!) No! Even you yourself say "no!" (No!)

Sollt ich nun das Sterben scheuen? Should I then fear death?

Nein, dein süßes Wort ist da! No, your precious name is there!

Oder sollt ich mich erfreuen? Or should I rejoice?

Ja, du Heiland, sprichst selbst ja! Yes! You, Savior, yourself say "yes!" (Yes!)

40. Recitative (Bass) with chorale

Wohlan, dein Name soll allein in meinem Herzen sein! Well then, your name alone shall be in my heart!

Chorale

Jesu, meine Freud und Wonne, meine Hoffnung, Schatz und Teil, So will ich dich entzükket nennen, wenn Brust und Herz zu dir vor Liebe brennen.

Jesus, my joy and delight, my hope, treasure and portion, So I will call you with delight, when soul and heart burn with love for you. mein Erlösung, Schmuck und Heil, Doch, Liebster, sage mir: Wie rühm ich dich, wie dank ich dir? my redeemer, jewel and savior, Yet, beloved, tell me: how shall I praise you, how shall I thank you?

Hirt und König, Licht und Sonne, ach! wie soll ich würdiglich, mein Herr Jesu, preisen dich? shepherd and king, light and son; ah! how shall I worthily, my Lord Jesus, praise you?

41. Aria (Tenor)

Ich will nur dir zu Ehren leben, mein Heiland, gib mir Kraft und Mut, daß es mein Herz recht eifrig tut!

I will live only to your honor, my savior, give me strength and courage that my heart may do so most eagerly!

