

## Festival of Christmas Music

### Prelude

Blessed Son of God	Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
A Spotless Rose	Herbert Howells (1892-1983)
Lo How a Rose	Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

### Festive Brass

Fanfare for Christmas	Lloyd Pfautsch
-----------------------	----------------

### Processional

On This Day Earth Shall Ring	arr. Gustav Holst
------------------------------	-------------------

### I

<b>In Dulci Jubilo</b>	Michael Praetorius
------------------------	--------------------

*This familiar text is macaronic - a combination of Latin and vernacular German. The 14th century melody has been harmonized and arranged by many composers.*

In dulci jubilo Nun singet und seid froh.	In dulci jubilo Now sing we cheerfully
Unsers Herzens Wonne, Leit in praesepio. Und leuchtet als die Sonne.	Christ our consolation, Lies in humility for us brings Salvation.
Alpha es et O.	Alpha es et O.

### Magnificat in G

Johann Pachelbel  
1653-1706

*The hymn of praise that Mary sang after she was told by the angel Gabriel that she would bear the Son of God, as recorded in Luke. The manuscript of this work of the German master was only recently discovered in a German library. It probably had not been performed for 250 years.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
 For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden;  
 For, behold, all generations shall call me blessed.  
 For He that is mighty hath done to me great things, and holy is His Name.  
 And His mercy is on them that fear Him from generation to generation.  
 He hath showed strength with his arm;  
 He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.  
 He hath filled the hungry with good things;  
 And the rich he hath sent empty away.  
 He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy;  
 As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed forever.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
 World without end. Amen

## II

### Three Settings of *O Magnum Mysterium*

*“For centuries, composers have been inspired by the beautiful O Magnum Mysterium text with its juxtaposition of the birth of the new-born King amongst the lowly animals and shepherds. This affirmation of God’s grace to the meek and the adoration of the Blessed Virgin are celebrated in my setting through a quiet song of profound inner joy.” - M.L.*

O magnum mysterium,	O great mystery,
Et admirabile sacramentum	And wondrous sacrament,
Ut animalia viderent Dominum	That animals should see the
Natum, jacentum in praesepio!	New-born Lord, lying in the manger!
Beato Virgo, cujus viscera	Blessed in the Virgin whose womb
Meruerunt portare	Was worthy to bear the
Dominum Christum.	Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!	Alleluia!

O Magnum Mysterium

Anonymous Plainchant

*One of the earliest known settings of this text, probably 11th century.*

The Men of the Choral Society

O Magnum Mysterium

Tomás Luis de Victoria  
(1548-1611)

*The greatest Spanish composer of his time, Victoria composed this setting while in his twenties.*

Chamber Ensemble  
directed by Elinor Armsby

O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen

*The composer of this modern setting of the text is a professor at the University of Southern California.*

**The First Mercy**

Peter Warlock  
(1894-1930)

*A brilliant English composer and writer, Peter Warlock wrote mostly poetic miniatures, in a style intimately connected with traditions of the Elizabethan period.*

The Women of the Choral Society.

Ox and ass at Bethlehem,  
On a night, ye know of them.  
We were only creatures small,  
Hid by shadows on the wall.

With a moving star we crept  
Closer when the Baby slept;  
Men who guarded where He lay  
Moved to frighten us away.

We were swallow, moth, and mouse;  
The Child was born in our house,  
And the bright eyes of us three  
Peeped at His nativity.

But the Babe, awakened, laid  
Love on things that were afraid;  
With so sweet a gesture He  
Called us to His company.

Hands of peace upon that place  
Hushed our beings for a space,  
Quiet feet and folded wing,  
Not a sound of anything.

III

**Welcome All Wonders**

Richard Dirksen

Pamela Naudascher, *soprano*

*First performed in an 1974 NBC Christmas Day Service telecast from the Washington Cathedral, where the composer was Organist and Choirmaster.*

Welcome all wonders in one sight.  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, day in night,  
Heaven in earth, and God in man.  
That He, the old Eternal Word, should be a Child and weep.  
Each of us his lamb will bring,  
Each his pair of silver doves,  
Till burnt at last in fire of thy fair eyes,  
Ourselves become our own best sacrifice.

Welcome all wonders in one sight.

