

4PM • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

Anaheim United Methodist Church 1000 S State College Blvd, Anaheim, CA 92806



WELCOME

Dear Friends of Meritáge,

Happy Holidays! We are grateful that you and your family are joining us for our wonderful holiday concert. We hope the concert will remind you all of the blessings we share: community, peace, and choral music.

Please note the change in day, time, and location of the next concert, Duruflé *Requiem*. This blow-out concert with multiple choirs and full orchestra will be Friday March 24 at 7 pm at St. Boniface Church, 120 N Janss Street, Anaheim. Please mark your calendars and tell everyone you know about this special event.

If you're interested in being a named sponsor of the orchestra, please speak with me directly or donate through our website, https://meritage-vocalarts.org.

Thank you again, and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

STEPHEN SCHULIST, PRESIDENT

Board of Directors, FOCM dba Meritáge Vocal Arts Ensemble





MERITÁGE VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE

We Wish You A Merry Christmas	Traditional English arr. Alice Parker
Hodie	Matthew J. Armstrong
Sleigh Ride	Mitchell Parish and Leroy Anderson arr. Hawley Ades
	arr. Tim Harbold
Walking in the Air (from <i>The Snowman</i>)	
	ace Lee
	arr. Dan Forrest
	ea Flores

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

Joy to the World Jingle Bells

MERITÁGE VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE

I Saw Three Ships	Traditional English Carol
	arr. John Frederick Hudson
Ter	i Schulist, solo
Christmas Goes Classical	Richard Strauss, Richard Wagner,
	Edvard Grieg, Giuseppe Verdi,
	Georges Bizet, Pyotr Tchaikovsky
	lyrics and arr. David Maddux

*****INTERMISSION****





MERITÁGE VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE

Talia Miracula (Such Wonders)	Brad Nix
Janet Lewis, solo	
L'Adieu des bergers à la sainte famille (The Shepherds Farewell) (from <i>l'Enfance du Christ, op. 25</i>)	.Hector Berlioz
Lux Nova	Eric Whitacre
Grace Lee, solo	
Domine Deus (from <i>Gloria in D Major, RV 589</i>)	Antonio Vivaldi
The Blessed Son of GodRalph Vau Grace Lee, Janet Lewis, Lucy Dunn, Teresa Raridan Mark Peter, Paul Shirts, Samuel Nuñez, and Mike Liu	ighan Williams
Maria Wiegenlied (The Virgin's Slumber Song)	Max Reger

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

Silent Night Santa Claus is Coming to Town

A Christmas Surprise Lucy Dunn and Mark Salters

MERITÁGE VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE

Carol of the Bells	Peter J. Wilhousky and Mykola Leontovych
	arr. Peter J. Wilhousky
Guest C	Conductor
The Christmas Song	Mel Torme and Robert Wells arr. Ed Lojeski
Ron Harg	reaves, solo
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas	Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane arr. Mark Haves

Andrea Flores, solo

Artistic Director's Note



Hello Meritáge Friends,

We are so proud to give this concert for you. The Christmas season is one marked by family, joy, love and merriment. We hope you enjoy these "merry" pieces as we explore the season and the many aspects of beauty that it holds. What I hope you notice is just how versatile this group of artists is. We are now halfway through our third season together and I am very proud of the growth we've had in terms of vocalism, tuning, vocal colors, and expression. I truly believe that nothing is as beautiful as the human voice, and by extension the choral art. And these artists/singers are a joy to work with each week—we encourage you to consider joining us, too. The rest of our season is simply incredible and ends with a fascinating trip to the other side of the world. But, here, back at home we work hard to present you with wonderful concerts. Tonight is no different.

We open with Alice Parker's popular arrangement of the much-loved We Wish You a Merry Christmas. We wanted to start off this "merry" concert with a bang and thought this did the trick—especially since we are connecting it to the fanfare-like Hodie! by Matthew Armstrong. As you can see with the texts, we go from "figgy pudding" to an exhortation of angels. From secular to sacred, a more bombastic caroling sound to a full classical tone—we are working to entertain with different styles of music, singing, joy, and most of all, beauty...and that is always the goal with Meritáge. It has been from its founding many, many years ago. Whether the songs are familiar like Sleigh Ride or The Christmas Song, or familiar but with a new twist like our O Holy Night and I Saw Three Ships, we are trying to bring you merriment in a variety of ways.

