

Fall 12-7-1997

# Christmas Vespers

Lehigh University Music Department

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# LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHORAL ARTS

## CHRISTMAS VESPERS

Steven Sametz, *director*  
Stephen Williams, *University Organist*  
Lehigh University Brass Ensemble  
Andrea Wittchen, *harp*  
Paul Chou, *violin*

### PROGRAM

#### **Prelude Music**

Stephen Williams, *Organist*  
Lehigh University Brass Ensemble

#### **Processional: Wondrous Love**

Folksong *arr.* Sametz

What wondrous love is this? O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to send so great a gift? Oh my soul! Ye winged seraphs fly, bear the news! Ye winged seraphs fly like lightning through the sky, fill vast eternity with the news! To God and to the Lamb I will sing! To God and to the Lamb and to the Great I Am while millions join the psalm I will sing!

#### **Reading I: The Gospel according to John 1:1-14**

Patrick Brickley (4:00)  
Darlene Dreyer (8:00)

#### **I Sing of a Maiden**

Charles F. Waters

I sing of a maiden  
That is matchless,  
King of all kings  
To her son she chose.

He came all so still  
Where his mother was,  
As dew in April  
That falleth on the grass.

Mother and maiden  
Was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady  
God's mother be.

~15th century

#### **Reading II: The Gospel according to Matthew 1:18-25**

Marci DeGol (4:00)  
Bryon Yoder (8:00)

## A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

Kevin Hoffman, *baritone*

(1892-1983)

A Spotless Rose is blowing,  
Sprung from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,  
Of Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
Amid the cold, cold winter,  
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,  
Whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing  
In Mary, purest Maid;  
For through our God's great love and might  
The Blessed Babe she bare us  
In a cold, cold, winter's night.

*~14th century text*

## Hymn: What Child is This

*You are invited to stand and join in the singing of the hymns*

What child is this, who laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners hear  
the silent Word is pleading.

*Refrain*

*Refrain:*

*This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.

*Refrain*

## Irish Lullabye for the Christ Child

*arr. Sametz*

Victoria Jaggard, *soprano*

Shoheen, Shoho, my child is my treasure, My jewel, my sinless, my share of the world.  
Shoheen, Shoho, how sweet is my pleasure, My dark flag of sorrow forever is furled.  
Child of my bosom, may sleep ever thrive with you, Luck and contentment be ever in store.  
God and your mother will nothing deprive from you, Sleep now, my baby, till dawn's at the door.

On the hill of the sidhe<sup>1</sup> the fairies are dancing, Playing their games by the fair moon of spring. Here they come tiptoe, laughing, and prancing, To lure him away to the dun<sup>2</sup> of their king.

They shall not entice you by the dint of their charming, They shall not allure you by the sound of their coel.<sup>3</sup> I guard you by prayer from all that is harming, And God with his warm wings will shelter your soul.

Bright as the branch of the red rowan berries, Short are the years you are wrapped in my love. Mo craoibhin,<sup>4</sup> my child, close your eyes to the fairies, And open your ears to the angels above.

God does not grudge me the love of my baby, You are my toy and my plaything the while. Toddle with me, for the day will come, maybe, When lonely you'll wander for mile after mile.

<sup>1</sup>a fairy mound

<sup>3</sup>mythical song; ethereal, magical song

<sup>2</sup>fort, castle

<sup>4</sup>my child

**Reading III: El Grito de Chayan** (The Cry of the Chayan)

Gina Melstrand, *reader*

Folktale of the Dominican Republic

**Alleluia from Psalmo Brasileiro** (Alleluia from the Brazilian Psalm) Jean Berger  
*Sung in Portuguese* (b.1909)

Alleluia

O Lord, cymbals and the sounding harp I do not have,  
But I'll make a fair procession for you, O blessed Lord.

**Hymn: The First Noel**

The first Noel the angels did say  
was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay;  
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain:*

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.*

And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far,  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.

*Refrain*

They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.

*Refrain*

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay.

