



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY CHORAL DIVISION

**A CHRISTMAS CHORAL
CONCERT**

featuring

OPUS

SCHOLA CANTORUM

TREBULLDAWGS

CANTARÉ

STATE SINGERS

Gary Packwood, Phillip Stockton & Tom Jenkins, *conductors*

Rachel Wood, *collaborating accompanist*

Garrett Torbert, *collaborating accompanist*

Lauren Barr, *collaborating accompanist*

Evan Maxwell, *student conductor*

Paul Beaty, *student conductor*

Tahric Lofton, *student conductor*

December 1, 2022
First Baptist Church, Starkville

CHORAL EXCELLENCE, HEALING, & COMMUNITY

statesings.com

msuchoir@msstate.edu

Program

OPUS

CORDE NATUS EX PARENTIS

Music by: T.F. Jenkins
Text by: Aurelius Prudentius

*Of the Father's Heart Begotten
Ere the world from chaos rose,
He is Alpha, from that Fountain
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things,
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Saeculorum saeculis (Evermore and evermore.)*

*Let the storm and summer sunshine,
Gliding stream and sounding shore,
Sea and forest, frost and zephyr,
Day and night their Lord adore;
Let creation join to laud thee
Through the ages evermore.
Saeculorum saeculis.*

CAN WE SING THE DARKNESS TO LIGHT?

Text & Music by: Kyle Pederson

The text invites the listener to imagine a world without weapons or war—where the human experience is defined not through continued judgment of others, but through the lens of mercy and compassion. It could be beautiful.

DASHIN' THRU THA SNOW!

Text & Music by: James Lord Pierpont
arr. by: Stephen Calgario

"Jingle Bells" is one of the best-known and most commonly sung American songs in the world. It was published under the title "The One Horse Open Sleigh" in the autumn of 1857. Although it has no original connection to Christmas, it became associated with winter and Christmas music in the 1860s and 1870s, and it was featured in a variety of parlor song and college anthologies in the 1880s. It was first recorded in 1889 on an Edison cylinder and is believed to be the first Christmas record.

"Jingle Bells" was one of the first songs to broadcast from space, in a Christmas-themed prank by VI astronauts Tom Stafford and Wally Schirra. While in space on December 16, 1965, they sent this report to Mission Control:

"Gemini VII, this is Gemini VI. We have an object, looks like a satellite going from north to south, up in a polar orbit. He's in a very low trajectory traveling from north to south and has a very high climbing ratio. It looks like it might even be a ... Very low. Looks like he might be going to reenter soon. Stand by one ... You might just let me try to pick up that thing."

The astronauts then produced a smuggled harmonica and sleigh bells, and with Schirra on the harmonica and Stafford on the bells, broadcast a rendition of "Jingle Bells". The harmonica, shown to the press upon their return, was a Hohner "Little Lady", a tiny harmonica approximately one inch (2.5 cm) long, by 3/8 of an inch (1 cm) wide.

SCHOLA CANTORUM

SALVE REGINA

Music by: Javier Busto
Text: Traditional Latin

Salve Regina is one of four Marian antiphons sung at different seasons within the Christian liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church. It was written during the Middle Ages and is regarded as anonymous by most musicologists.

~Mitchell Covington

*Queen, mother of mercy: our life, sweetness, and hope, hail.
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you we sigh, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, our advocate, those merciful eyes toward us.
And Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb, after our exile, show us.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary*

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM

Music by: B.E. Boykin
Text: Traditional

*O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger!
Blessed is the virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!*

TOMORROW SHALL BE MY DANCING DAY

Music & text: Traditional English Carol
arr. by: John Rutter

Paul Beaty, student conductor

Brianna Smith, Taylor Moore, Laurel Matthews, Aliyah Necaisse, Mary Alexander, Sarah Joy Smith,
Small ensemble

This carol first appeared in 1833. The verses progress through the story of Jesus told in his own voice. An innovative feature of the telling is that Jesus' life is repeatedly characterized as a dance, a device later used in the modern hymn Lord of the Dance.