We also are tasked with bringing audiences masterpieces that are, perhaps, less well known. The *Talia Miracula* and *Lux Nova* are well known in choral circles, and *The Shepherds Farewell* of Berlioz is a famous chorus done all over the world, but may be unfamiliar to some of us. We want to bring you these elegant, profound expression of joy and beauty. And then of course, we do our typical Meritáge stunt and throw some fun pieces in—I can't wait for you to try and figure out all that is going on with Maddux's *Christmas Goes Classical*!

Tonight you will be regaled with many different styles of choral music, fantastic solos of all types, sing along carols, and one lucky fan will get to conduct the group! This all goes to what Meritáge is at its core—a fine blending of voices, music, and people. We at Meritáge are so happy you are here—we hope you enjoy this concert as much as we have had preparing it for you. Merry Christmas from all us to all of you!

BRIAN DEHN Artistic Director MER PO Christilla



Sing-Along Lyrics



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 Heaven,
and nature sing.

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.

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bobtails ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight, oh!

Chorus:

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

Now the ground is white, Go it while you're young,

Take the girls tonight

And sing this sleighing song.
Get a bobtailed bay
Two forty for his speed
Hitch him to an open sleigh
And, crack! You'll take the lead.

Chorus repeat



Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Oh, you, better watch out, You better not cry, Better not pout, I'm telling you why: Santa Claus is comin' to town.

He's making a list
And checking it twice,
Gonna find out
Who's naughty and nice.
Santa Claus is comin' to town.



He sees you when you're sleepin',
He knows when you're awake,
He knows if you've been bad or good,
So be good for goodness sake.

Silent Night

Round yon Virgin,

Silent night, holy night,

All is calm, all is bright,

Mother and Child,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night,

Shepherds quake at the sight.

Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,

Christ the Savior is born.

Christ the Savior is born

Glories stream from heaven afar

Holy infant so tender and mild,

You better watch out, You better not cry, Better not pout, I'm telling you why: Santa Claus is comin' to town.

Texts / Translations



We Wish You a Merry Christmas TRADITIONAL ENGLISH, ARR. ALICE PARKER

We wish you a merry Christmas We wish you a merry Christmas We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Oh, bring us some figgy pudding Oh, bring us some figgy pudding Oh, bring us some figgy pudding And bring it right here

We won't go until we get some We won't go until we get some We won't go until we get some So bring it right here

We all like our figgy pudding We all like our figgy pudding We all like our figgy pudding With all its good cheers

We wish you a merry Christmas We wish you a merry Christmas We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Hodie!

MATTHEW J. ARMSTRONG

Hodie Christus natus est:

Hodie Salvator apparuit: Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli:

Hodie exsultant justi, Dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, Alleluia

Today Christ is born;

Today the Savior has appeared; Today the Angels sing, The Archangels rejoice; Today the righteous Rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the Highest. Alleluia!

Sleigh Ride

MITCHELL PARISH AND LEROY ANDERSON ARR. HAWLEY ADES

Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, Ring ting tingling too Come on, it's lovely weather For a sleigh ride together with you Outside the snow is falling And friends are calling "yoo hoo," Come on, it's lovely weather For a sleigh ride together with you.

Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, Let's go, Let's look at the show, We're riding in a wonderland of snow. Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, It's grand, Just holding your hand, We're gliding along with a song Of a wintry fairy land

Our cheeks are nice and rosy
And comfy cozy are we
We're snuggled up together
Like two birds of a feather would be
Let's take that road before us
And sing a chorus or two
Come on, it's lovely weather
For a sleigh ride together with you.

There's a birthday party
At the home of Farmer Gray
It'll be the perfect ending a perfect day
We'll be singing the songs
We love to sing without a single stop
At the fireplace while we watch
The chestnuts pop. pop! pop!

There's a happy feeling
Nothing in the world can buy
When they pass around
the coffee and the pumpkin pie
It'll nearly be like a picture print
by Currier and Ives
These wonderful things are the things



Texts / Translations

We remember all through our lives! Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, Ring ting tingling too
Come on, it's lovely weather
For a sleigh ride together with you
Outside the snow is falling
And friends are calling "yoo hoo,"
Come on, it's lovely weather
For a sleigh ride together with you.

