

T H E

Firebird

C H A M B E R S I N G E R S

present ...



“A C h o r a l C h r i s t m a s”

Featuring

The Firebird Chamber Singers
conducted by Cody Obst
and
special guest musicians.

Saturday, December 9th, 2006 at 8:00 PM
Cathedral Church of the Redeemer
Calgary, AB

Sponsored by the ProArts Society

T h e S i n g e r s

Soprano One

Joanna Allard
Shari Derksen
Meaghan Iversen
Shazya Ladak
Kim Reinhart

Soprano Two

Win Carley
Alyssa Contrino
Amanda Massey
Lindsay Mills

Alto

Megan Clark
Nadine Cornelius
Kathryn Davies
Julia Millen
Chantal Penney

T h e I n s t r u m e n t a l i s t s

Elisa Janz, violin
Karri Quan, violin
Tisha Murvihill, harp
Michael Coburn, piano
John Morgan, organ

A b o u t t h e S i n g e r s

The Firebird Chamber Singers is a brand new choir which strives to provide talented youth and young adults an advanced choral music experience. This unique choir allows youth to work with mentors to develop, enhance, and instill character, cultural awareness, respect, and a commitment to excellence through the love of music. Choristers experience both innovative and traditional choral music (a cappella and accompanied) of the highest standard. A key component of the choir is working with experienced choral musicians including opportunities to collaborate with other professional musicians and conductors. The choir has initially formed as a women's chamber choir with plans to expand to include men in 2007. Auditions are ongoing and interested choristers are encouraged to contact us now, as space will be limited next fall.

A b o u t t h e C o n d u c t o r

Cody Obst (BMus, BEd, MMus) is a versatile musician at home on the piano, organ or conducting. As a pianist, Cody has won many awards and scholarships, most notably winning Manitoba provincial championship in Senior Piano and representing the province at the National Music Festival. He is an active performer on this instrument and is continuing his series "Concerts with Commentary" in the New Year after giving 12 successful performances in three provinces last season. As a conductor, Cody credits his technical ability to Dr. Earl Davey (of Brandon University) who taught him many insights from his teacher, the world-renowned Claudio Abbado. He has recently conducted the Calgary Centennial Singers in a concert for choir, organ, and brass with Altius Brass. Another highlight was in 2004, when he formed his own advanced ensemble, by organizing and establishing the Calgary Choir of Peace for a special Remembrance Day Concert which included the John Rutter Requiem.

Cody is currently music director of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, assistant conductor and collaborative pianist of the Calgary Bach Festival Society Choir, and in addition he teaches private students piano and theory lessons. Music is definitely his love and Cody tackles it with true "joie de vivre." Former teacher Dr. Joan Miller writes, "In addition to his ability as a top notch pianist Cody has shown a great aptitude for teaching. ... His cheerful, up beat, outgoing and generous personality will stand him in good stead as a Canadian performer and I would surmise will facilitate his outreach to bring art to the people in our society."

O u r T h a n k s

Thank you for coming to our inaugural concert as an ensemble. We love to perform and hope that you enjoyed the concert. Below are some special people and organizations we would like to thank:

ArtsMART
Cathedral Church of Redeemer
Hilda Smith
Mark Ellestad, Hexagon Studios
Pat & Armand Massey
ProArts Society for sponsoring this event

If you would like to sponsor a future concert or just help the growth of our ensemble in any way please contact the Singers at info@firebirdchambersingers.ca or call 288-0096.

www.firebirdchambersingers.ca

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P r o g r a m m e

O Come all ye Faithful

arr. Sir David Wilcocks
(b. 1919)

Elisa Janz, violin
Karri Quan, violin
Tisha Murvihill, harp
John Morgan, organ

I Saw Three Ships

arr. Sir David Wilcocks
(b. 1919)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

A Cappella

The Snow

Edward Elgar
(1857 – 1934)

Elisa Janz, violin
Karri Quan, violin
Tisha Murvihill, harp
Michael Coburn, piano
John Morgan, organ

Harp solo: Intermezzo, Op 118 No 2

Johannes Brahms
(1833 – 1897)

Dancing Day

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

Prelude

Angelus ad virginem

A virgin most pure

Personent Hodie

Interlude

There is no rose

Coventry Carol

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

Michael Coburn, piano

S. Ladak, W. Carley, K. Davies, K. Reinhart, J. Millen, A. Massey, soloists

~ INTERMISSION ~

A Ceremony of Carols, Op 28

Benjamin Britten
(1913 – 1976)

Procession

Wolcum Yole!

There is no Rose

That yonge child

Balulalow

As dew in Aprille

This little Babe

Interlude

In Freezing Winter Night

Spring Carol

Deo Gracias

Recession

Tisha Murvihill, harp

J. Millen, K. Reinhart, W. Carley, S. Derksen, M. Iversen, soloists

Organ Solo: Noël X

Louis-Claude Daquin
(1694 – 1772)

Audience Carols

What Child is This?

traditional, 16th century

The First Nowell

traditional, arr. Healey Willan
(1880 – 1968)

With all the instrumentalists

New Year Carol

Benjamin Britten
(1913 – 1976)

Elisa Janz, violin

Karri Quan, violin

Tisha Murvihill, harp

Michael Coburn, piano

Silent Night

traditional, arr. John Rutter
(b. 1945)

Elisa Janz, violin

Karri Quan, violin

Tisha Murvihill, harp

John Morgan, organ

A u d i e n c e C a r o l

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

A u d i e n c e C a r o l

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell the Angel did say
Was to three poor Shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
In a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.
Born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued, both day and night.

And by the light of that same Star
Three Wise Men came from country far,
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star wherever it went.

This Star drew nigh to the North West;
O'er Bethlehem it took it's rest.
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then enter'd in those Wise Men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offer'd there, in his presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.