**Selections from the Byers' Choice Ltd./Bucks County Choral Society**

**CD**

**“A Festival of Christmas Music”**

**IV**

Still, Still, Still		arr. Norman Luboff
Did Mary Know		Richard E. Averre
Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head		arr. Dale Grotenhuis
In the Bleak Midwinter		Harold E. Darke
Carol of the Bells	Timothy Vogel, <i>tenor</i>	arr. Peter Wilhousky

**V**

**Carols for Audience and Choir**

**God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen** English Traditional

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this day,  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray:  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. Choir

3. Now to the Lord sing praises, all ye within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface:  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** Polish Carol  
**Ding Dong! Merrily on High** 16th.c French tune

Choir

**Hark the Herald Angels Sing** Mendelssohn

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King.

2. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings;  
 Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
 Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the new-born King.

Away in a Manger  
 Sussex Carol

Traditional Normandy Tune  
 English traditional carol

Choir

O Come All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

1. 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  
 O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord
2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.  
 Glory to God in the highest:  
 O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord
3. Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
 Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
 O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

Sing We Now of Christmas

arr. Fred Prentice

Choir

### **Recessional**

Silent Night

arr. Malcom Sargent

\*\*\*

You are invited to greet the musicians at a Holiday Reception  
 in the Social Room of the church, immediately following the  
 concert.

Recordings of the Bucks County Choral Society on CD and  
 cassette tape will be on sale.

## **The Musicians**

Elma Heckler, *Artistic Director*

Now in her twentieth season with the Bucks County Choral Society, Mrs. Heckler holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Juniata College, and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Westminster Choir College, where she was a student of Joseph Flummerfelt. She has worked with clinicians such as Robert Page, Paul Salamunovich, Gregg Smith, and Dale Warland. In 1992 and 1993 she was selected to participate in the Robert Shaw Choral Workshop in Carnegie Hall. Mrs. Heckler is active in the American Choral Directors Association, and served as a panelist on the Opera/Choral panel of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

Elinor Armsby, *Assistant Director*

A native of the Boston area, Ms. Armsby received her Bachelor of Science degree in Voice from Indiana University, and her Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Temple University, where she is completing a second masters degree in music history. She also serves as Music Director of the Armenian Martyrs Congregational Church in Havertown.

Joyce Goodwin, *Accompanist*

Mrs. Goodwin earned her Bachelor of Arts in piano from Pillsbury Baptist Bible College, a Bachelor of Science from Mankato State College, and a Master of Arts from Bob Jones University. She has been on the music faculty of Pillsbury Baptist Bible College and Pensacola Christian College, and is an experience accompanist, pianist, and church organist.

Festive Brass

Festive Arts Ensembles have been bringing music to the Delaware Valley and beyond for well over a decade. With their emphasis on the choral arts, their main mission is to provide professional accompaniment for the many fine choirs throughout the region. Members from the brass and percussion sections are pleased to join the Bucks County Choral Society in their 1996 holiday concert.

Trumpet:	Brian Kuszyk, Nancy K. Dowlin, Robert Skoniczin
Trombone:	Robert Hall, Russell Mehrtens
Tympani:	Enid Brodsky

### **Friends of the Choral Society**

Friends assist with ticket handling, ushering, hospitality, business patron contacts, publicity and mailings. If you would like to be a Friend, or for further information, call Carola Benecke at 348-9153.

## Bucks County Choral Society

Founded in 1973, the Bucks County Choral Society is a 65-voice group based in the heart of beautiful Bucks County. In keeping with the mission of enhancing and enriching the choral experience, the Society performs a broad spectrum of music, from the best loved choral masterpieces to Broadway classics. In 1993 the Choral Society was recognized by the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce with a Lifetime Achievement Award in the Arts and has three times been invited to tour in Europe. The singers have worked with such prestigious conductors and clinicians as Robert Page, Alan Harler, Gregg Smith and Constantina Tsolainou, and have collaborated with many at the area's finest musical organizations. The Bucks County Choral Society is active in community service through its annual benefit concert for Habitat for Humanity, the Adopt-A-Highway program and through educational outreach programs.

## 1996-1997 Membership

Barbara Adams, Sellersville  
Carol Amt, Doylestown  
Elinor Armsby, Philadelphia