It's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

O Holy Night (A Gospel Setting) ARR. TIM HARBOLD

O Holy Night!
The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees
Oh hear the angel voices
Oh night divine
Oh night when Christ was born
Oh night divine
Oh night divine

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming Here come the wise men from Orient land The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger In all our trials born to be our friend

Truly He taught us to love one another His law is love and His gospel is peace Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother And in His name all oppression shall cease Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His holy name

I Saw Three Ships TRADITIONAL ENGLISH CAROL, ARR. JOHN FREDERICK HUDSON

I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day in the morning And what was in those ships all three On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day? And what was in those ships all three On Christmas Day in the morning?

Our Savior Christ and His lady On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day Our Savior Christ and His lady On Christmas Day in the morning

Pray, wither sailed those ships all three On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day Pray, wither sailed those ships all three On Christmas Day in the morning

O, they sailed into Bethlehem On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day O, they sailed into Bethlehem On Christmas Day in the morning

And all the bells on Earth shall ring On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day And all the bells on Earth shall ring On Christmas Day in the morning

Christmas Goes Classical RICHARD STRAUSS, RICHARD WAGNER, EDVARD GRIEG, GIUSEPPE VERDI, GEORGES BIZET, PYOTR TCHAIKOVSKY LYRICS AND ARR. DAVID MADDUX

Merry, merry, merry Christmas!
Ding dong ring the bells
to gather friends from far and near!
Happy, happy, happy Kwanzaa and Solsticetide!
And a happy New Year!

Singing we come full of joyous celebration;
Filling the night with delight and jubilation;
Ushering in the time of year
when Christmas cheer overflows
and snows children greet with elation!
Magic abounds in the beauty wrapped around us,
Memories dear, once forgotten,
now have found us.
And as if drawn in brilliant lines,

Christmas is the time of year full of cheer; Santa's here!

the message shines ever clear: With cheer Christmas Present has crowned us!

Texts / Translations



Greet the jolly holiday
with laughter and with song!
Merry let your spirit be!
Light the tree, dance with me!
Let the magic warm your heart
to last the winter long!
May your ev'ry secret dream
brightly gleam, fill the scene;
Ev'ry hope and ev'ry joy fin'lly come true!
May your secret dreams brightly gleam,
fill the scene;
Ev'ry hope and ev'ry joy fin'lly come true!

Christmas is the time of year full of cheer; Santa's here! Greet the jolly holiday with laughter and with song! Merry let your spirit be! Light the tree, dance with me! Let the magic warm your heart to last the winter long!

Softly by night do we creep with the tread of a cat to the edge of the winter forest, Breathless and still do we savor the chill of the air and the rustle of trees in chorus. No sound breaks on us! Eternal!

Gently falls the snow and silent shines the moonlight! All is still upon this peaceful Christmas Eve night! Hush! Hush! Hark! Hark! No sound is heard! The starlight falling our hearts are calling to hear the angels sing!

Hark! How the bells, sweet bells of Christmas Day all seem to say "Thow cares away!" Christmas, glad Christmas time is here, bringing good cheer to young and old, meek and bold! Gaily they ring-a-ling while people sing carols of good cheer!

It's Christmas again and dozens of friends gather to sing you songs of good cheer!
With caroling sweet the seasons we meet to carry us onward t'ward the New Year!
So gaily and gladly welcome we now each wintery sound and sight to behold!
The depth of our joy, the breadth of our hope, worth hundred-fold more than silver or gold,

Ring in the holiday with great good cheer; The brightest holiday of all the year! There's mirth and magic in the atmosphere, For merry, merry Christmas time is here!

To one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Talia Miracula (Such Wonders) BRAD NIX

Nox, silentium, tenebra.

Lux! Luminosa! "Gaudium magnum! Christus natus est!" Voces angelorum "Gloria! Gloria! Gloria et in terra pax."

Tenebra, silentium, nox, Pax. Night, silence, darkness.

Light!
Bright light!
"Great joy!
Christ is born!"
Voices of angels,
Gloria! Gloria!
Gloria and peace
on earth."

Darkness, silence, night, Peace.

L'Adieu des bergers à la sainte famille (The Shepherd's Farewell) (from l'Enfance du Christ, op. 25) HECTOR BERLIOZ

Il s'en va loin de la terre Où dans l'étable il vit le jour. De son père et de sa mère Qu'il reste le constant amour, Qu'il grandisse, qu'il prospère Et qu'il soit bon père à son tour.