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance;
Sing, oh! My love, oh! My love. This have I done for my true love.
Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance
Thus was I knit to man's nature to call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! My love, oh! My love. This have I done for my true love.
In a manger laid, and wrapped I was so very poor, this was my chance.
Between an ox and a silly poor ass to call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! My love, oh! My love. This have I done for my true love.*

TREBULLDAWGS

CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE

Music & text by: Vince Guaraldi & Lee Mendelson
arr. Adonijah Mpinga

THAT'S CHRISTMAS TO ME

Music & text by: Pentatonix

SPECIAL THANKS

Mr. Danny Davis, voice faculty

Dr. Garrett Torbert, voice faculty

Danielle Gaudé – choral administrator

Dr. Tom Jenkins, Director of Music FBC, Starkville

Ms. Cori Reece, voice faculty

Dr. Roza Tulyaganova, voice faculty

Mrs. Sara Horan, voice faculty

Emily Washburn, First Baptist Tech

Anne Catherine Ragsdale, collaborative piano faculty

Dr. Jeanette Fontaine, coordinator of voice

Ms. Rachel Wood, collaborative piano faculty

Mr. Peter Infanger, voice faculty

Dr. Sophie Wang, collaborative piano faculty

CANTARÉ

JESUS CHRIST THE APPLE TREE

Music & Text: Traditional English Carol
arr. Malcolm Archer

Though the author is unknown, it was written in England circa 1761. It quickly traveled across the Atlantic where it was first published by a Baptist minister, Joshua Smith and quickly became more popular in the Americas than in Britain. The song is an allusion to the apple tree in the Song of Solomon 2:3, which is usually considered a metaphor for Christ and to Jesus' description of his life as a tree of life in Luke 13:18.

*The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be, compared with Christ the apple tree.
His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but ne'er can tell,
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.
For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.
I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest a while:
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

HODIE CHRISTUS NATUS EST

Music by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
text Traditional Latin

Hodie Christus natus est is a double choir (SSAB+ATTB) motet that comes from Palestrina's third volume of motets published in Venice in 1575. The motet is based on the text of the Magnificat antiphon at Second Vespers on Christmas Day, interspersed with the traditional Christmas cries of 'noe, noe'. This is a wonderful piece of writing which brilliantly exploits the possibilities of effective contrast: by using the differing sonorities of a high choir and a low choir; by setting off slow-moving passages expressing the solemnity of the celebration of Christ's birth against rapid antiphonal exchanges of joyful cries of 'noe, noe'; by using running passages to reflect the singing of the angels and the rejoicing of the archangels and the just; and by reserving until the concluding section of the motet the use of triple time for the final joyful exchanges of "noe."
~John Dixon

*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!*

DECK THE HALLS

Music & Text: Traditional Welsh Carol
arr. by John Rutter

The original Welsh tune dates back to the 16th century where it was primarily used to celebrate the new year as a drinking song. The familiar English text was written by Thomas Oliphant in 1862. Later iterations removed the references to drinking with phrases like "don we now our gay apparel" and "see the blazing yule before us." This version contains the original party text from Oliphant.

*Deck the hall with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Fill the mead cup drain the barrel Fa la la la la, fa la la la
Troll the ancient Christmas carol Fa la la la la, fa la la la
'Tis the season to be jolly Fa la la la la, fa la la la
Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la, fa la la la
While I sing of beauty's treasure, Fa la la la la, fa la la la
Hail the new, ye lads and lassies, Fa la la la la, fa la la la
Laughing, quaffing all together, Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la, fa la la la*

STATE SINGERS

AFRICAN NOEL

arr. by André Thomas

*Sing noel!
O come, ye people, gather here to hear the news of good cheer.
The King of kings, the Lamb of God is born today in Bethlehem
Sing noel!*

HODIE

music by: Kevin A. Memley
Antiphon for Christmas Day Vespers

*Tavion McCorvey & Lauren Barr, percussion
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!*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO, BWV 191

Music by J.S. Bach
Text: Traditional Latin

- I. Gloria in excelsis Deo
- II. Post Orationem

Lauren Barr, soprano & Desmond Henderson, tenor

- III. Cum Sancto Spiritu

This festive gloria was actually part of a short mass that Bach presented as a gift to the Elector of Dresden. So the music was not intended for Leipzig and was not supposed to be performed there. It is not known why and when Bach rewrote the gloria from the mass as a cantata. It is interesting that Bach chose to use a Latin text for his Leipzig arrangement as well, as Latin church music was not common in Leipzig, even on Christmas day. *Gloria in excelsis deo* is the only cantata, of his 150, that is in Latin. All of the other cantatas are in German.

