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Dr. Jeffrey Benson
Artistic Director and Conductor

Saturday, December 17, 2016, 7:30pm
Covenant Presbyterian Church
670 E. Meadow Drive
Palo Alto, California

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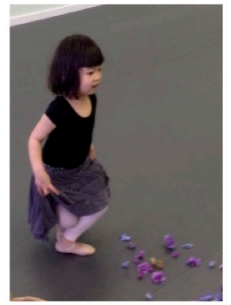
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Cantare's Spring 2017 Season

In recognition of our members and friends spanning the entire Peninsula, we are "Taking our show on the road" and performing in different venues throughout this season. Please save the date for our upcoming concerts:

Mozart: Solemn Vespers - Plus Silent Auction

Saturday, April 8, 2017
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
178 Clinton Street, Redwood City

Orff: Carmina Burana

Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, 2017
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
600 Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto

If you know of other interested singers, please mention Peninsula Cantare to them. Word of mouth and a direct invitation from a friend or acquaintance is SO much stronger than mass email. We'd love to have new singers join us!

-Dr. Jeffrey Benson

Welcome to Peninsula Cantare!

Welcome to the first concert of Peninsula Cantare's 2016-2017 season!

Ever since its conception in 1971 as a class at Cañada College, Peninsula Cantare has made an important contribution to the choral music scene in the Bay Area with experienced and non-experienced choral singers of all areas and ages coming together to form this unique and talented group.

Cantare is dedicated to keeping the great choral masterpieces alive as well as exploring new music for the education and enjoyment of our audiences. Program repertoire ranges from the Renaissance to the twenty-first century; from a cappella literature to major works with orchestra. In addition to Bay Area concerts, members of the choir have recently traveled to tour Ireland in 2016 with choir members of San Jose State University and are scheduled to sing in April 2017 at Carnegie Hall!

We are completely not-for-profit and in order to provide scholarships, hire musicians and travel, we need YOU! Please keep us in mind as you are considering giving before the end of the calendar year. Thank you so much for joining us tonight! Have a wonderful and safe evening!

Laura Natta, Ph.D.
Chair
Board of Trustees
Peninsula Cantare

Peninsula Cantare Board of Trustees

Laura Natta, Chair
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K.K. (Kay) Johnson
Emily McChristian
Ruthie Wilkins

Program

Riu Riu Chiu

Traditional

Andrew Hathaway, Tiffany Barry, Toby Goldberg,
AJ Rodriguez, Jenna Barnett, Kristen Redaniel,
Liz Brimhall, soloists

My Dancing Day

Mark Burrows

(b. 1971)

Seven Joys of Christmas

Kirke Mechem

(b. 1925)

Ruthanne Adams Martinez, harp

1. The Joy of Love: This is the truth
Michelle Dreyband, soloist
2. The Joy of Bells: Din don! merrily on high
3. The Joy of Mary: Joseph dearest, Joseph mine
4. The Joy of Children: Patapan
5. The Joy of the New Year: New Year Song
6. The Joy of Dance: Fum, fum, fum!
7. The Joy of Song: God bless the master of this house

AUDIENCE SING: Deck the Halls!

The Holly and the Ivy

arr. John Rutter

(b. 1945)

Mid-winter

Bob Chilcott

(b. 1955)

Rejoice and Be Merry

John Rutter

(b. 1945)

Peninsula Cantare Supporters

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Shauna Pickett-Gordon
LisAnne and Mit Sawney
Lisa and Martin Shepherd
Fleur Uptegraft
Liz Matchett and Richard Vaughan
Ruth Wilkins
Andrew Wilson

Meet the Artists

musicians, composers, as well as community and school chorus groups. Emily is also the keyboardist and back-up vocalist in the local funk band, Soul Intention.