Oncques si, chez l'idolâtre, Il vient à sentir le malheur, Fuyant la terre marâtre, Chez nous qu'il revienne au bonheur. Que la pauvreté du pâtre Reste toujours chère à son cœur.



Cher enfant, Dieu te bénisse!

The Chris
Dieu vous hénisse heureux époux!

MEL TORME

Cher enfant, Dieu te bénisse!
Dieu vous bénisse, heureux époux!
Que jamais de l'injustice
Vous ne puissiez sentir les coups.
Qu'un bon ange vous avertisse
Des dangers planant sur vous.

He goes away from the land where, in the barn, he saw the day. May he remain the constant love of his father and his mother, may he grow, may he thrive and may he be a good father in his turn.

If he ever come to feel unhappiness among the idolatrous, fleeing from the stepmother land, may he return home to happiness. May the poverty of the shepherd always remain dear to his heart.

Dear child, God bless you! God bless you, happy couple! May you never never feel the blows of injustice. May a good angel warn you of the dangers hovering over you.

Lux Nova ERIC WHITACRE

Lux
calida gravisque pura velut aurum
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum.

Light, warm and heavy as pure gold and the angels sing softly to the newborn babe.



Texts / Translations

The Christmas Song MEL TORME AND ROBERT WELLS ARR. ED LOJESKI

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire Jack Frost nipping at your nose Yuletide carols being sung by a choir And folks dressed up like Eskimos Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe Help to make the season bright Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow Will find it hard to sleep tonight They know that Santa's on his way He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh And every mother's child is gonna spy To see if reindeers really know how to fly And so I'm offering this simple phrase To kids from one to ninety-two Although it's been said many times, many ways Merry Christmas to you And so I'm offering this simple phrase To kids from one to ninety-two Although it's been said many times, many ways Merry Christmas to you

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas HUGH MARTIN AND RALPH BLANE ARR. MARK HAYES

Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Let your heart be light
Next year all our troubles, will be out of sight
Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Make the Yuletide gay
Next year all our troubles, will be miles away
Once again, as in olden days
Happy golden days of yore
Faithful friends who are dear to us
Will be near to us once more
Someday soon we all will be together
If the fates allow
Until then,

we'll have to muddle through somehow So have yourself a merry little Christmas now



Rebecca Boyd Michael Buss Margie Campos Henrietta Carter Susan Davis Danny Dayton Peter Donovan Lucy Dunn Nobuko DuVall Andrea Flores Cecilia Frankenfeld Linda Hammontree Erin Hardy Ron Hargreaves Steve Hoffman Griffin Howard Joanne Im

Leslie Jensen Hardeep Kahr Singh Jennifer Kim Anna Kircher Brett Klooster Liana Koeppel Taylor Grace Lee Eunice Lee Janet Lewis Mike Liu Chris McCandless Melanie McDonald Rosie Moreno Chuck Murphy Samuel Nuñez Heidi Peter

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Special Thanks

To Dennis Nasitka

for generously und

Mark Peter

tonight's complimentary children's tickets



Our Artistic Director



BRIAN DEHN

Brian Dehn has conducted his ensembles in some of the world's most remarkable venues including Carnegie Hall, the Sistine Chapel, St. Mark's in Venice, St. Peter's in Rome, St. Mathias in Budapest, St. Tomaskircke in Vienna, St. Patrick's and The Riverside Church in New York, St. Anne's Cathedral in Sydney, St. Mary's Church in Cambridge, St. Patrick's and St. Mary's in Dublin, and the Beijing Central Conservatory. His selection of top-quality repertoire and special work with vocal development has him in frequent demand as a guest clinician with choirs throughout California and the Western United States.

Dehn is also founder and artistic director of Meistersingers, a semi-pro group also based in Orange County. He is currently pursuing his Doctorate of Musical Arts at Claremont Graduate University, where he has been awarded the Department and Blaisdell fellowships. He recently completed 15 years of teaching at the high school level where his ensembles were awarded consistent "Superior" ratings, and invitations to prestigious festivals around the state, including an invitation to perform at the 2018 ACDA Western Region Convention. He took his programs on performance tours to New York, Spain

and Portugal, San Francisco, China, Italy, Ireland, England, and Australia. For over 20 years he has also held positions as Director of Music for a variety of Southern California churches, currently serving as Director of Music Ministry for First Christian Church of Orange.