The piece is written for five voice parts, as was common practice in Dresden. The instrumentation is regal, as an homage to the Elector of Dresden. Bach achieved this feeling by using a variety of orchestral colors that were added to the piece: oboes, flutes, trumpets and timpani are used in addition to the traditional strings and continuo.

The words and the music of the first movement are almost exactly the same as those of the mass ordinary. In the duet for tenor and soprano (second movement), Bach set new music to the text. Rather than the 'Domine Deus' that follows in the gloria of a mass, we hear 'Gloria Patri' – the beginning of the doxology; a formula with which psalms are completed (a traditional protestant form of worship). In the third movement, Bach chose to replace the original 'Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris, amen' with 'Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in secula seculorum, amen'. As this had too many syllables, Bach added an extra six bars of music. He also gave the flutes a much more independent part, as well as making other changes to the instrumentation. While it is clear this cantata would heavily influence the *Gloria* movement in his *Mass in B Minor*, the subtle differences make this work especially unique.

I. Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men of good will.

II. Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

III. As it was in the beginning and now and always and in the age of ages, Amen.

AIN'T THAT-A-ROCKIN'

arr. Stacey Gibbs
Traditional African-American Spiritual

*Mary had a baby born in Bethlehem and she rocked Him in a weary land.
He was born in a lowly manger cause there was found no room in the inn.
Shepherds abiding in the fields, watching over their flocks by night,
Unto you a babe is born this day said the angel of the Lord to the shepherd in the field.
The angel call Him Christ the Lord, but I call my Lordy, King Emmanuel.*

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

*Tahric Lofton, student conductor
Caleb Shirley, soloist*

arr. Mac Huff

SILENT NIGHT

arr. Eric Nelson

PERSONNEL

Gloria in excelsis Deo Orchestra

Dr. Daniel Stevens, violin I	Jonah Albert, cello	Shelby Wearneth, flute I	Dr. Tony Kirkland, trumpet I	Jenni Conrad, trumpet III
Laura Pitner, violin II	Rachel Wood, harpsichord	Dr. Jessica Haislip, oboe I	Addie Holston, trumpet II	Dr. Jason Baker, timpani
Dr. Courtney Grant, viola	Rose Corzine, flute I	Jillian Kelly, oboe II		

OPUS

Shane Aguayo	David Crossler	Parker Hinkle	Keimauri McKenzie	Bradley Stafford
Kendall Austin	Willian daSilva	Justin Howard	Bryce McLane	Gabriel Stanford
Caige Baum	Connor Davis	Graham Hughes	Adonijah Mpinga	Conner Stingley
Caleb Beard	Joshua DeJesus-Gutierrez	Jaymar Jackson	Garret Nelson	Jaylen Stowers
Griffin Bowers	Bodie Dodson	Jalen Johnson	Carlin Nichols	Aidan Taylor
Patrick Bradley	Nathan Dowling	Corbin Jones	Matthew Parker	Antonio Theus
SJ Brocato	Steven Dutton	Ian Jones	Jaden Perkins	Jackson Valdez
Brandarius Brown	Zachary Dykema	Nicholas Jones	Quinton Prater	Jakob Vernon
Darryl Brundidge	Elijah Edwards	Jackson Kiser	Samuel Reed	Slaten Vowels
Christian Carver	Kindal Gammill	Tahric Lofton	Christian Robinson	Jarreau Weaver
Frankie Chisholm	Jacob Glenn	Ethan Maness	Andrew Shelton	Dontavius Webb
Isaiah Conerly	Kevin Gray	Brian Mayfield	Nathanail Shelton	Thomas West
John Cranford	Steven Hardy	William McCurry	Kazarian Shumpert	William Wright
	William Hardy	Nicholas McGowan	Maxwell Smaglick	Colin Zazzara

TREBULLDAWGS

Darryl Brundidge	Natalia Gonzalez	Taylor Mills	Cooper Robertson	Veronica Washington
Antryll Campbell	Ty Lofton	Madison Munn	Max Smaglick	Emma Woodward
Eleanor Garrard	Nick McGowan	Adonijah Mpinga	Mary Grace Stewart	Marissa Yarber