*Refrain*

**Reading IV: Nativity** *from Corona*

Jack Vickrey, *reader*

John Donne  
(1521-1651)

**Ave Maria**

*Sung in Latin*

Chris Landrieu, *tenor*  
Kristian Ordning, *baritone*

Franz Biebl  
(b.1906)

The angel of the Lord appeared unto Mary and she conceived by the holy spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord be with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Mary said: Behold the servant of the Lord, do with me according to your word. And the word was made flesh and lived in us. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for our sins. Holy Mary, pray for us now and in the hour of our death. Amen

**Reading V: Sing Noel!**

*(Anonymous 15<sup>th</sup> century lyric)*

Dean Joan Straumanis (4:00)  
Mo Swenson (8:00)

**Noel!**

Steven Sametz

(b. 1954)

Noel sing we both all and some  
 Out of your sleep awake  
 For God mankind now hath he take

All of a maiden without any make.  
 Sing we Noel!

**Sing We Noel**Green, *arr.* Sametz

Dost thou remember the prophet of old,  
 Who that most wondrous story told?  
 How of a virgin pure and mild  
 should be born a perfect child?  
 The seer spake true, the virgin so fair:  
 a Son from heaven doth declare;  
 Sing we Noel, Noel, Noel.

Now let hosannas ring all o'er the earth;  
 proclaim the infant Jesus' birth.  
 Spread the glad tidings of a Saviour found,  
 With joy let ev'ry heart abound.  
 Our Lord is born, green garlands bring;  
 we'll crown the newborn infant King!  
 Sing we Noel, Noel, Noel.

Angels praise God in glorious strain,  
 Mortals take up the glad refrain.  
 Bright in the East, fair shining star,  
 Thou ledest wise men from afar.  
 'Tis here He lies, lift up your voice;  
 Let all in heav'n and earth rejoice;  
 Sing we Noel, Noel, Noel.

**Reading VI: Al Niño Jesus (To the Infant Jesus)**

Jacinto de Evia

Deborah Sacarakis, *reader*(17<sup>th</sup> century)*A gypsy girl tells the infant Jesus' fortune***del nacimiento (of the birth)**

Steven Sametz

*Sung in Spanish*

*...los hombres decían cantares,  
 los ángeles melodía,  
 festejando el desposorio  
 qu'entre tales dos había  
 pero Dios en el pesebre allí  
 lloraba y gemía,  
 que eran, joyas que la esposa  
 al desposorio traía  
 y la madre estaba en pasmó  
 de que tal trueque veía:  
 el llanto del hombre en Dios,  
 y en el hombre la alegría,  
 lo cual del uno y otro  
 tan ajeno ser solía.*

*...men sang songs,  
 angels melodies,  
 celebrating the marriage  
 that was taking place between these two  
 But God wept and moaned  
 there in the manger,  
 tears that were jewels that the bride  
 brought to the wedding,  
 and the mother gazed in wonder  
 at such an exchange:  
 in God was man's lament,  
 and in man was joy,  
 which things are usually so alien  
 to each one of them.*

*~St. John of the Cross (16<sup>th</sup> century)***Reading VII: The Gospel according to Luke 1:41-5** Dean Lorna Hunter (4:00)*(Magnificat)*

Dean Sharon Brown (8:00)

## Magnificat (Song of Mary)

Steven Sametz

*Magnificat* was written in February of 1996 for the Lehigh University Choir's tour program. The idea for the setting started on a plane ride from Kathmandu during my sabbatical year in 1995. I took my seat in the plane and I listened to what I thought was Gregorian chant --a beautiful *organum*--being played softly through the plane's sound system. It was incredibly static, pulsing on a C# major chord with only occasional variations. Though they were hard to distinguish given the plane noise, I thought I could make out the Latin words "a progenies in progenies" from the Latin setting of a Magnificat. I had just returned from Lhasa, and found it wonderfully soothing. I considered this to be a wonderful--if astoundingly unlikely--aesthetic choice by some on-board flight attendant. I tried to find out what channel it was playing on from the in-flight magazine. It was only after looking up all the channels that I realized I was listening to the gentle pulsing of the overtones produced by the plane's engine noise. It was a music of the spheres for me: something we have around us at all times and rarely recognize consciously.