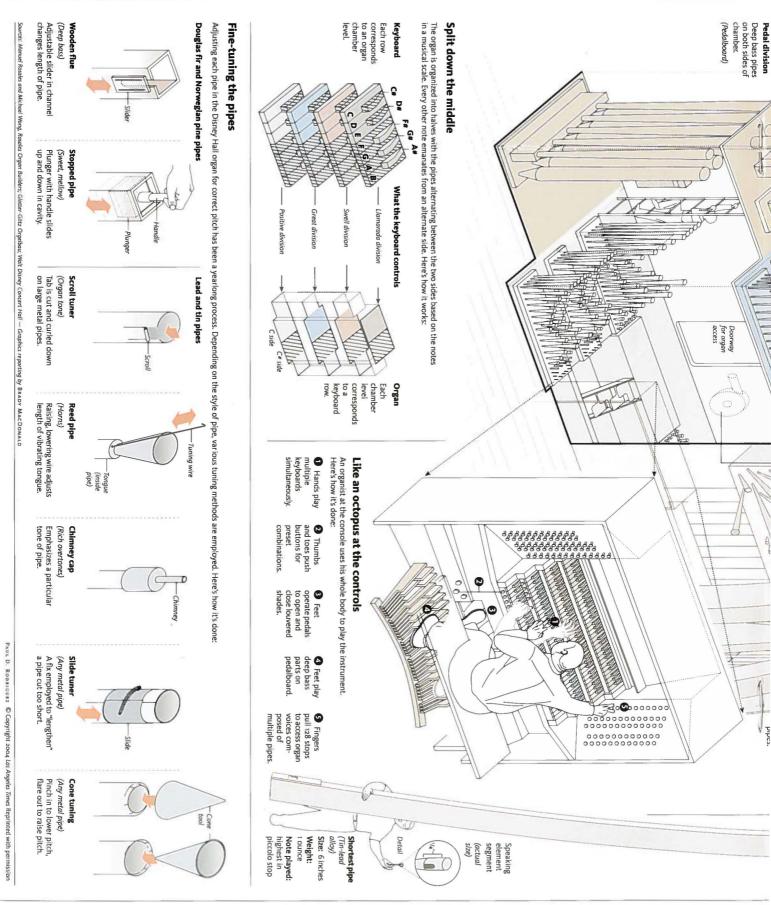
Hallelujah! from Messiah

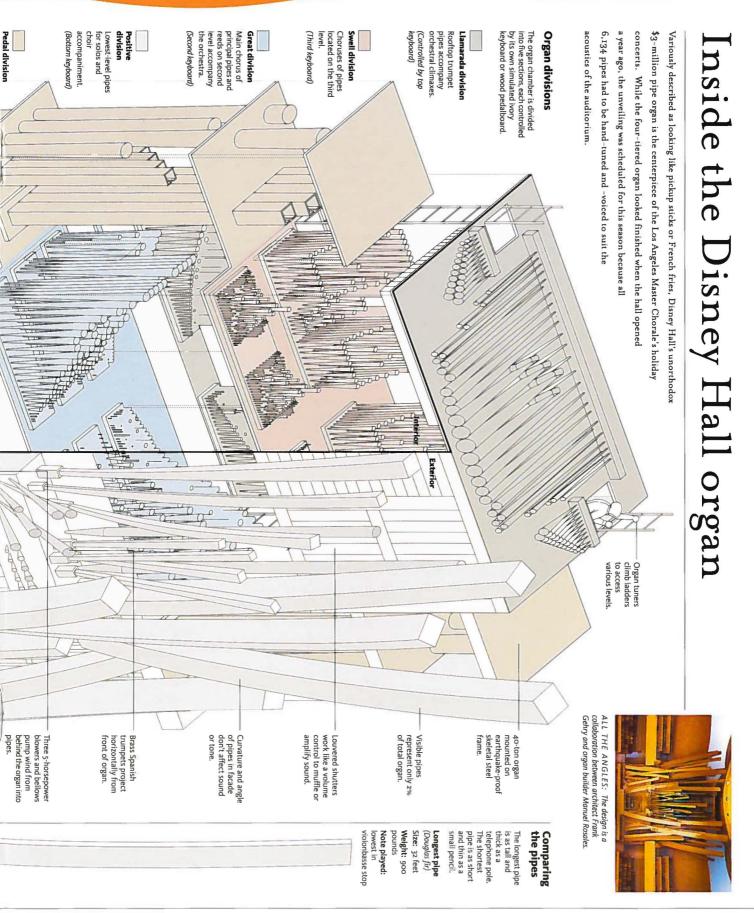
music by George Frideric Händel text from Revelations 19:6, 11:15, 19:16 composed in 1741, premiered in Dublin on April 13, 1742

Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Hallelujah!







SAMELA AIRD BEASOM, soprano

At the Chorale: 21 seasons

Began solo career with the Roger Wagner Chorale which toured the U.S. and Japan

Performances with: Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic and Philharmonic New Music Group, I Cantori, Angeles Chorale, and the Ojai, Corona del Mar Baroque, Santa Cruz Baroque, and Carmel Bach Festivals

Co-founded: Voxfire

On disc: Gordon Jacob Chamber Music for clarinet; Voxfire's Songs to the Virgin: A Medieval Meditation

Currently: Los Angeles Opera where she recently sang the role of "the children's voice" in Richard Strauss' *Die Frau ohne Schatten*

If not a musician, I'd be: a dancer, a cellist or an actress

Most embarrassing stage moment: tripping over a cable and falling while tap dancing and singing *Aba*, *Daba Honeymoon*.



RANDY BILLS, tenor

Born: June 16, 1980, in Fresno, California

At the Chorale: 3 seasons, soloist in Messiah

Critical acclaim: "a Lysander of lyrical beauty and intensity..."— Wall Street Journal about the Tanglewood Music Center's production of Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream

Opera roles: Prince Ramiro in Rossini's *La Cenerentola*, Rev. Parris in Robert Ward's *The Crucible*, Ferrando in Mozart's *Cosi fan tutte* and Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*

Featured performances: tenor soloist with Fresno Philharmonic in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Uriel in Haydn's *The Creation* with the La Sierra University Sinfonia, P.D.Q. Bach's *The Seasonings* with Pasadena Symphony, Mozart's *Requiem* with Long Beach Mozart Festival Orchestra

Currently: Los Angeles Opera Chorus; working towards a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Southern California

If not a musician, I'd be: a graphic designer



RACHELLE FOX, soprano

Born: January 16, 1965, in Philadelphia

At the Chorale: 5 seasons

Education: Master of Music in vocal performance from Indiana University's Early Music Institute

Opera roles: Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* with Early Music Vancouver, Jacopo Peri's *Euridice* with the Long Beach Opera

Featured soloist: Vancouver Symphony, Musica Angelica Baroque. Ms. Fox has also performed with the Los Angeles Chamber Singers and Cappella, Theatre of Voices, and the Concord Ensemble.

Currently: expecting a baby

Favorite dish: the chocolate soufflé at Xiomara is to die for!!

Favorite film: Monty Python and the Search for the Holy Grail, among many others

Mountains or beach: Both. Why else would we live in California?!

Volvo or Miata: Honda Civic — you can't really fit a baby seat in a Miata.



JINYOUNG JANG, bass

Born: in Seoul, South Korea

At the Chorale: former member, bass soloist for Händel's *Israel in Egypt, Messiah,* Mozart's *Requiem*

Awards and honors: winner of a Pasadena Opera Guild competition; first place in the National Association of Teachers of Singing competiton in Texas; second place in the Los Angeles Chapter of the NATS competition, Career Division; Regional finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions

Debut: Polydorus in Berlioz' *L'Enfance du Christ* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic

Opera roles: Frere Jean in Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*, Colline in Puccini's *La Boheme*, Lackey in Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Trojan Soldier in Mozart's *Idomeneo*, Commissioner in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Night Watchman in Strauss' *Die Frau Ohne Schatten*, Old Gypsy in Verdi's *Il Trovatore*

Performances with: Bakersfield, Pasadena, Oak Ridge and Chattanooga Symphonies, Knoxville Opera, Pacific Music Festival in Japan