### *Assistant Director*

Elizabeth K. Burke, Chalfont  
Doris W. Charles, Doylestown  
Eugene W. Chrzanowski, Buckingham  
Audrey E. Close, Doylestown  
Anne Colombo, Wrightstown  
Merrill M. Detweiler, Sellersville  
Cynthia L. Detweiler, Warminster  
Maria G. Dewey, Morrisville  
David W. Doughty, Perkasio  
Jill Dulany, Souderton \*  
Susan Eastburn, Chalfont  
Mary Ernst, Newtown  
Judith Fay, Hatfield \*  
D Wayne Focht, Chalfont  
Philip J. Franchois, Perkasio  
Ruth A Geiger, Doylestown  
Jack N. Graham, Maple Glen  
Donald E. Groff, Hatfield \*  
Cathy Guenzel, Willow Grove  
Lynne Guest, Richboro  
David H. Gundrum, Richboro \*  
Elaine Harbin, Harleysville  
Roberta Harding, Perkasio  
Frances Hemstreet, Newton \*  
Richard H. Hulbert, Doylestown  
Tony Islan, Newtown  
Suzanne Jenkins, Doylestown  
Alan F. Johnson, Warminster \*  
Ed Johnson, Richboro  
Susan G. Johnson, Richboro

Carolyn Knower, Lansdale  
John Leslie, Levittown \*  
Paul Lewis, Hatfield  
Stephen W. Luebke, Doylestown  
Nancy S. Maul, Doylestown  
Ladd S. McCoy, Chalfont \*  
Kay Mengers, Pipersville  
Juana Mestres, Yardley  
Bill Moore, New Britain  
Christie Moore, New Britain  
Lois H. Moore, New Britain  
Michael P. Mueller, Doylestown  
Carol Nase, Harleysville \*  
Pamela Naudascher, Doylestown  
Merily Nelson, Hatfield  
Kathy Payne, Yardley \*  
Shirley K. Piercy, Furlong  
Christine M. Remiker, Doylestown  
Steven Rock, Doylestown  
Kit Ruland, Richboro  
Mary Scherrer, Doylestown  
Patricia Seaver, Chalfont  
Marcy Spielvogel, Lansdale  
Cheryl L. Stitzinger, Warrington  
Ronald Tempest, Hatboro  
Barbara Tull, Doylestown  
Timothy Vogel, Langhorne \*  
Frances W. Walte, Doylestown  
Janet Whitefield, Harleysville  
Thomas Whitefield, Harleysville  
Claudia Whittaker, Doylestown \*  
Patricia Winey, Warminster

Chamber Ensemble \*

## Individual Patrons

The Bucks County Choral Society extends its sincere appreciation to the following individuals who have given their financial support to the organization.

### **Sustainers: \$1000 or more**

Franklin and Elizabeth Burke  
Robert L. and Joyce F. Byers  
Bill and Shirley Piercy

### **Guarantors: \$500 to \$999**

Don and Pat Winey

### **Shareholders: \$250 to \$499**

Dr. and Mrs. Richard R. Cavanaugh  
Lake S. Clemmer  
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Franchois  
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Keller  
Charles and Carolyn Moyer  
Mr. and Mrs. Hervey W. Schofield, Jr.

### **Benefactors: \$100 to \$249**

Margaret B. Armstrong  
Dina Blumwest  
Shirley and Warren Cassel  
Joseph and Anne Colombo  
Dr. David J. Davis II, MD  
Merrill and Suzanne Detweiler  
Liz and Ted Fritsch  
Mr. and Mrs. Laurence C. Glass  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Haring  
Dr. and Mrs. Jere Hohmann  
Richard and Joan Hulbert  
Rev. and Mrs. Robert D. Hyson  
Teresa Jaeschke  
Alan and Marilys Johnson  
Mrs. Ernest K. Landis  
Lucile S. Leslie  
Cathy and Tom Lever  
Carol and Henry Longacre  
Shirley and Fred Marles  
Karl and Dori Middleman  
John and Janet Moyer  
Mrs. Henry D. Paxson  
Harvey F. Rosenberger  
David and Mara Schwenk  
John and Diane Skibbe  
Barbara Lee Tull

### **Sponsors: \$50 to \$99**

Edward and Sally Armstrong  
Ron and Doris Charles  
Clare and Charles Collet  
Mr. and Mrs. David R. Derstine

Dave and Cindi Detwiler  
R.F. Edmonds  
Mr. and Mrs. Simon Ensanian  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene W. Fickes  
Robin Frenz  
Dr. Larry J. Geller MD  
Jack and Dorothy Graham  
Donald and Nicole Groff  
Cynthia L. Gum  
Mr. and Mrs. George L. Hagen  
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Johnson  
Paul and Millie Lewis  
Martha M. McCleary  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Murphy, Jr.  
Bill and Betty Schlegel  
Roy G. Schrauger  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Segel  
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Segraves  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Simpson  
Mr. William C. Wack  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne C. Watson  
David and Anita Weiss

