

### **The Singers:**

Rosalind Adams	Mary Gallinger	Alison Rimmer
Nikki Adams	Beverley Holmes	Sue Ryan
Meredythe Broadway	Andrea Kross	Deborah Sumner
Trish Dandy	Beryl Lindley	Kim Sylvester
Fran Darling	Trish Rankin	Carolyn Thompson
Laura Davis	Maria Ridewood	Ann Yelland

### **The Biographies:**

**Deborah Sumner** is a founding member of Encore! and this is her debut appearance with the choir as a composer. She grew up in a musical family but did not seriously study music until her late teens. She studied voice, flute, piano and composition at the University of Victoria and has been an elementary school music teacher for many years. She sang with and composed for a women's quartet called OBWA, and has also composed, produced and performed on a CD of original music, called "Finding That Place". Deborah is very excited that Encore! is performing "A Promise of Spring" and she says she wrote it thinking about the chill of the season and the promise of the warmth to come.

**Heather Harker** is a fourth year voice major at the University of Victoria. She comes from Vernon B.C. and has studied voice since the age of twelve. Heather has performed with the chorus of Opera New Brunswick, and as a soloist with the University of Victoria Chorus and Orchestra.

Soprano **Barbara Walton**, originally from Chemainus, is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Music programme at the University of Victoria. She began her singing career in Duncan with voice teacher Connie Masson, and was a soloist at the Chemainus Theatre Festival, as well as with the University of Victoria Chorus and Orchestra.

### **For their Generous Support, Encore! would like to thank:**

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### **The Board:**

Ann Yelland  
Mary Gallinger  
Chuck Dandy  
Sue Ryan  
Mary D'Isendorn  
Peter Yelland  
Carolyn Thompson  
Beverley Holmes  
Rosalind Adams



and

# Encore!

## Women's Choir

present



# ***What Sweeter Music***

**A celebration of Christmas favourites, old and new**

**Christine Dandy, Conductor**

**Rykie Avenant, Accompanist**



with special guests

**Barbara Walton and Heather Harker**



**Saturday, 12 December, 2009 at 7:30 pm**  
**Duncan United Church**

## Encore Christmas Concert Program 2009

### The Choir:

#### A Ceremony of Carols — Benjamin Britten

1. Procession
2. Wolcum Yole!
3. There is no Rose
- 4a. That yonge child - Soloist: Kim Sylvester
- 4b. Balulalow - Soloist: Deborah Sumner
5. As dew in Aprille
6. This little Babe
10. Deo Gracias

### Sing-along Carol: Joy to the World

#### The Choir:

#### What Sweeter Music – Eleanor Daley

#### Away In A Manger – W.J.Kirkpatrick, Arr. David Willcocks

Soloist: Trish Dandy

#### The Carol of the Rose (from The Place of the Blest)

– Randall Thompson

#### Duet:

#### In the Bleak Midwinter – Holst/Darke

Vocalists: Meredythe Broadway, Ann Yelland

### Sing-along Carol: O Come All Ye Faithful

#### The Choir:

#### A Promise of Spring – Deborah Sumner

#### Scottish Lullaby – Scottish Trad., Arr. Michael Neaum

#### Merry Christmas, Mozart (based on melodies by

W.A. Mozart), Arr. Jay Althouse

account of their acoustic features. The texts themselves evoke a world alien from our (and Britten's) lives and times, and his music features unfamiliar harmonies and weird melodies. This is not a Victorian, Dickensian, Oh-come-all-ye-faithful Christmas.

The piece is incredibly atmospheric in nature. For many choral singers, this is *the* piece of the Christmas repertoire.

#### I. Procession

Hodie Christus natus est,  
Hodie Salvator apparuit,  
Hodie in terra canunt angeli;  
Laetantur archangeli,  
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Today Christ is born,  
Today the Saviour appears,  
Today the angels sing on earth;  
The archangels rejoice.  
Today the righteous exult, saying:  
Glory to God in the highest.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The movement is a statement of intent - to be inspired by the ancient views of Christmas, but to present them in fresh terms.

#### II. 'Wolcum yole' - Anon

III. 'There is no Rose' - Anon — the text of this movement is a consideration of the Virgin Mary's role in Christ's incarnation. The "rose" refers to her womb.

#### IV.a. 'That Yonge Child' - Anon

IV.b. 'Balulalow' - James, John and Robert Wedderburn - a lullaby for the infant Jesus

#### V. 'As dew in Aprille' – Anon

#### VI. 'This little Babe' - Robert Southwell (1561-1595)

The movement is based again on the *Hodie* antiphon from the traditional Christmas Vespers. This is a piece written with winter in mind. But, as with a frozen landscape, the music soon melts into warmer and softer arrangements of a conformable harmony

#### X. 'Deo Gracias' – Anon

This poem has been set to music by many composers over the years. It is sometimes known by the alternative spelling "Adam Lay ybounden". The strange opening words of the poem, "ibounden", "bond", etc., refer to Adam's (and therefore mankind's) bondage to sin and the 4000 year wait for the Messiah.