Currently: Resident Artist with Los Angeles Opera





FREDERICK SWANN, organ

Born: in Virginia

First church assignment: at age 10

Other assignments: 1957: organist, and in 1966, Director of Music at the Riverside Church, New York; 1960-67: organist and Director of Music at the Interchurch Center, New York; 1982: organist and Director of Music at the Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove; 1998: Organist-in-Residence at the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles

Academic assignments: former chair of the Organ Department at the Manhattan School of Music; formerly of the music faculties of Teacher's College at Columbia University and the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary, New York

Education: awarded degrees "with distinction" from Northwestern University, Chicago, and the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary, New York

Performances in: some of the world's greatest venues, including those of Paris, Chartes, Cologne, Nuremberg, London, Brasil, and others

inaugurated the organs of: Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto, Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, and Walt Disney Concert Hall

Founded and directed: "Organ Alive," a highly regarded annual organ conference

Currently: in his second term as National President of the American Guild of Organists; Organ Artist-in-Residence at St. Margaret's, Palm Desert

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Soprano

Tania Batson Samela Beasom Marian Bodnar Vicky Brown Claire Fedoruk **Rachelle Fox** Marie Hodgson Karen Hogle Hyun loo Kim Deborah Mayhan Susan Mills Marnie Mosiman Holly Shaw Price **Diane Thomas** Sun loo Yeo

Alto

Nichole Baker Leanna Brand Aleta Braxton Monika Bruckner Sarona Farrell Saundra Hall Hill Kyra Humphrey Leslie Inman Sheila Murphy Alice K. Murray Helene Quintana Nike St. Clair **Kimberly Switzer** Tracy Van Fleet Diana Zaslove

Tenor

Brenton Almond Randy Bills Scott Blois Dwayne Condon Paul Gibson Jody Golightly Steven Harms Shawn Kirchner Bong Won Kye Charles Lane Dominic MacAller Sal Malaki Christian Marcoe Sean McDermott Fletcher Sheridan Kevin St.Clair George Sterne

Bass

Crispin Barrymore Mark Beasom Paul Cummings Michael Freed **Gregory Geiger** Michael Geiger Stephen Grimm Paul Hinshaw Lew Landau **Robert Lewis** Roger Lindbeck Tonoccus McClain lames Raycroft David Schnell Burman Timberlake

The singers of the Los Angeles Master Chorale are represented by The American Guild of Musical Artists, Scott Blois, AGMA Delegate.

Master Chorale Orchestra

Violin 1

Steve Scharf, concertmaster Jayme Miller Florence Titmus Leslie Katz Patricia Aiken Armen Anassian Sharon Harman Samuel Fischer

Violin 2

Margaret Wooten, principal Cynthia Moussas leff Gauthier Rhonni Hallman Linda Stone lean Sudbury Anna Kotusyk

Viola

Dimitri Bovaird

Kira Blumberg

Delores Bing

Nadine Hall

Maurice Grants

Donald Ferrone,

principal

Ann Atkinson

Stuart Horn

Peter Doubrovsky

Joel Timm, principal

Cello

Bass

Oboe

Alma Fernandez

David Speltz, principal

Horn Kazi Pitelka, principal Jon Titmus, principal Diane Muller

Trumpet

Roy Poper, principal William Bing

Trombone

William Booth, principal Alvin Veeh **Terry Cravens**

Harpsichord Patricia Mabee

Tympani Mark Zimoski

Contractor Steve Scharf

Librarian

Robert Dolan

Los Angeles Master Chorale Orchestra is represented by the American Federation of Musicians.



Los Angeles Master Chorale

Grant Gershon | Music Director

The Rena Waltz Pierson Music Directorship, a gift of the Pierson and Lovelace Families to honor Lillian Lovelace's mother

wonder to be struck with surprise or astonishment; to marvel; to feel some curiosity

CONCERT SPONSORS



This concert is funded, in part, by a generous grant from Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts.



K-Mozart 105.1 FM is the Official Radio Station of the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

Latecomers will be seated at the first convenient pause in the performance. Use of tape recorders, telephones, pagers, and/or cameras is prohibited in the auditorium. Programs and artists subject to change. Patrons cannot be paged during a performance.

holiday wonders

Tuesday, December 7, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. | Walt Disney Concert Hall Saturday, December 11, 2004 at 2 p.m. | Walt Disney Concert Hall

Los Angeles Master Chorale Grant Gershon, conductor Tania Batson, soprano | Frederick Swann, organ

The Holidays Around the World...

