



a festival of  
christmas music

Bucks county choral society

December 12 and 13, 1986 — 8 p.m.

Salem United Church of Christ

Doylestown, PA

Elma Heckler, Music Director

Joan Gurniak: Organ

Karin Fuller: Harp

Edward Schultz: Flute, piccolo

# A FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

## I.

Variations on Greensleeves

17th century English  
arr. Louis Fleury

*Karin Fuller, harp; Edward Schultz, flute*

## II.

A Ceremony of Carols, Opus 28

Benjamin Britten  
1913-1975

English composer Benjamin Britten spent nearly three years in America from 1939-1942. The Ceremony of Carols was composed in 1942 on the ship carrying Britten back to England. It was winter, and the war was more than a grim reality. Yet the carols, all of medieval or renaissance days, are glorious in spirit—joyous, mysterious, and deceptively simple. The work, originally scored for treble voices, consists of nine carols which are preceded and followed by the chanting of the plainsong antiphon for the Magnificat of Christmas Day and divided by an interlude for harp solo which is a transformation of the plainsong.

1. Procession - Hodie Christus Natus Est
2. Wolcum Yole!
3. There is no Rose
- 4a. That yongë child  
*Teresa Washam, alto*
- 4b. Balulalow  
Friday — *Amy Gastgeb, soprano*  
Saturday — *Liz Emmert, soprano*
5. As dew in Aprille
6. This little Babe
7. Interlude
8. In freezing winter night  
*Virginia Haring, soprano; Thomas Lever, tenor*
9. Spring Carol  
Friday — *Marion Kyde, soprano I*  
*Kay Mengers, soprano II*  
Saturday — *Amy Gastgeb, soprano I*  
*Barbara Kaler, soprano II*
10. Deo Gracias
11. Recession - Hodie Christus Natus Est

## III.

Bucks County Chamber Singers

*Heidi Wolfskill, organ*

Vom Himmel hoch

J. S. Bach

From highest heaven I come here and bring you good tidings.  
I bring you many good tidings whereof I will speak and sing.

*Janet Fryling, soprano, David Fryling, bass*

The stem of Jesse hath flowered,  
 Our Emmanuel hath appeared.  
 He hath assumed the flesh of a man,  
 He is become a comely youth. Alleluja.

A spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

*David Hughes, tenor*

Lirum lirum

Thomas Morley

A la nanita nana

 Traditional Spanish  
 arr. Roger Folstrum

## IV.

## • Carols with Audience

## HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Descant, David Willcocks

- |  |   |
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| 1. Hark, the herald angels sing,<br>"Glory to the newborn king<br>Peace on earth and mercy mild,<br>God and sinners reconciled!"<br>Joyful, all ye nations rise<br>Join the triumph of the skies;<br>With th'angelic host proclaim<br>"Christ is born in Bethlehem." | 2. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!<br>Hail, the Son of Righteousness!<br>Light and life to all he brings,<br>Risen with healing in his wings.<br>Mild He lays His glory by—<br>Born that man no more may die<br>Born to raise the sons of earth<br>Born to give them second birth. |
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## SILENT NIGHT

1. 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!
2. 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!

## O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

arr. Blain Shover

*Kingdon Swayne, narrator; Barbara Tull, soprano*

1. Choral introduction and organ interlude.
2. 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:
 

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| O come let us adore Him<br>Christ the Lord! |
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3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
 Glory to God in the highest glory,
 

|   |
|---|
| O come let us adore Him<br>Christ the Lord. |
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4. Choir alone

V.

Verbum caro factum est Hans Leo Hassler  
 Thus the Word was made flesh, and thereby dwelt among mankind;  
 And thence we beheld His glory, the glory as of the one begotten of the Father,  
 full of grace and truth.

O magnum mysterium Richard Averre  
 Premiere performance

Bucks County composer Richard Averre has chosen a renaissance-style setting for this traditional Christmas text. Other compositions by this local composer which have been performed by the Choral Society include his *Magnificat* and *Did Mary Know?*

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament that animals  
 might see the birth of the Lord as he lay in the manger.  
 O Blessed V<sub>ir</sub>gin, who wast worthy of bearing our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 Alleluia.

Evergreen Daniel Pinkham  
*Karen Billman and David Fryling, handbells*

Nativity Carol John Rutter

VI.