#### XI. Recession 'Hodie Christus natus est' - Anon



## **Welcome from Our Director**

**Christine Dandy BMus. BEd. ARCT** is pleased to present this challenging and entertaining program for your enjoyment. We have had a good time preparing this diverse selection of music and hope you enjoy celebrating the Christmas Season with us. This concert is also the premier of our new formal attire! Special thanks to Ann Yelland and Mary Gallinger for their efforts in this area.

Christine has an exciting plan for the winter/spring semester that involves a mixture of Romantic music such as **Schubert, Mendelssohn and Rheinburger**, with the selections from **Billy Joel, Lorena McKennitt, and Alistair McGillivray**, and a little **Moses Hogan** thrown in! Watch for our **Spring Concert**, currently planned for **Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**, a **shared** concert with former Cowichan Valley resident, **Jean-Marie Kent** directing the **Magnolia Chorale**, a community choir from Seattle Washington. They will be focusing on two nations, side by side, as they sing **Canadian and American folk music**.

Encore! has a target membership of 25 so there are still a few places left for additional singers. If you enjoy singing, read music, have a blending voice and would like to share these talents, call Christine at 250-715-1568.

## **Notes on A Ceremony of Carols**

This is a piece of Christmas music by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) for a chamber choir and a harp. Two versions exist. This version for treble voices was composed first, in 1942, and had its première in 1943 at the Wigmore Hall. It was written on board the cargo ship *Axel Johnson* en voyage to Britain from the US. Britten's accommodations were beside noisy refrigeration plant. The Atlantic was a dangerous place for shipping in those days- U-Boat activity was at its peak.

Many inspirations contributed to the composition- a book of medieval poems picked up during the ship's stopover in Nova Scotia, the English tradition of church music, and Balinese gamelan percussion.

Many of the texts are concerned with the mysterious aspects of the Christmas story. They are all twinged with the medieval understanding of God, the world and mankind. Mariolatry features strongly, for example. The nativity scenes they depict is a freezing English winter- rather than a balmy Bethlehem; and original sin is seen as good thing as it allowed Mary to come to the fore. As such the piece is as much about medieval European Christianity as about the biblical Christmas story. However, the piece was written for, and is usually performed in churches and cathedrals, and takes

## **Intermission**



### **Duet:**

**Sull'aria (a duet from the Marriage of Figaro)**

**– W.A. Mozart**

Vocalists: Heather Harker, Barbara Walton

**Sing-along Carol: Angels We Have Heard On High**

### **The Choir:**

**Gaudete! Gaudete! (Rejoice! Rejoice!) - Piae Cantiones, 1582,**

**Arr. Eana Walter**

**Gloria Deo! (Glory to God) - Mary Lynn Lightfoot**

**All Through the Night (an old Welsh Song) Arr. W.H.Anderson**

**A La Nanita Nana- A Spanish Carol Arr. M.Litchfield/C.Dandy**

Soloist: Trish Rankin

**Sing-along Carol: Silent Night**

### **The Choir:**

**Silver Bells – J.Livingston/R.Evans, Arr. Charles Naylor**

**Carol of the Bells – M. Leontovich, Arr. P.J.Wilhousky**

**Fum, Fum, Fum – A Spanish Dance Carol – Arr. J.Herrington/S.Glick**

**Whatcha Gonna Call That Baby? - Phyllis Wolfe-White**

**Sing-along Carol: Let It Snow!**

### **The Choir:**

**Santa Baby – Javits and Springer, Arr. Mac Huff**

**The Twelve Days After Christmas – Frederick Silver**

**We Wish You A Merry Christmas – English Traditional,**

**Arr. John Rutter**

## Sing-Along Carol Lyrics

### JOY TO THE WORLD

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

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

### O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

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,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

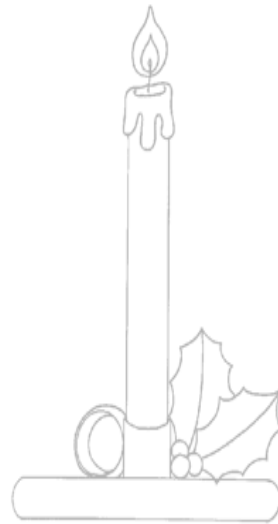
Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God in the highest;



No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

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



### ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

#### Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ, whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

### SILENT NIGHT

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child,  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:  
Glories stream from heaven a-far, Heavenly hosts sing alleluia,  
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

### LET IT SNOW!

Oh, the weather outside is frightful,  
But the fire is so delightful,  
And since we've no place to go,  
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

It doesn't show signs of stopping,  
And I brought some corn for popping;  
The lights are turned way down low,  
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

When we finally kiss good-night,  
How I hate going out in the storm;  
But if you really hold me tight,  
All the way home I'll be warm.

The fire is slowly dying,  
And my dear, we're still good-bye-ing,  
But as long as you love me so,  
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.