England	Here We Come a-Caroling	traditional carol arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams		
Germany	O Tannenbaum	arranged by Art Harris		
Argentina	En lo más azul del cielo In the deepest blue of sk	y music by Emilio Dublanc arranged by Ariel Quintana		
Spain	A la nanita nana To the little lullaby	traditional carol		
Israel	Blessings for a New Season	music by Lori Baumel		
Mexico	Eso rigor e repente That sudden hardship	music by Gaspar Fernandes		
England	Joy to the World sing-along lyrics are on page 23 ar	music by Lowell Mason ranged by George Frideric Händel		
Germany	Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen See how a rose sprang up	music by Michael Praetorius		
Kenya	Wana Baraka	arranged by Shawn Kirchner		
Netherlands	Hodie Christus natus est Today, Christ is born	music by Jan Pieters Sweelinck		
Germany	In dulci jubilo With sweet rejoicing	music by Michael Praetorius		
Germany	"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" from Cantata No. 147	music by Johann Sebastian Bach		
England	Angels We Have Heard on High	arranged by Donald McCullough		

INTERMISSION

boliday wonder

...And Here at Home

O Come All Ye Faithful				
Joy to the World from Anniversary Carols				
Grand Fantasia on <i>Joy to the World</i> Mr. Swann				
Jingle Bells				
sing-along lyrics are on page 25				
Do You Hear What I Hear?				
Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day				
There Comes a Ship				
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas				
Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer sing-along lyrics are on page 25				
Glory, Glory to the Newborn King Ms. Batson				
Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah				

music by John Francis Wade		
arranged by Jackson Berkey		
music by Marc F. Cheban		
music by James Pierpont		
arranged by Harry Simeone		

music by John Gardner music by Paul Gibson arranged by Ken Neufeld music by Johnny Marks

music by Moses Hogan

music by George Frideric Händel

Thank you, Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts

Applause for the volunteer members of the Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts who have raised in excess of \$12 million in cumulative donations to support music and arts education. In April 2004, Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts awarded \$800,000 in gifts and grants to local schools, symphonic associations, and other non-profit organizations in support of music education and concert underwriting. The Chorale is especially grateful for a gift from PSHA which is helping to fund these two performances of Holiday Wonders.

boliday wonder



FREDERICK SWANN, organ Born: in Virginia First church assignment: at age 10

Other assignments: 1957:

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Performances in: some of the world's greatest venues, including those of Paris, Chartes, Cologne, Nuremberg, London, Brasil, and others

Inaugurated the organs of:

Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto, Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, and Walt Disney Concert Hall

Currently: in his second term as National President of the American Guild of Organists; Organ Artist-in-Residence at St. Margaret's, Palm Desert

O Tannenbaum

composed by Leipzig organist Ernst Anschütz in 1824, arranged by Art Harris

A Tannenbaum is a fir tree (die Tanne) or Christmas tree (der Weihnachtsbaum). Its evergreen qualities have long inspired musicians to write several "Tannenbaum" songs in German. This melody is an old folk tune. The first known "Tannenbaum" song lyrics date back to 1550.

O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, how true you stand unchanging. Your boughs so green in summertime remain so green in wintertime. O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, how true you stand unchanging.

O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, thy message is enduring. So long ago in Bethlem was born the Saviour of all Men. O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, thy message is enduring.

O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, thy faith also unchanging, a symbol sent from God above proclaiming Him the Lord of Love. O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, how true you stand unchanging, how true you stand unchanging.

En lo más azul del cielo

music by Emilio Dublanc, arranged by Ariel Quintana

En lo más azul del cielo se paseaba una doncella; en la frente una corona, en la mano una azucena.

In the deepest blue of sky, a maid was walking. She wore a crown, and in her hand [was] a white lily.

De un tronco fre la rama, de la rama fue la flor; de la flor nació María; de María, el Redentor. From the trunk, grew a branch, from the branch a flower [came], from the flower, Mary was born, and from Mary, [came] the Redeemer.

Al crystal cruzó un destello, mass u faz no la empañó;

así concibió María y doncella se quedo. A beam of light shone through the crystal, yet its face was not clouded.



Patrick Foster tries out a wooden pipe from the Disney Hall organ at the Organ Crawl for donors on October 16.

This is how Mary conceived, and remained [ever-virgin].

A la nanita nana

traditional Spanish carol, translation by Pablo Corá

A la nanita nana, nanita ea, Mi Jesús tiene sueño, bendito sea. Fuente, oi'la que corres clara y sonora, ruiseñor que en la selva cantando Iloras, callad mientras la cuna se balancea.

A la nanita nana, nanita ea. To the little lullaby, lulla hey. My Jesus is sleepy, blessed be He. To the little lullaby, lulla hey.

Listen to the rolling fountain clear and sonorous.

Nightingale in the rainforest cry with your song, appease now the cradle that rocks. To the little lullaby, lulla hey.



Blessings for a New Season music by Lori Baumel

A new season, a new spirit, a new day. A new reason, a new dawning to say: Shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higyanu laz'mahn hazeh.

You are the Creator of all things who has brought us to this moment.

- A new season, a new spirit, a new dawning, we praise you God!
- Baruch atah Adonai eloheinu melech ha'olam shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higyanu laz'mahn hazeh.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Creator of all things who has brought us to this moment.