SCHOLA CANTORUM

Trinity Adzobu	Abigael Childs	Kameron Hinton	Aliyah Necaise	Sophia Sowers
Mary Christina Alexander	Taylor Clark	Rachel Hosp	Annie Ng	Elizabeth Spangler
Katie Allen	Deanna Cotts	Alyna-Marie Janus	Zoe Nunn	Elisa Stocking
Gabriella Arbesfeld	Bethany Crane	Emily Rose Jennings	Myesha Randolph	Shannon Symon
Jesse Baird	Emily Crane	Rae Kaiser	Sarah Randolph	Caera Taylor
Savannah Bishop	Emily Crunk	Mabry Keyes	Elexxus Richardson	Kayla Taylor
Kendall Bjornseth	Yasmine Davis	Samantha Land	Christina Rochette	Maria Timberlake
Anna Booth	Ivory Dorsey	Bronwen Maddox	Kylie Russell-Evangelista	Katherine Trinkle
Margaret Boyd	Elizabeth Dulaney	J'La Mason	Janiya Rutherford	Za'Kiya Tynes
Christa Brewster	Anna Edgeworth	Laurel Matthews	Marie Schemitsch	Emma Van Epps
Natalie Brown	Genesis Edmond	Lorie McEachern	Zion-Nahzir Scott	Rebekah Vaughn
Rebekah Carruth	Tebit Gang	Kylie McGinnis	Jessaca Shepherd	Kalen White
Maya Chambers	Taylor Haney	Aniyah McKissic	Brianna Smith	Sommer Williams
Jasmine Chaney	Sarah Heard	Madison Meek	Makayla Smith	Anne-Hale Winter
	Elizabeth Hilderbrand	Taylor Moore	Sarah Joy Smith	Riley Young

PERSONNEL

CANTARÉ

George Adams	Antryll Campbell	Brion'na Jackson	Chase Pullum	Jakob Vernon
Hudson Akin	Rachel Coleman	Brooke Johnson	Cooper Robertson	Joao Vilar da Silva
Kendall Austin	Mamie Cupit	Matthew Parker	Madelyn Ross	Alex White
Caleb Beard	Hannah Daniels	Joshua Phillips	Rianna Saucedo	Jacob Wright
Griffin Bowers	Jacob Glenn	Kayley Phillips	Brooke Smith	Enma Woodward
Candice Bruce	Elizabeth Harwell	Layne Pilcher	Lane Spradling	Colin Zazzara
Kenzie Burchfield	Justin Howard	Sara Prator	Max Smaglick	

STATE SINGERS

Lawson Ashurst	Willian daSilva	Austin Gothard	Tahric Lofton	Caleb Shirley
Lauren Barr	Bodie Dodson	Mattie Graham	Kimberly Martin	Kazarian Shumpert
Paul Beaty	Emma Duncan	Joshua Hamann	Evan Maxwell	Benjamin Somervell
Madeline Bender	Reese Dunne	Audrey Harper	Tavion Mccorvey	Jaylen Stowers
Haley Bondurant	Asia Ellis	Desmond Henderson	Adonijah Mpinga	Anna Thompson
Lauren Boozer	Aubrey English	Graham Hughes	Joseph Mullins	Jackson Valdez
Darryl Brundidge	Andre' Ferguson	Eliot Jones	Aliyah Necaise	Veronica Washington
Jaden Cleveland	Caroline Ferrell	Jacob King	Quinton Prater	Jarreau Weaver
Aireal Conley	Eleanor Garrard	Anna Lee	Blaine Rossell-Smith	Sydney Williams
	Natalia Gonzalez	Jonathan Lindamood	RJ Rutherford	Joseph Zazzara

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit www.statesings.com for more details

Tuesday, February 7, 2023	Black History Choral Concert Featuring Schola Cantorum	First Baptist Church – Starkville
Monday, March 20, 2023	“Seven Last Words of the Unarmed” Featuring MSU Tenor-Bass Voices	First Baptist Church – Starkville
Friday, March 31, 2023	Spring Choral Concert Featuring Cantaré	MSU Music Building Recital Hall
Friday, April 14, 2023	Spring Choral Spectacular Featuring Schola Cantorum, OPUS And State Singers	First Baptist Church - Starkville