As an accomplished tenor soloist, Dehn has performed in Chicago Symphony Hall for Chapman University, The New Century Singers, The California Women's Chorus, Pasadena Pro Musica as well as soloist for many other professional music ensembles, colleges and churches throughout Southern California. An accomplished ensemble singer in his own right, he has performed with Zephyr, De Angelis, and the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

Dehn maintains membership in a number of music organizations including the American Choral Directors Association, International Federation of Choral Music, Music Educators National Conference, California Music Educator's Association (where he was a presenter in 2016), Chorus America, and the National Association of Church Music, where he served as board member for Church Literature. He lives in Orange, California, with his wife, Chelsea, and their two sons.

Our Accompanist





MARK SALTERS

Mark Salters is opera co-director, vocal coach, and pianist at California State University, Fullerton. Originally from New York, he served on the coaching staff of the Opera Department at the University of Michigan under Gustav Meier. Prior to that, he was on the faculty of the Yale University graduate opera program headed by noted director Tito Capobianco.

Salters has accompanied master classes by many well-known singers and coaches, including Frederica Von Stade, Roberta Alexander, Vladamir Chernov, Carlo Bergonzi, Sherill Milnes, Madame Régine Crespin, Richard Bonynge, Rodney Gilfry, George Shirley, Carol Neblett, Horst Günther, Marni Nixon, Paul Sperry, Richard Pearlman, Lili Chookasian, as well as many others. In addition, he has worked with conductors and directors from Los Angeles Opera, New York City Opera, Frankfurt Opera, St. Louis Opera, and the

Metropolitan Opera. He has also served on the music staffs of the University of Connecticut, Opera Theater of Connecticut, and the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven, Connecticut.

Currently, Salters regularly accompanies the National Association of Teachers of Singing symposiums in Los Angeles and Orange County, as well as the Classical Singers Association classes and concerts. He has also worked for Opera Pacific, Opera Ala Carte, Cal State Long Beach, Pacific Chorale, Pacific Symphony, Riverside Opera, Southland Opera, and the Intimate Opera Company. He also serves as Director of Music and Principal Organist at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton church in Irvine.

As an active freelance accompanist, Salters regularly accompanies many of the finest young vocal artists of the Los Angeles area in recitals and competitions.



THANK ibuted to

to all who have contributed to the success of Meritage Vocal Arts Ensemble for our 2022-2023 concert season

CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE (\$2500+)

(includes four tickets to all Meritáge concerts plus four tickets to our annual fundraiser) Chuck Murphy and Bill Boland Lucy Dunn Teri and Steve Schulist Janet and Bill Shelly

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(includes two tickets to all Meritage concerts plus two tickets to our annual fundraiser)
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Chris and Bill McCandless
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Meritage Vocal Arts Ensemble: a chamber ensemble with an eclectic repertoire of classical to contemporary choral and solo music.

Starlight Carolers: a professional holiday caroling ensemble.

FoCM is a non-profit IRC 501 (c)(3), Tax Id 95-4584695

Ticket sales and recording income account for only one-third of the cost of presenting our season each year. Our continued growth and success is only possible through the generous contributions of donors like you. All donations are tax deductible (Tax Id 95-4584695). Your gift will be gratefully acknowledged in our concert programs.

To make your tax-deductible donation, speak with any singer or visit our website, www.meritage-vocalarts.org

To mail your contribution, please send to: Meritáge Vocal Arts Ensemble 174 W. Lincoln Ave. Suite 200 Anaheim. CA 92805 Please include your name(s) as you would like them to appear in our program.

Questions? Please call us at (714) 519-6370 or send an email to info@Meritage-VocalArts.org.

Any level of support is appreciated! Thank you for your support!

DON'T MISS IT!

UPCOMING EVENTS

2022-2023 SEASON

1st Annual

MERITÁGE INVITATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL

Encore Performances

6PM•Friday, March 3, 2023 Anaheim United Methodist Church

DURUFLÉ REQUIEM

Meritáge leads over 200 singers in this glorious masterwork!

7PM•Friday, March 24, 2023 St. Boniface Catholic Church in Anaheim

UNITED IN SONG Tour Concert

An at home performance of our tour program.

After nearly three years stuck at home,
Meritage Vocal Arts Ensemble is off to see the world!

4PM • Sunday, June 4, 2023
Anaheim United Methodist Church