We praise you Lord our God.

- Praised be your name, the Ruler of the world.
- Shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higyanu laz'mahn hazeh.

You are the Creator of all things who has brought us to this moment.

Grant us peace, grant us hope, grant us life. Amen.

Eso rigor e repente

music by Gaspar Fernandes, 1570–1629, the music director at the Cathedral in Puebla, the principal city of colonial Mexico. The lyrics are 17th century Latin American Portuguese and Spanish.

A group of Guinean Blacks sing and dance on Christmas Eve as they bring their gifts to the Christ-child. One of the few villancicos from this period to include direct and indirect references to slavery, the Africans' lowly status in Puebla and to an ethnic bias, rivalry and animosity that apparently existed between Guinean and Angolan Africans, this work is nonetheless filled with anticipation and hope for a new and better world promised by the birth of Christ. Fernandez was well known for utilizing text genres such as the negro, negrito and guineo, and his music has served as a invaluable historical record of the African musical legacy to the Americas.

- Eso rigor e repente. Juro aqui se ni yo siquito.
- Que aunque nace poco branquito turu somo noso parente.
- No tememo branco grande.
- Tenle primo, tenle calje! Husihe husiha paraçia.
- Toca negriyo tamboritiyo. Canta parente! That sudden hardship [enslavement?]. Certainly here I'm not favored. But although the child was born a little white, we all amount to brothers. We have no fear of the great white one. Come on, cousin, put on your shoes, get dressed! Play, black children, play the little drum. Sing brothers and sisters!
- Sarabanda tenge que tenge, sum bacasu cucumbe. Ese noche branco seremo'ese noche branco seremo!
- O jesu que risa tenemo! O que risa Santo Tomé!

Dance, make noise, have fun, Sum bacasu cucumbe. Tonight we'll all be white! Oh Jesus, what laughter we have! Oh, what laughter, Saint Thomas!

- Vamo negro de Guinea a lo pesebrito sola, no vamo negro de Angola que sa turu negla fea.
- Queremo que niño vea negro pulizo y galano, que como sa noso hermano tenemo ya fantasia.
- Toca viyano y follia baylaremo alegremente!

Let's go, Guinean blacks, to the little manger by ourselves. Don't let the Angolan blacks go because they're all unpleasant-looking. We want the child to see only polished and handsome blacks, such as our brothers, who already have fine clothes. Play a Spanish song and gaily dance.

- Gargantiya regranate yegamo a lo siquitiyo, manteyya rebocico confite curubacate.
- Y de curiate faxu e la guantee camisa, capisayta de frisa canutiyo de tabaco. Toca presa pero beyaco guitarria alegre-
- mente!
- Toca parente! Sarabanda tenge que tenge....

Necklaces of precious stones we bring to the little one, a mantilla and little shawl, candy and dried fruit. And we bring a small sash, gloves, shirt, a little hooded cape made of wool, and a little cane pipe for tobacco. Play fast but skillfully on the merry guitar! Play, everybody.

Grand Fantasia on Joy to the World

music by Marc F. Cheban, 1953– Cheban is the Choirmaster/Organist at St. Andrews School in Middletowne, Delaware.

Joy to the World

music by Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, arranged by George Frideric Händel. text by Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.

boliday wonder



TANIA BATSON, soprano

Born: in California

At the Chorale: now in her fourth season; soloist in Händel's *Israel in Egypt* and *Messiah*

Debut: as Ygraine in Paul Dukas' Ariane et Barbe Bleu with the American Symphony Orchestra at Avery Fisher Hall

Featured performances: Sweeney Todd with New York Philharmonic, Mozart's Mass in C minor at Concordia University

Televised performance: PBS' Live from Lincoln Center: A Celebration of Musical Theatre with the New York Choral Artists

Premiered: Tobias Pikar's *Emmeline* at New York City Opera, participated in the U.S. premiere of Sir Paul McCartney's *Standing Stone* at Carnegie Hall

Education: Bachelor of Arts in Music from Emory University and Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Boston University

Favorite restaurant: Loveless Café in Nashville, TN

Favorite film: An American in Paris

Pets: "No pets, but I do have two children!!"

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen music by Michael Praetorius text is anonymous from a late 16th-century hymn in honor of the Virgin Mary, adapted by

Praetorius in 1609 Es ist ein' Ros' enstsprungen aus einer Wurzel zart; wie uns die Alten sungen, aus Jesse kam die Art und hat ein Blümlein bracht mitten im kalten Winter, wohl zu der halben Nacht. See how a rose sprang up from a tender root; as the prophets proclaimed. This kind is of Jesse and has produced a little flower in the middle of cold winter,

Das Blümelein, so kleine, das duftet uns so süß, mit seinem hellen Scheine vertreibt's die Finsternis. Wahr' Mensch und wahrer Gott, hilft uns aus allen Leiden, Rettet von Sünd' und Tod. This tiny flower, so small, apreads fragrance so sweet, its splendor glows and drives away the gloom. Truly human yet truly God He helps us in all our suffering, and saves us from sin and death.

at midnight, no less.