My dancing day Traditional English  
arr. Thomas E. Miller

Carol of the bells Ukrainian  
arr. Peter Wilhousky

Christmas dance of the shepherds Zoltan Kodaly  
*Treble Ensemble*

Fum, fum, fum Traditional Catalanian  
arr. Steve Barnett

O holy night Adolphe Adam  
*Arnold McKay, tenor*

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Recessional — On this day Gustav Holst  
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*You are invited to greet the musicians at a Holiday Reception in the social room  
 of the church immediately following the concert.*

*For information about joining the Bucks County Choral Society or to arrange for an  
 audition, please call Membership Chairperson Linda Gyrath, 215-322-7615.*

# BUCKS COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY

## SOPRANO

Elizabeth Burke, Chalfont  
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\*Janet Fryling, Dublin  
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\*Barbara Kaler, Hatfield  
Shirley Kerr, Newtown  
Barbara Kihm, Oakford  
Marion Kyde, Newtown  
Kay Mengers, Plumsteadville  
Mary Scherrer, Doylestown  
\*Barbara Tull, Doylestown

## TENOR

Carl Bergeson, Holicong  
Norman Christy, Chalfont  
\*David Hughes, Doylestown  
John Leslie, Levittown  
\*Thomas Lever, Lansdale  
\*Arnold McKay, Perkasio

\*Bucks County Chamber Singers

## ALTO

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\*Teresa Washam, Hatfield  
\*Claudia Whittaker, Chalfont  
\*Heidi Wolfskill, Doylestown

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\*David Fryling, Dublin  
John Grever, Colmar  
Walfred Saari, Lansdale  
Kingdon Swayne, Newtown  
Ron Tempest, Hatboro  
Al Tyler, Hatfield

KARIN FULLER is a freelance harpist in the Philadelphia area. She appears as a solo and chamber music recitalist and is principal harpist with the Pennsylvania (Ballet) Orchestra and other orchestras in the area. Miss Fuller studied with Edna Phillips at the Philadelphia Musical Academy and with Alice Chalifoux at the Salzedo School in Camden, Maine. She has received a number of grants and awards, including a fellowship to the Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood. Her extensive repertory includes several works commissioned and written for her, and she has been heard in broadcasts of local and world premieres.

EDWARD SCHULTZ is currently principal flutist with the Pennsylvania (Ballet) Orchestra, the Pennsylvania Opera Theater, and Sequenza, a contemporary music ensemble. In 1975 he was awarded a fellowship for study at the Berkshire Music Center of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. A graduate of New England Conservatory, Mr. Schultz has performed as featured soloist with the Boston Pops under Arthur Fiedler. After moving to Philadelphia in 1977, he became active as a performer of solo and chamber music in addition to his freelance orchestra schedule. Edward Schultz has frequently performed in recital on WHYI, Philadelphia Public Radio.

ELMA HECKLER, Hatfield, was graduated from Juniata College, earned the Master of Music degree in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College and has taken additional credits at Eastman School of Music. She has studied privately with Elaine Brown of Philadelphia's Singing City and Gail Poch of Temple University, and has completed workshops with Robert Shaw, Robert Page, Dale Warland and Gregg Smith. Now in her tenth season of conducting the Choral Society, she was formerly Director of Music at Zion Mennonite Church, Souderton, and Pleasantville Church, Chalfont.

JOAN GURNIAK, Jenkintown, serves as accompanist for the Choral Society. A graduate of Beaver College, she is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists and is organist-choirmaster of All Hallows Episcopal Church, Wyncote.

DAVID FRYLING and KAREN BILLMAN are students at Plumstead Christian School, Plumsteadville.

## COMING CONCERTS:

### BUCKS COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY

March 14, 8:00 p.m.

— Emmanuel Lutheran Concert Series  
Bernstein: Chichester Psalms and works by  
Haydn, Mendelssohn, Nystedt  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
West Broad St., Souderton

April 25, 8:00 p.m.

— Spring program featuring Thompson's  
Frothiana with orchestra.  
Holicong Junior High School, Holicong

May 16, 8:00 p.m.

— Bucks County Symphony Orchestra  
Karl Middleman, conducting  
Bernstein: Chichester Psalms  
Vaughan Williams: Serenade to Music  
Central Bucks East High School, Holicong

### BUCKS COUNTY SYMPHONY

March 7, 8:00 p.m.

“Romantic Masterpieces”  
Karl Middleman, conducting  
Central Bucks East High School, Holicong

## COMMUNITY PATRONS

THE BUCKS COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY extends its sincere appreciation to the following individuals who have given their financial support. With their help, we have been able to grow as a choral organization and take our music to a larger segment of the Delaware Valley.

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