



# DECK THE HALLS

*Saturday, December 21, 2019*

*7:30 pm*

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Palo Alto, CA



*Jeffrey Benson, Artistic Director*

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48<sup>th</sup> Season | 2019-2020  
Jeffrey Benson, Artistic Director

## Program

Hal'luhu Benjie Ellen Schiller

*Simone Horne and Matthew Goulart, soloists*

Magnificat Antonio Vivaldi

*Danielle Marie, soprano*

*Hilary Grothman, soprano*

*Jennifer Barnett, mezzo-soprano*

*Cody Scott, tenor*

*Jason Vincent, bass*

- I. Magnificat
- II. Et Exultavit
- III. Et Misericordia
- IV. Fecit Potentiam
- V. Deposuit
- VI. Esurientes
- VII. Suscepit Israel
- VIII. Sicut Locutus Est
- IX. Gloria Patri

Pasko No Naman arr. George Hernandez

### **Audience Sing Along: Let It Snow**

Tres Villancicos Españoles arr. Sheldon Curry

*Michelle Montoya and Christopher Montoya, soloists*

O Come Emmanuel arr. Aaron Goldstein

*Delia Gratta and Brian Spencer, soloists*

Jingle All the Way arr. Patti Drennan

*Lauren Culley and Emily Hsu, pianists*

*Cody Scott, conductor*

The Rose That Bare Jesu Ron Kean

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy arr. Jeff Funk

### **Audience Sing Along: Deck the Halls**

Huron Carol arr. Sarah Quartel

I Saw Three Ships arr. Mack Wilberg

*Lauren Culley and Emily Hsu, pianists*

# Welcome!

We are so glad you are a part of the Peninsula Cantare's Deck the Halls concert tonight! We hope that the music and cheer fill your heart and that you pass along some of the joy that music brings to us all. We encourage you to engage in our raffle and join us for the post-concert reception as well.

Peninsula Cantare continues to evolve in its membership, music selection, leadership, and goals to keep the great choral masterpieces alive, but also to explore new music for the education and enjoyment of our audiences. Our program repertoire ranges from the Renaissance to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, from a cappella pieces to major works with full orchestra, and represents languages and cultures from around the globe; we hope you find that tonight's performance is no exception!

The concert season of 2019-20 is an exciting one – we welcome back Dr. Jeffrey Benson from his well-earned sabbatical, we are in the midst of strategic planning for the next five years, of course we are celebrating Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> and showcasing a commissioned work this spring. We also are enjoying the addition of many new voices in our chorale, some of whom are former San José State University students, who missed being able to use and improve their own vocal talents, but also missed the camaraderie and shared mission of singing in a group.

This idea of building community through the joy of music is a pillar in our strategic planning—we want to offer vocal musicians and their fans a space where the challenges of day-to-day work and life can be put aside and joy is shared through music from around the globe and across the years. Similarly, spreading this joy to our neighbors, through world-class choral music is a driver for us, and we will be identifying more ways to reach out to the communities along the Peninsula to include more cultures and voices.

*(continued on next page)*

We are completely not-for-profit, and in order to provide scholarships to singers in the ensemble, to hire musicians, and rent rehearsal and concert spaces, we need YOU! Many of you supported us during our recent Giving Tuesday matching drive, so thank you for helping to kick off our fundraising efforts for the year. Please do keep us in mind as you consider your end-of-year or longer-term giving decisions. We appreciate being able to bring music to the community through your generous support and ideas. Let's go and deck those halls!

Ginny Grant

Chair, Board of Directors, Peninsula Cantare

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Some of us have realized that we have far more than we need and wish to share some of what we have with those around the world who have so little and often suffer so much.

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# Texts and Translations

## Hal'luhu

Hal'lu Eil b'kodsho

Hal'luhu birkia uzo.

Hal'luhu big'vurotav

Hal'luhu k'rov gud lo.

Hal'luhu b'teika shofar,

Hal'luhu b'neivel v'chinor

Hal'luhu b'tof umachol,

Hal'luhu b'minim v'ugav.