Wana Baraka

Kenyan folk song arranged by Shawn Kirchner

Wana baraka wale waombao, Yesu mwenyewe alisema. Alleluya! Wana amani, Wana furaha, Wana uzima. They have blessings, those who pray. Jesus Himself said so. Praise God! They have peace, they have joy, they have well being.

Hodie, Christus natus est

music by Jan Pieters Sweelinck text from the Christmas Day Vesper liturgy and is a paraphrase of Luke 2:11, 13–14 and Psalm 33:1.

Hodie Christus natus est; hodie Salvator apparuit: Alleluia! Today, Christ is born; today, the Saviour has appeared: Praise God!

Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli: Noe! Noe! Today, the Angels sing on earth, the Archangels rejoice: Noel! Noe!!

Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia! Noe! Alleluia! Noe! Noe! Today, the just rejoice, saying: Glory to God on high. Praise God! Noel! Praise God! Noel! Noe!

In dulci jubilo

music by Michael Praetorius text attributed to Heinrich Suso, ca. 1295–1366. Legend has it that on one night in 1328, the German mystic and Dominican monk Suso (or Seuse) had a vision in which he joined angels dancing as the angels sang to him "Nun singet und seid froh or In dulci jubilo."

In dulci jubilo nun singet und seid froh! Unsers Herzens Wonne leit in praesepio, und leuchtet als die Sonne, matris in gremio. Alpha es et O!

With sweet rejoicing now sing and be glad! Our hearts' delight is lying in a manger and shines forth like the sun on His mother's lap. The Alpha and the Omega!

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

music by Johann Sebastian Bach from Cantata No. 147, written for the Feast of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary.

Text is a verse of Martin Jahn's 1661 hymn Jesu, meiner Seelen Wonne. *First performance on July 2, 1723 in Leipzig, Germany.*

Jesus, bleibet meine Freude, Meines Herzens Trost und Saft, Jesus wehret allem Leide, Er ist meines Lebens Kraft, Meiner Augen Lust und Sonne, Meiner Seele Schatz und Wonne; darum laß ich Jesum nicht Aus dem Herzen und Gesicht. Jesus will remain my joy, the essence of my heart, its hope; Jesus protects from every grief, He is the strength of [my] life, the sun and pleasure of my eyes, the joy and wealth of my soul; so, I will Jesus not [leave] from my heart and sight.

Jingle Bells

music and lyrics by James Pierpoint

Believe it or not, Jingle Bells was originally written for Thanksgiving! The author and composer was Rev. James Pierpoint who wrote the song in 1857 for children celebrating his Boston Sunday School Thanksgiving. The song was so popular that it was repeated at Christmas and Jingle Bells has been reprised ever since. The sound effects using the bells have become synonymous with the arrival of Father Christmas or Santa Claus to the delight of children of all ages.

Dashing through the snow in a one horse open sleigh O'er the fields we go Laughing all the way Bells on bob tails ring Making spirits bright What fun it is to laugh and sing A sleighing song tonight

Refrain:

Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells Jingle all the way. Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh. Jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way. Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh.

A day or two ago I thought I'd take a ride

and soon Miss Fanny Bright was seated by my side. The horse was lean and lank, misfortune seemed his lot. We got into a drifted bank and then we got upsot.

Now the ground is white. Go it while you're young. Take the girls along and sing this sleighing song. Just bet a bobtailed bay two forty as his speed Hitch him to an open sleigh and crack! You'll take the lead.

Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer

music by Johnny Marks lyrics by Robert May

This famous Christmas song was originally a poem by Robert May, an advertising executive. May was assigned to produce a Christmas poem to be heard by children visiting Santa Claus in department stores. This marketing ploy was a massive success and approximately 2.5 million Rudolph, the rednosed reindeer poems were given away in the first year of publication! In 1949, the singer Gene Autry recorded a musical version of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer had a very shiny nose. And if you ever saw him, you would even say it glows.

All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names. They never let poor Rudolph join in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve Santa came to say: "Rudolph with your nose so bright, won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Then all the reindeer loved him as they shouted out with glee, Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer, you'll go down in history!