Danielle Wells, soprano



Danielle is an emerging young artist in the South Bay Area. Nothing is more fulfilling to Danielle than singing oratorio and sacred works. She recently received her Masters in Voice Performance at San Jose State University, studying under Professor Layna Chianakas. Prior voice instructors include Sandra Bengochea, Dr. Nicole Baker, and Mary Scheibe. In June, Danielle made her international debut in Ireland as the soprano soloist for Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass at the Limerick Sings festival

under the baton of Dr. Jeffrey Benson. In May Danielle was privileged to sing the soprano solo in one of her favorite major works, Brahms' Requiem, in Mission Santa Clara de Asis under the baton of Dr. Benson. Also in May Danielle performed a principal role, Lady with a Cake Box, in Dominick Argento's "Postcard from Morocco."

Danielle's other recent performances include the leading role of Eurydice in San Jose State Opera Theater's production of Offenbach's Orpheus in the Underworld conducted by Michael Digiaccinto and directed by Layna Chianakas, the soprano soloist in Mozart's Requiem directed by Michael Digiaccinto and Dr. Jeffrey Benson, Michaela in an encore performance with San Jose Chamber Orchestra conducted by Maestra Barbara Day Turner, and the National Anthem vocalist for a federal government ribbon cutting ceremony at the City of San Jose. Performing as lead soprano with the Mistletoe Singers around the Bay Area is Danielle's favorite winter pastime. Danielle also enjoys performing with First Street Opera at their Opera Night with Caffè Frascati and the Rock Bar in San Jose, CA. Danielle spent three years as the soprano soloist, cantor, and section leader at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Yorba Linda, CA under the direction of Joseph Bazyouros and Mark Haas. Currently Danielle is the soprano soloist and section leader at the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, under the direction of Michael Taylor. This is Danielle's first season as the soprano section leader and soloist with Peninsula Cantare and looks forward to the busy and exciting season ahead.

Program

Behold the Star

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

Danielle Wells, soprano

Hanerot Halalu

arr. Blanche Chass
(b. 1922-1975)

White Christmas

arr. Roy Ringwald
(1910-1995)

AUDIENCE SING: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

The Little Drummer Boy

arr. Philip Kern
(b. 1957)

Clarissa Chandler, soloist

Noche de Paz

arr. Cesar Alejandro Carrillo
(b. 1957)

Go Tell It on the Mountain arr. Rosephanye Powell
(b. 1962)

Danielle Wells, soprano

Peninsula Cantare is a California Non-profit
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PeninsulaCantare.org

Program Texts

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Riu, riu, chiu
la guarda ribera
Dios guardó el lobo
de nuestra cordera
Dios guardó el lobo
de nuestra cordera.

El lobo rabioso
la quiso morder
Mas Dios Poderoso
la supo defender
Quizo la hacer que
no pudiese pecar
Ni aun original
esta virgen no tuviera.

Riu, riu, chiu...

Este que es nascido
es El Gran Monarca
Cristo Patriarca
de carne vestido
Ha nos redimido
con se hacer chiquito
Aunque era infinito
finito se hiciera.

Riu, riu, chiu ...

Este viene a dar
a los muertos vida
Y viene a reparar
de todos la caída
Es la luz del día
aqueste Moçuelo
Este es el Cordero
que San Juan dijera.

Riu, riu, chiu
The river bank is protected
God has kept the wolf
From our ewe lamb
God has kept the wolf
From our ewe lamb

The rabid wolf
Wanted to bite her
But Almighty God
Knew how to defend her
He willed to make her
Unable to sin
Even original sin
This virgin did not have

Riu, riu, chiu...

The one who is born
Is the Great Monarch
Christ the Patriarch
Clothed in flesh
He has redeemed us
By making himself small
Though he was infinite
He became finite

Riu, riu, chiu...