### **Friends: \$25 to \$49**

Murrey M. and Arlene Alderfer  
Mrs. Mimi Bach  
Elizabeth Barron  
Joan Beber  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Broyan, III  
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Carson, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas S. Chapin  
Elizabeth Durack  
Mr. and Mrs. David P. Eastburn  
Elizabeth M. Ely  
Kevin J. and Donna P. Emig  
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Fleck  
David Furniss  
Al and Jeanne Grogan  
Eleanor S. Gross  
Rudolph and Hazel B. Grun  
Cathy Guenzel  
Lawrence LaFevre  
Ethel Lodge  
Arthur and Carol Lorentz-Burnett  
Jeannette Lowe  
Nancy Maier  
Kenneth G. McConnell  
Dr. Michael Mendlowski, DDS

Philip and Janice Miller  
George and Barbara Milner  
Frank and Kathy Mitchell  
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph D. Page  
Audrey Pfeilsticker  
Mr. and Mrs. Laren Pitcairn  
Elizabeth B. Porter

Raymond C. and Clara M. Stock  
Paul Taylor  
Hedy M. Voltz  
Ruth and Roger Wardlow  
Mary Lou and Steven Weidner  
Sharon Wise  
Wallace Wolf

### **Business, Corporate, and Foundation Patrons**

The Society gratefully acknowledges the following businesses, corporations, and foundations who have generously supported our musical endeavors.

#### **Sustainers: \$1000 or more**

Burke, Lawton, Brewer & Burke	Flourtown
Byers' Choice, Ltd	Chalfont
Dutch Blitz Games Company	Flourtown
Edwin T. and Cynthia S. Johnson Foundation	Newtown
Estate of George S. Snyder, Inc.	Hatfield
North Wales Press	North Wales
Omega Institute	Pennsauken, NJ
Univest Corporation of Pennsylvania	Souderton
Venture Securities Corporation	Flourtown

#### **Guarantors: \$500 to \$999**

CoreStates Bank	Doylestown
-----------------	------------

#### **Shareholders: \$250 to \$499**

Fred Beans Charitable Trust	<i>Doylestown</i>
Malmark, Inc. - Bell Craftsmen	<i>Plumsteadville</i>
Moyer & Son, Inc.	<i>Souderton</i>
Rohm & Haas Company	<i>Spring House</i>

#### **Benefactors: \$100 to \$249**

Allen Organ Company	<i>Macungie</i>
Dunmore Corporation	<i>Newtown</i>
Harleysville National Bank	<i>Harleysville</i>
Harleysville Savings Bank	<i>Harleysville</i>
Premier Bank	<i>Doylestown</i>
Silverman Family Partnership	<i>Doylestown</i>
The Prudential Foundation	<i>Princeton, NJ</i>
The Thompson Organization	<i>Doylestown</i>
Willow Grove Oil Service	<i>Willow Grove</i>
Yocum Ford	<i>Lansdale</i>

#### **Sponsors: \$50 to \$99**

Computer & Office Training	<i>Lansdale</i>
Ronald Kershner Piano Studio	Doylestown
Intelligencer/Record	<i>Doylestown</i>
Leaver-Cable Funeral Home	<i>Buckingham</i>
Nase Dental Group	<i>Harleysville</i>
National Penn Bank	<i>Boyertown</i>

#### **Friends: \$25 to \$49**

Alderfer Associates  
American Office System  
Circle d'Escrime School of Fencing  
Franco Roofing  
Frankfort Cleaners  
Ned Kulp Co.  
New Life Trio

*Perkasie*  
*Doylestown*  
*Sellersville*  
*Gardenville*  
*Warrington*  
*Chalfont*  
*Southampton*

Contributions received after this printing will be noted in a future program.

logo

BUCKS COUNTY  
CHORAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 702  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
(215)-412-7222

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Stephen Luebke, Chairman of the Board	Anne Colombo
Audrey Close, Pas Chairman	Cathy Guenzel
William Piercy, Treasurer	Elma Heckler
Patricia Winey, President	Richard Hulbert
Amy Reilly, Recording Secretary	Harry Jenkins
Elinor Armsby	Robert Maul
Carola Benecke	Ladd McCoy
Carol Washko, Business Director	Ralph Canfield
John Carson	

December 13 and 14, 1996 -8pm  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Elma Heckler, Artistic Director  
Joyce Goodwin, Accompanist  
Elinor Armsby, Assistant Director  
Festive Brass

December 15, 1996 - 4pm  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
Lansdale, Pennsylvania

This concert is sponsored in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

*Out of courtesy to the performers, kindly refrain from using cameras or tape recorders.*

(as printed corrections added 2/23/97 DEG)