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Soprano

Tania Batson Marian Bodnar Vicky Brown Claire Fedoruk Rachelle Fox Marie Hodgson Karen Hogle Hyun Joo Kim Deborah Mayhan Marnie Mosiman Holly Shaw Price Diane Thomas

Alto

Nichole Baker Leanna Brand Monika Bruckner Amy Fogerson Saundra Hall Hill Kyra Humphrey Leslie Inman Sheila Murphy Alice K. Murray Nancy Sulahian Kimberly Switzer Tracy Van Fleet Diana Zaslove

Tenor

boliday wonder

Brenton Almond Dwayne Condon Pablo Corá Paul Gibson Jody Golightly Steven Harms Shawn Kirchner Dominic MacAller Christian Marcoe Sean McDermott Fletcher Sheridan Kevin St. Clair

Bass

Crispin Barrymore Paul Cummings Michael Freed Gregory Geiger Stephen Grimm Paul Hinshaw Lew Landau Robert Lewis Roger Lindbeck Tonoccus McClain James Raycroft Burman Timberlake

The singers of the Los Angeles Master Chorale are represented by the American Guild of Musical Artists, Scott Blois, AGMA Delegate.



Los Angeles Master Chorale

Grant Gershon | Music Director

The Rena Waltz Pierson Music Directorship, a gift of the Pierson and Lovelace Families to honor Lillian Lovelace's mother

messiah sing-along

Monday, December 13, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. | Walt Disney Concert Hall

sing-along a song to which one Grant Gershon, conductor can sing along in accompaniment

Claire Fedoruk, soprano | Monika Bruckner, mezzo soprano | Pablo Corá, tenor Gregory Geiger, bass | Frederick Swann, organ

Messiah

music by George Frideric Händel

Part the	First
----------	-------

1	Sinfonia	Overture	Orchestra
2	Recitative	Comfort ye, my people	Mr. Corá
3	Aria	Ev'ry valley shall be exalted	Mr. Corá
4	Chorus	And the glory of the Lord	
5	Recitative	Thus saith the Lord of Hosts	Mr. Geiger
6	Aria	But who may abide the day of his coming	Ms. Bruckner
7	Chorus	And he shall purify the sons of Levi	
8	Recitative	Behold, a virgin shall conceive	Ms. Bruckner
9	Aria	O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion	Ms. Bruckner & Chorus
10	Recitative	For behold, darkness shall cover the earth	Mr. Geiger
11	Aria	The people that walked in darkness	Mr. Geiger
12	Chorus	For unto us a child is born	
13	Pifa	Pastoral Symphony	Orchestra
14	Recitative	There were shepherds abiding in the field	Ms. Fedoruk
	Recitative	And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them	Ms. Fedoruk
15	Recitative	And the angel said unto them	Ms. Fedoruk
16	Recitative	And suddenly there was with the angel	Ms. Fedoruk
17	Chorus	Glory to God in the highest	
18	Aria	Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion	Ms. Fedoruk
19	Recitative	Then shall the eyes of the blind be open'd	Ms. Bruckner
20	Aria	He shall feed his flock like a shepherd	Ms. Bruckner
	Aria	Come unto him	Ms. Fedoruk
21	Chorus	His yoke is easy, his burthen is light	

Part the Second

44 Chorus

Hallelujah!

K-Mozart

Master Chorale.

K-Mozart 105.1 FM is the Official

Radio Station of the Los Angeles

Latecomers will be seated at the first convenient pause in the perform-

ance. Use of tape recorders, tele-

phones, pagers, and/or cameras is prohibited in the auditorium.

Programs and artists subject to change. Patrons cannot be paged during a performance.

messiah sing-along



MONIKA BRUCKNER, mezzo-soprano Born: in Münich, Germany At the Chorale: 1 season

A musician since: age 7 when

she began playing the violin

Education: Master of Music in vocal performance from the Conservatoire Boulogne-Billancourt in Paris

Performances with: Radio France Choir in Europe, Los Angeles Chamber Singers and Cappella

Collaborations with: harpsichordist Patricia Mabee and conductors Ricardo Muti, Jeffrey Tate, Yutaka Sado, Serge Ozawa, Charles Dutoit, Sir David Willcocks and Myung-Whun Chung



PABLO CORÁ, tenor Born: in Buenos Aires, Argentina

At the Chorale: 3 seasons

Performances in: Teatro Colón (Argentina), Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), Lincoln Center, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Weill Recital Hall (New York), Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and Walt Disney Concert Hall

Performances with: Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Chamber Singers and Cappella, Aguavá New Music, Musica Angelica and with period performance ensembles such as Piffaro, the Folger Consort, Camerata Pacifica Baroque and the Catacousitc Ensemble.

On disc: Theatre of Voices, Pro Arte Singers, Concord Ensemble, Piffaro and Los Angeles Master Chorale

Founded: Concord Ensemble in 1996

Currently: working on two previously unpublished oratorios by early Baroque composer Giacomo Carissimi to be performed in 2005

What makes for a great musical "high": Bach, any given day

Mountains or beach: mountains Beer or wine: beer

Volvo or Miata: Volvo



CLAIRE FEDORUK, soprano

At the Chorale: 3 seasons

Education: Bachelor of Music from Pacific Lutheran University and Master of Music from the Eastman School

Solo performances: Urbania (Italy), Sapporo (Japan), Frankfurt, Saarbrucken, Frieburg (Germany)

Premiered: John Adams' El Nino with the Chorale and Los Angeles Philharmonic

Appearances with: conductor Burton Karson and the Corona del Mar Baroque Festival as Ceccho Bimbi in Banchieri's Barca della Veneto and with conductor Jeffery Bernstein and the Occidental Glee Club as soloist in Schutz' Musikalische Exequien **Currently:** working towards a doctorate in Early Music Performance at the University of Southern California and transcribing six of Michel Pignolet de Monteclair's cantatas for future publication



GREGORY GEIGER, bass At the Chorale: 9 seasons Education: a graduate of both Michigan State University and

Michigan State University and the Peabody Institute.