He comes to give
Life to the dead
He comes to repair
The fall of all mankind
This Child
Is the light of day
He is the Lamb
Of whom St. John spoke

Meet the Artists

Ruthanne Adams Martinez, harp

Emily Hsu, piano

Emily Hsu started her piano and musical training at the age of three in Taiwan and had won several prestigious accolades by the age of ten. She studied with renowned pianist Rebecca-Sen Chan after moving to the Bay Area in 1996. Since then, she has won competitions such as the U.S. Open Competition, Young Pianist's Beethoven Competition, and San Jose Jazz Society Piano Competition. Emily graduated from the University of California, Davis, where she studied computer science and music.



Emily is presently a private piano instructor and active musician in the Bay Area. She frequently performs, accompanies, and arranges music for

Our Director

Dr. Jeffrey Benson is currently Director of Choral Activities at San José State University in San José, California. *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 recently made his international conducting debut with the Irish Chamber Orchestra and the SJSU Choraliers in Limerick, Ireland, and he made his Carnegie Hall conducting debut in 2015 with the SJSU Choirs and the New York Festival Orchestra. Choirs under his direction have been invited to perform with the Rolling Stones, Josh Groban, Andrea Bocelli, the Los Angeles Festival Orchestra and the Skywalker Orchestra.

Dr. Benson is a published composer and arranger with Colla Voce Music and Santa Barbara Music Publishing, under the Charlene Archibeque Choral Series. He is also the Artistic Director of Peninsula Cantare, a community chorus based in Palo Alto.

Dr. Benson is an active member of the National Association for Music Education, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), and the National Collegiate Choral Organization, where he currently serves as California National Board Representative. ACDA recognized Benson with the first annual Colleen Kirk Award for his outstanding achievement as a young conductor.

Dr. Benson received his Masters degree and his Doctorate in Choral Conducting/Music Education from The Florida State University and his Bachelors degree in Music Education from New York University.

Program Texts

Riu, riu, chiu ...

Yo vi mil Garzones
que andavan cantando
Por aqui volando
haciendo mil sonos
Diciendo a gascones
Gloria sea en el Cielo
Y paz en el suelo
pues Jesus nasciera.

Riu, riu, chiu ...

Pues que ya tenemos
lo que deseamos
Todos juntos vamos
presentes llevemos
Todos le daremos
nuestra voluntad
Pues a se igualar
con nosotros viniera.

Riu, riu, chiu ...

My Dancing Day

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;

Chorus
Sing O my love, my love, 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.

Riu, riu, chiu...

I saw a thousand Angels
Who were singing
Flying around
Chanting in a thousand voices
Saying to the shepherds
Glory in Heaven
And peace on earth
For Jesus is born

Riu, riu, chiu...

Now we have
What we desire
Let us go together
To present him gifts
Let us all give him
Our will
For he came
As our equal

Riu, riu, chiu...

In a manger laid I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance.

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance.

Program Texts

Seven Joys of Christmas

The Joy of Love: This is the truth

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell:
Woman was made with man to dwell.

And we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run
That He would redeem us by His Son.

And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach
And many thousands He did teach.

Thus He in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

The Joy of Bells: Din don! merrily on high

Din don! merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing;
Din don! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angels singing.

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Peninsula Cantare Singers

Jeffrey Benson, Artistic Director and Conductor
Emily Hsu, Collaborative Pianist

Soprano

Michelle Backer
Emilie Bertram
Liz Brimhall
Clarissa Chandler
Claire Dikas
Michelle Dreyband
Melanie Flint
Ren Geiselhart
Toby Goldberg
Shirley Gruber
Victoria Hanson
Elizabeth Matchett
Sharon Rice
Lisa Shepherd
Danielle Wells
Nancy Winningham

Bass

Nathaniel Bergson-Michelson
Cody Espejo
Andrew Hathaway
Ronald Hodges
Quentin Lewis
Manit Limlamai
Dave Peters
Michael Sterling

Alto

Jenna Barnett
Tiffany Barry
Paula Collis
Maryloie Espinoza
Ginny Grant
Ellen Hill
Kay Johnson
Laura Natta
Paula Ondricek
Robyn Peters
Kristen Redaniel

Tenor

Larry Baer
Max Capestany
AJ Rodriguez
Cody Scott
Richard Vaughan
Ruthie Wilkins
Andrew Wilson

To join Peninsula
Cantare's email list,
please leave your
email address at the
ticket table.