The setting is based on the Magnificat chant in the mixolydian mode form the Liber Usualis. The chant is presented simply at first, then taken up in open harmonies by the choir. This leads to the main section, a gentle pulsing on a B $\flat$  major chord - hardly heard - which unfolds steadily to the end of the piece. It is a short work in which I tried to recreate the sense I had on the plane of being enfolded in and taken up by sound. ~ S.S.

## Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, o come ye  
to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him,  
Born the King of angels;  
*Refrain*  
*O come let us adore Him,*  
*O come let us adore Him,*  
*Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens  
Of heav'n above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest;  
*Refrain*

Child, for us sinners  
Poor and in the manger,  
We would embrace Thee,  
with love and awe;  
Who would not love Thee,  
Loving us so dearly?  
*Refrain*

Yea, Lord we greet Thee  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in Flesh appearing:  
*Refrain*

**Reading IX: The Gospel according to John 3:16-17**

Elizabeth Nordt (4:00)

Brian Falck (8:00)

**Spaseniye sodelal yesi** (Salvation is created)

*Sung in Russian*

Pavel Chesnokov

(1877-1944)

Salvation is created in the midst of earth, O God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

~ *Psalm 74:12*

**Lo How a Rose**

Praetorius, *arr.* Sametz

Lo how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung

Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung!

It came a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter

When half-spent was the night!

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,

With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.

To show God's love aright she bore to men a Saviour,

When half-spent was the night.

**Benediction**

Reverend Alfred A. Schlert (4:00)

Reverend Dr. Lloyd Steffen (8:00)

**Recessional: Alleluia**

Steven Sametz

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*You may leave an offering in the church entrance if you care to after the service.*

*Donations will go towards Lehigh University Choral Arts.*

*Your contribution is very much appreciated.*

*Our thanks to Loris Baker, Linda Lefkowitz, Luis Oliveira Lopes, and Gina Melstrand for their assistance in research and translations for this program.*

*Handbells courtesy of Schulmerich Carillons.*

*The candles today are a gift of Nancy and Jerry Bidlack in memory of their son, Benjamin.*