Solo performances: Baltimore Opera, Baltimore Choral Arts Society, Washington Opera, Polaris New Music Ensemble, Baltimore Concert Artists, Los Angeles Opera, Curtis Institute Opera

Performed before: Former President James Carter when the president received the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism

On disc: with such artists as LeAnn Rimes and Barbara Streisand in addition to several film soundtracks

Currently: on the vocal studies faculty at Pomona College



Born: February 23, 1685 in Halle, Germany

Died: April 14, 1759 in London, England

Studied: with Friedrich Wilhem Zachow, law (only briefly) at the University of Halle

Assignments: 1702: organist at the Domkirche; 1703: violinist with the Hamburg Opera (a post which ended when Händel fought a duel with opera composer Matheson); after 1714: court composer for King George I of England (previously the Elector of Hanover, Germany)

Best known for: two of his oratorios, Judas Maccabaeus and Messiah. Händel found a way to appeal to the middle-class English public as well as the musical "hierarchy" by exploiting the oratorio's grand scale and lush manner of storytelling. However, his more than 40 operas, though only rediscovered and given renewed importance in the last half-century, are masterworks of style and imagination, though still constrained by convention.

Curious fact: Despite

Messiah's successful premiere in Dublin, Händel was worried that the title would be considered inappropriate for a concert work when he brought it to London and used the name "A New Sacred Oratorio" instead.

messiah sing-along

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Los Angeles Master Chorale

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FREDERICK SWANN, organ

Born: in Virginia

First church assignment: at age 10

Other assignments: 1957: organist, and in 1966: Director of Music at the Riverside Church, New York; 1960–67: organist and Director of Music at the Interchurch Center, New York; 1982: organist and Director of Music at the Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove; 1998: Organist-in-Residence at the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles

Academic assignments: former chair of the Organ Department at the Manhattan School of Music; formerly of the music faculties of Teacher's College at Columbia University and the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary, New York

Education: awarded degrees "with distinction" from Northwestern University, Chicago, and the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary, New York

Performances in: some of the world's greatest venues, including those of Paris, Chartes, Cologne, Nuremberg, London, Brasil, and others

Inaugurated the organs of: Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto, Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, and Walt Disney Concert Hall

Founded and directed: "Organ Alive," a highly regarded annual organ conference

Currently: in his second term as National President of the American Guild of Organists; Organ Artist-in-Residence at St. Margaret's, Palm Desert

Master Chorale Orchestra

Violin 1

Steve Scharf, concertmaster Margaret Wooten, assistant concertmaster Flo Titmus Leslie Katz Alwyn Wright Sharon Harman

Violin 2

Jayme Miller, principal Cynthia Moussas Rhonni Hallman Linda Stone Lisa Dondlinger Anna Kotusyk

Viola Andrew Picken, principal Shawn Mann Dmitri Boviard Kathryn Reddish

Cello John Walz, principal Delores Bing, assistant principal Nadine Hall Maurice Grants

Bass

Donald Ferrone, principal Ann Atkinson, assistant principal **Oboe** Joel Timm, principal Stuart Horn

Bassoon Rose Corrigan, principal

Trumpet Andrew Ulyate, principal William Bing

Tympani Mark Zimoski, principal

Harpsichord Patricia Mabee

Organ Fred Swann

Personnel Manager Steve Scharf

Librarian Robert Dolan

Los Angeles Master Chorale Orchestra is represented by the American Federation of Musicians.



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Composer Steve Reich (left) and Ruth and Judea Pearl celebrate the world premiere of Reich's You Are (Variations) at a donor party following the October 24 concert. The concert was part of the Daniel Pearl Day of celebration.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The holidays are upon us and so to the hustle that comes with shopping, travel planning, not to mention the planning of meals and recreational activities for those travelers once they arrive. The Music Center can save you from some of the traditional holiday bustle. Starting with your holiday cards, the Music Center holiday cards are available for purchase. There are two designs to select from; what's more you can arrange for our staff to do the addressing and mailing of your holiday missive. For more information, please call (213) 972-3341 before December 17.

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Finally, if you're too tired to cook visit one of the Music Center restaurants and enjoy holiday treats from Patina.

Wishing you happy holidays and a joyous New Year,

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Stephen D. Rountree President, Music Center



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