Program Texts

Noche de Paz

Noche de paz,
noche de amor,
todo duerme en derredor,
entre los Astros que esparcen su luz
viene anunciando al Niño Jesús,
Brilla la estrella de paz,
Brilla la estrella de paz.

This peaceful night,
lovely night.
when everything sleeps all around,
all the stars are spreading their light
to announce Child Jesus' birth
The star of peace is also shining,
The star of peace is also shining.

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Margaret Boles

Dec 18 10:30 a.m. Worship
Christmas Around the World
Dec 24 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Dec 25 10:30 a.m. Worship
Moravian Love Feast

670 E. Meadow Dr., Palo Alto



Program Texts

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o,
By priest and people sungen.

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you dutifully prime,
Your matin chime, ye ringers.
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers;

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

The Joy of Mary: Joseph dearest, Joseph mine

Joseph dearest, Joseph mine,
Help me cradle the child divine;
God reward thee and all that's thine
In Paradise, So prays the Mother Mary.

He came on Christmas day, on Christmas day,
In Bethlehem; Christus natus hodie in Bethlehem;
Jesus, Jesus, Lo,
He comes to love and save and free us

Mary dearest, Mary mild,
I shall gladly help rock thy Child;
God will surely reward us then
In Paradise, So prays the Mother Mary.

He came on Christmas day, on Christmas day,
In Bethlehem; Christus natus hodie in Bethlehem;
Jesus, Jesus, Lo,
He comes to love and save and free us

Now is born Emmanuel,
Prophesied by Ezekiel,
Promised Mary by Gabriel,

Program Texts

Rejoice and sing Alleluia, Maria.

He came on Christmas day, on Christmas day,
In Bethlehem; Christus natus hodie in Bethlehem;
Jesus, Jesus, Lo,
He comes to love and save and free us

The Joy of Children: Patapan

Willie, take your little drum,
With your whistle, Robin, come!
When we hear the fife and drum,
Christmas should be frolicsome.

Thus the men of olden days
Loved the King of kings to praise:
When they hear the fife and drum,
Sure our children won't be dumb!

God and man are now become
More at one than fife and drum.
When you hear the fife and drum,
Dance and make the village hum!

Willie, take your little drum,
With your whistle, Robin, come!
When we hear the fife and drum,
Christmas should be frolicsome.

The Joy of the New Year: New Year Song

When night's shadows fly
New Year's dawn floods all the sky;
And joyful voices sound, joyful voices sound.
Branches of the fragrant pine
Hang ev'rywhere around, ev'rywhere around.

Leaves so dainty fine
Freshly gathered, dewy shine,
And glitter in the light, glitter in the light.

Program Texts

The Little Drummer Boy

Rum pum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you on my drum?

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

So to honor him, pa rum pum pum pum,
When we come.

See the little baby, smilin' with his mama.
See the little baby, smilin' with his mama.
Little baby, pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to bring our King, pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum,

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum,
On my drum? Shall I play?
Let me play for you on my drum!
Let me play on my drum, let me play for you!

Mary nodded, pa rum pum pum pum
She nodded right at me!
The ox and lamb kept time, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for him, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my best for him, pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

Then He smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum.
I'm gonna play my drum for you, pa rum pum pum pum
See the little baby, smilin' with his mama,
Mama with her baby boy.
Let me play, play on my drum!