Hal'luhu b'tziltz'lei shama,

Hal'luhu b'tziltz'lei truah

Kol hanshama t'haleil Yah,

Hal'luyah, hal'luyah!

## Benjie Ellen Schiller

*Hallelu Yah! Praise God in the  
Sanctuary*

*Praise the One whose power the  
heavens proclaim*

*Praise God for mighty acts*

*Praise the One for surpassing  
greatness*

*Praise with the shofar blast,*

*Praise with harp and flute*

*Praise with drum and dance*

*Praise with strings and pipe*

*Praise with cymbals sounding*

*Praise with cymbals resounding*

*Let all that breathes praise God!*

*Hallelu Yah, Hallelu Yah!*

## Magnificat

### *I. Magnificat*

Magnificat anima mea

Dominum

## Antonio Vivaldi

*My soul doth magnify  
the Lord*

### *II. Et Exultavit*

Et exultavit spiritus meus in

Deo salutari meo

Quia respexit humilitatem

ancillae suae:

Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me

dicent omnes generationes.

Quia fecit mihi magna

potens est, et sanctum

nomen ejus.

*And my spirit hath rejoiced in*

*God my savior*

*For He hath regarded the humility*

*of His slave*

*For behold from henceforth all*

*generations shall call me blessed*

*Because He that is mighty hath*

*done great things to me, holy is*

*His name.*

### *III. Et Misericordia*

Et misericordia ejus

a progenie in progenies,

timentibus eum.

*And his mercy is*

*from generation to generation*

*to those who fear him.*

*IV. Fecit Potentiam*

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo;  
Dispersit superbos,  
mente cordis sui.

*He hath showed his might in his  
arm; scattered the proud in the  
conceit of their hearts.*

*V. Deposuit*

Deposuit potentes,  
potentes de sede  
et exaltavit humiles.

*He has put down the mighty, the  
mighty from their seat  
and exalted the humble.*

*VI. Esurientes*

Esurientes implevit bonis  
Et divites dimisit,  
dimisit inanes.

*He hath filled the hungry with  
goodness, and the rich he hath  
sent, sent away empty.*

*VII. Suscepit Israel*

Suscepit Israel puerum suum  
recordatus misericordiae suae

*He has received Israel as his servant  
remembering his mercy*

*VIII. Sicut Locutus Est*

Sicut locutus est ad patres  
nostro  
Abraham et semini ejus in  
saecula.

*As He promised to our fathers  
before us,  
Abraham and his seed forever.*

*IX. Gloria Patri*

Gloria Patri, Patri et Filio,  
et Spiritui Sancto!  
Sicut erat in principio,  
Et nunc et semper,  
Et in saecula saeculorum.  
Amen.

*Glory to the Father and the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit!  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end,  
Amen!*

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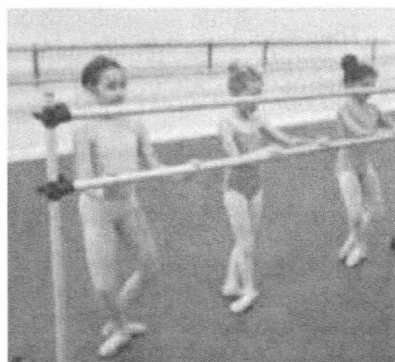
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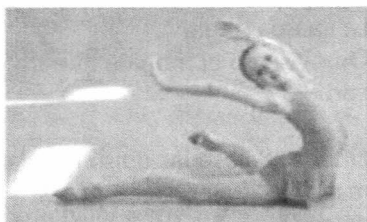
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# Audience Sing Along

## 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 stoppin'  
And I brought some corn for  
poppin'  
The lights are turned way down  
low  
Let it snow, let it snow, let it  
snow

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

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

## DECK THE HALLS!

1. Deck the halls with boughs of  
holly  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*  
'Tis the season to be jolly  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*  
Don we now our gay apparel  
*Fa-la-la, la-la-la, la-la-la*  
Troll the ancient Yule-tide carol  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*