\*

**LEHIGH UNIVERSITY BRASS ENSEMBLE**

Lawrence Wright, *director*

Gary Scott Thompson, *trumpet*

Joseph L. Enama, *trumpet*

Matt Holderman, *trumpet*

J.P. Kloske, *trumpet*

Michael D'Ambrosio, *french horn*

James Sabo, *french horn*

Kathryn Hoff, *trombone*

Julie Pentz, *trombone*

Eric Krute, *tuba*

## PERSONNEL

- |                       |                     |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| *Michelle Asadourian  | *Emily Fleck        | +Jennifer Kwock       | +Judy Reed            |
| +Loris Baker          | +Carolyn Folmer     | *Chris Landrieu       | *Inna Ryu             |
| +Daniel Balf          | +Natalie Foster     | *Tricia Lenihan       | *Deborah Sacarakis    |
| +Julie Belock         | +Linda Frederick    | *T. Jake Luciani      | *Nathan Seigel        |
| +Gregg Benedetto      | +Cord Frieden       | +Douglas MacNeil      | +Theresa C. Shaton    |
| +Elizabeth Blanchet   | *Nicole A. Gaddis   | *♦Eric Maur           | *Joon Shin            |
| *David Borgo          | +James A. Gallucci  | +Kathryn McAuley      | +Bill Shunk           |
| +Betty Bramblet       | +Gail E. Gangaware  | +Gina Melstrand       | *Adam E. Simon        |
| +Anne Brasher         | +Joseph Garofalo    | +Chris Menocal        | +Robert Smith         |
| *♦Patrick Brickley    | *Rachel Garrison    | *Marcia M. Mierzwa    | +Andrew Snyder        |
| +Stephen F. Bueker    | +Geoff Gehman       | +Mary L. Miller       | +Peter Stinson        |
| +Patricia A. Chase    | +Virginia Gill      | *Linda Molyneux       | +Maurine Swanson      |
| *Han Saem Cho         | +Larry Good         | +Lida Fraisure Mora   | +Michael Thompson     |
| *Marc Cohen           | +Lorrene C. Goodman | +Cathy Mordosky       | +Sean B. Treacy       |
| +Cindy Wilson Comfort | +Bruce Hagerty      | +Ronald Mordosky      | *Jennifer Tuck        |
| +Kristen Crooks       | +Marty Hahn         | *Michelle Murad       | +Sonja van den Heuvel |
| +Michael D'Ambrosio   | +Charlie Hasenecz   | +Miriam Nacheisty     | +Diane Vanderslice    |
| *Diane Daniels        | +Andrew Henry       | +Marianne Napravnik   | *♦John VanDugteren    |
| *Adam Datesman        | +Alayne Hersh       | +Tiare Neumann        | *♦Robert VanDuzer III |
| *Marci DeGol          | *Jared Hess         | +Michelle Ng          | +Carol Vickrey        |
| +Joanna de Jesús      | *Kevin Hoffman      | +Elizabeth Nordt      | +Jack Vickrey         |
| +Julie De Motte       | +Cindy Holland      | +Goddony Normil       | +Kathleen Vollrath    |
| +Loretta Deutsch      | +Sherrill Hoover    | +Warren A. Norris Jr. | +Jennifer Volpato     |
| *Vanessa DeVett       | +Lynne Hoxie        | *Michael Ochs         | +Beth Walker          |
| *Ken DiStefano        | +Michael C. Huffman | +June Okunski         | *Helen Wang           |
| +Darlene Dreyer       | *Victoria Jaggard   | +Justin Ondrey        | +Marea Weber          |
| *Jon Dunn             | +Elizabeth M. Jones | *Kristian Ording      | *Elisa Wiherin        |
| *Greg Dvorocsik       | +Alison Kaplan      | *Jonathan Paine       | +Dina Wills           |
| +Kathryn Dyer         | *Sarah Karam        | +Jack Paul            | +Jennifer Whitlock    |
| +Miriam Ellwanger     | *Kristina Keener    | +Dorothy Perschy      | +Nancy L. Williamson  |
| +Libera C. Evans      | *Elyse Kemmerer     | +Paul Pieretti        | +Ursula Wuertth       |
| +John Everett         | *Andy Kim           | +Diane Rankin         | +Chris Wyble          |
| +Brian Falck          | +Lynn E. Koehler    | +Jean Rau             | *♦Bryon C. Yoder      |
| *Owen Ferik           | +Apinop Koolawong   | *♦Eben Rauhut         |                       |

- \*Lehigh University Choir
- +Lehigh University Choral Union
- ♦Handbell players

Lehigh University Choral Arts is open to all interested singers.  
For details, please call the Department of Music at 758-3839.



## ADMINISTRATION

Steven Sametz, *director*  
Stephen Williams, *associate director*

## LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHOIR

Chris Landrieu, *manager*  
Patrick Brickley, *assistant manager*  
Nicole Gaddis, *tour manager*  
Joon Shin, *stage manager*  
Michelle Ng, *publicity manager*  
Kristina Keener, *assistant publicity manager*  
Vanessa DeVett, *concert manager*  
Rob VanDuzer III, *assistant stage manager*  
Tricia Lenihan and Eric Maur, *wardrobe managers*  
Jared Hess and Victoria Jaggard, *food managers*  
Sara Karam, *librarian*

## LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

Darlene Dreyer and Joon Shin, *managers*  
Betty Bramblet, *audio manager*  
Doug MacNeil, *orchestra manager*

## CHORAL ARTS

### UP-COMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 2, 1997  
**Tell Me a Story**  
Concert for Children  
Zoellner Arts Center, 3:00pm

Saturday, March 22, 1997  
**Tour de France**  
Lehigh University Choir  
Zoellner Arts Center, 8:15pm

Friday, February 7, 1997  
**Mozart Requiem**  
Lehigh Valley High School Chorus  
Zoellner Arts Center, 8:00pm

Friday and Saturday, April 25 & 26, 1997  
**Schubert, Brahms, and Beethoven**  
Lehigh University Choral Arts  
Zoellner Arts Center, 8:15pm

*The Lehigh University Choir will be touring France in May of 1997.*