Program Texts

Hanerot Halalu

Yaba Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Yaba Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Hanerot halalu anachnu madlikin Al hanisim v'al hat'shuot v'al al hamilcha moot	Yaba Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Yaba Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Bim Bom Now we kindle the candles, Remembering the days of old, Lights full of myst'ry, lights full of hist'ry, Sparks from the battles brave and bold.
--	--

Sheasita laavoteynu bayamim hahem baz'man haze al y'de 'kohanecha kohanecha hak'doshem	Blazing a story of ancient glory Macabees who fought to worship free Still standing by us Old Mathius Calls "ye faithfull come along with me."
---	---

V'hol sh'monas y'me Hanukah V'hol sh'monas y'me Hanukah Hanerot halalu Hanerot halalu kodeshem.	As each night we add one light, We add a prayer that freedom is for all. For you know we keep them holy Till the 8 are trilling great and small.
--	---

White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten, and children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white

Program Texts

From Kadusa's lofty pinetree
Waving, waving on the height.

The Joy of Dance: Fum, fum, fum!

On December twenty-fifth, sing fum, fum, fum!
He is born of God's pure love,
The Son of God, the Son of God;
He is born of Virgin Mary
In this night so cold and dreary. Fum, fum, fum!

Birds who live in ev'ry forest, Fum fum, fum!
You must leave your fledglings on the bough,
must leave your fledglings now;
For to make a downy nest,
So the newborn Babe may rest. Fum, fum, fum!

All the brilliant stars in heaven, Fum, fum, fum!
All the little stars in heaven, Fum, fum, fum!
Looking down see Jesus crying,
see Him crying, see Him cry;
Send away the darkness lightly,
Shine your light upon us brightly, Fum, fum, fum!

The Joy of Song: God bless the master of this house

God bless the master of this house, And all that are therein-a, And to begin this Christmas tide With mirth now let us sing-a!	Then sing with voices cheerfully, For Christ this time was born-a.
---	---

The Saviour of all people Upon this time was born-a, Who did from death deliver us, When we were left forlorn-a.	Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
---	--

Then let us all most merry be, And sing with cheerful voicea, For we have good occasion now This time for to rejoice-a.	Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains. Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing, Willie, take your little drum Get your whistle, Robin Gloria in excelsis Deo Let us sing!
--	---

Program Texts

The holly and the ivy

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown;
Of all the trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown.

Chorus

O the rising of the sun
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom
As white as lily flow'r
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet Saviour.

The holly bears a berry
As red as any blood;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark
As bitt'r as any gall;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to redeem us all.

Mid-winter

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago, long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air,
But only his mother
In her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved
With a kiss.

What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him,
Give my heart.

Program Texts

Rejoice and be merry

Rejoice and be merry
in songs and in mirth,
O praise our Redeemer,
all mortals on earth:
For this is the birthday
of Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation:
His praises we'll sing.

A heavenly vision
Appeared in the sky,
Vast numbers of angels
The shepherds did spy,
Proclaiming the birthday of
Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation:
His praises we'll sing.

Likewise a bright star
In the sky did appear,
Which led the wise men
From the East to draw near;
They found the Messiah,
Sweet Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation,
His praises we'll sing.

And when they were come,
they their treasures unfold,
And unto him offered
Myrrh, incense and gold.
So blessed forever
Be Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation,
His praises we'll sing.

Rejoice and be merry!

Behold the Star

Behold the star!
Behold the star up yonder!
Behold the star!
It is the star of Bethlehem.

There was no room found in the Inn,
For him who was born free from sin.
Behold the star!
Behold the star up yonder!
Behold the star!
It is the star of Bethlehem.

The wise men came from the East,
To worship Him, The "Prince of
Peace."

Behold the star!
Behold the star up yonder!
Behold the star!
It is the star of Bethlehem.

A song broke forth upon the night.
It is the star of Bethlehem, peace,
Peace on earth, goodwill to men.
It is the star of Bethlehem,
Behold the star!
Behold the star up yonder!
Behold the star!
It is the star of Bethlehem.
Allelujah, behold the star!
Allelujah, behold the star of
Bethlehem!