2. See the blazing Yule before us  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*  
Strike the harp and join the  
chorus  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*  
Follow me in merry measure  
*Fa-la-la, la-la-la, la-la-la*

3. Fast away the old year  
passes  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*  
Hail the new year, lads and  
lasses  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la*  
Sing we joyous, all together  
*Fa-la-la, la-la-la, la-la-la*  
Heedless of the wind and  
weather  
*Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la!*



**Dr. Jeffrey Benson** is currently Artistic Director of Peninsula Cantare and Director of Choral Activities at San José State University. Previously, Dr. Benson served as Director of Choral Activities and Fine Arts Department Chair at H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program in Arlington, Virginia. The Washington Post hails his choirs for singing "with an exquisite blend, subtlety of phrasing, confident musicianship and fully supported tone...that would be the envy of some professional ensembles."

Dr. Benson has served as cover conductor for the Grammy award-winning Washington Chorus, where he helped to prepare the ensemble for Maestros Julian Wachner, Leonard Slatkin and Marvin Hamlisch. In 2006, Benson was invited to La Universidad Americana in Managua, Nicaragua to assist the university in forming the first a cappella choir at the institution.

Choirs under his direction have performed on multiple state and regional conferences of ACDA and NAfME and have toured throughout the United States and Europe, including invited performances at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The White House and Washington National Cathedral. Recently Dr. Benson's choirs have been invited to perform with the Rolling Stones, Andrea Bocelli, the Los Angeles Festival Orchestra and the Skywalker Orchestra. In 2006, the Woodlawn Chamber Singers under Dr. Benson's direction were the only high school choir invited to sing on the National Conference of Chorus America in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Benson received his Master's degree and his Doctorate in Choral Conducting/Music Education from The Florida State University and his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from New York University.



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**Emily Hsu** began her piano and musical training at the age of three and had won several prestigious accolades by the age of ten. After moving from Taiwan to the Bay Area in 1996, she studied with renowned pianist Rebecca-Sen Chan. Since then, she's won numerous competitions including the U.S. Open Competition, Young Pianist's Beethoven Competition, and San José Jazz Society Piano Competition. Emily is a graduate of the University of California, Davis where she studied music and computer science.



In addition to having an extensive and accomplished solo career, Emily is a collaborative musician by nature. In addition to her work with Dr. Jeffrey Benson and the San José State University Concert Choir, Emily has served as the accompanist for the California All-State Choirs. She has arranged numerous choral repertoire for the Tzu Chi Foundation and Bo-Ai Chorus. She has also aided Dr. Jennifer McDowell on the completion of her songbook *The Women's Basketball Songbook*, performed with the Cambrian Symphony under the direction of Maestro Scott Krijnen, and worked closely with distinguished music educator Jim Yowell for over a decade.

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# Peninsula Cantare Singers

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Margaret Boles  
Liz Brimhall  
Helen Burns  
Katy Christie  
Lauren Culley  
Melanie Flint  
Toby Goldberg  
Carla Gratta  
Delia Gratta  
Hilary Grothman  
Shirley Gruber  
Silke Maier  
Danielle Marie\*  
Elizabeth Matchett  
Sharon Rice  
Neerali Shah  
Maria Shao  
Melissa Ursin  
Ella Zarren  
Sarah Zhong

## Altos

Angela Acosta  
Jennifer Barnett  
Emma Benatar  
Sarah Epstein  
Kerri Fox  
Ginny Grant  
Elizabeth Greenfield  
Victoria Hanson  
Naomi Hartwig  
Rebecca Hatch  
Simone Horne  
K. K. (Kay) Johnson  
Grace Kim  
Michelle Montoya  
Laura Natta  
Robyn Peters  
Kristen Redaniel\*  
Ellen Tauber Siminoff

## Tenors

Larry Baer  
Max Capestany  
Matthew Garrity  
Matiah Goldberg  
Jonathan Goldberg  
Matthew Goulart  
Peter Lin  
Christopher Montoya  
John Riffle  
Cody Scott\*  
Richard Vaughan  
Ruthie Wilkins

## Basses

Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson  
Michael Cook  
Nathaniel Goldberg  
Ronald Hodges  
Robert Janssen  
Manit Limlamai  
David Marsh  
Dave Peters  
Kevin Schoenfeld  
Brian Spencer  
Michael Sterling  
Benjamin Swanson  
Jason Vincent\*  
Steven Yacuta

\* Denotes section leader

## Guest Instrumentalists

Sarah Jones, *violin*  
Alan Chen, *violin*  
Tovah Keynton, *viola*  
Robert Scott, *oboe*

Lars Anderson, *cello*  
Victor Ruiz, *bass*  
Cindy Thorp, *oboe*  
Jeremiah Juzix, *percussion*

## Handbell Ensemble

Angela Acosta  
Arlie Aguirre  
Liz Brimhall  
Helen Burns  
Andrew Ford  
Simone Horne  
Danielle Marie

Elizabeth Matchett  
Laura Natta  
Kristen Redaniel  
Cody Scott  
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Jason Vincent

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Candlelight Christmas Eve:  
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Tuesday, December 24, 2019 ~ 7:00pm



## *Covenant Chamber Concert Series*

**Covenant Brass Sextet**      **Sunday, December 15, 2019 ~ 4:00pm**  
works by Tchaikovsky, Guaraldi, Secor and others

**Vivace Youth Chorus**      **Sunday, January 12, 2020 ~ 4:00pm**  
Peggy Spool, director  
works by Daley, Paulus, Debussy, Brahms, Offenbach, Hagen and others

**Ensemble Ari**      **Sunday, January 26, 2020 ~ 4:00pm**  
feat. Rhoslyn Jones, soprano  
works by female composers, including contemporary composers  
Sunhee Cho and Jean Ahn

**Sung-Hee Park & Friends**      **Sunday, February 9, 2020 ~ 4:00pm**  
with the Sonnet Ensemble  
works by Schumann, Ibert and Dillard

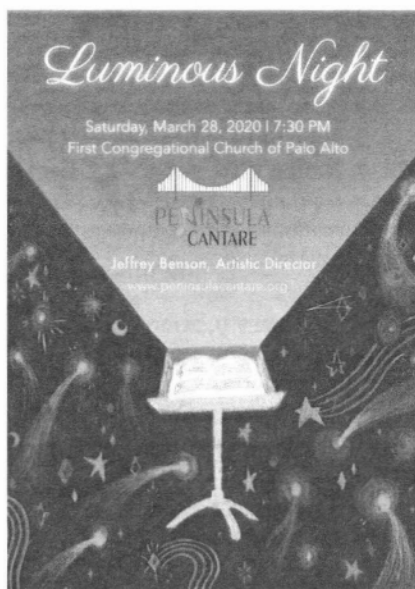
**Dance Fantasy**      **Sunday, February 23, 2020 ~ 4:00pm**  
feat. Yu Chi Tai, piano  
works by Bartók, Piazzola, Copland, Bolcom and Schoenfield

Donation: \$15 adults, \$5 youth (12-17), FREE under 12  
Proceeds will benefit the Covenant Ringers Handbell Choir New Instrument Fund.  
Reception will follow each concert in the Fellowship Hall.

The Peninsula Cantare Board extends its gratitude to Rev. Dr. Margaret Boles and the Covenant Presbyterian Church for its support as our rehearsal space and venue for many joyful concerts.

## Thank you for spending your evening with us!

We hope that our program of carols and songs has filled your heart with music and refreshed your enthusiasm for the spirit of the season. We are glad to share our creative process with our community and hope to see you again at our upcoming concerts!



PENINSULA CANTARE  
JEFFREY BENSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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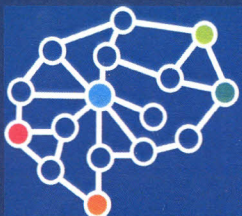
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