



SACRAMENTO CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA

Donald Kendrick, Music Director

Saturday, March 18, 2017 – 8 p.m.

Pre-concert talk – 7 p.m.

Sacramento Community Center Theater

THE MUSIC OF
DOWNTON ABBEY

NARRATORS

Alison Gilbreath

Elizabeth Anne Springett

DOWNTON ABBEY SUITE

John Lunn

I WAS GLAD (1902)

Sir Hubert H. Parry

NIGHTFALL (1920)

Kevin Doherty, Baritone

Patrick Hadley

JERUSALEM (1916)

Chorus and Audience

Sir Hubert Parry

CROSSING THE BAR (1903)

Kevin Doherty, Baritone

Sir Henry Walford Davies

MY SOUL, THERE IS A COUNTRY (1916)

Sir Hubert Parry

I VOW TO THEE, MY COUNTRY (1914/1921)

Gustav Holst

Jupiter Theme, *The Planets* Chorus and Audience

INTERMISSION

US AND THEM

John Lunn

AS TORRENTS IN SUMMER (1896)

Sir Edward Elgar

THE SNOW (1894)

Sir Edward Elgar

FUNERAL ANTHEM (Selections) (1737)

George Frideric Handel

The Ways of Zion Do Mourn

LORD, THOU HAST BEEN OUR REFUGE (1921)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Kevin Doherty, Baritone

RULE, BRITANNIA! (1740)

Thomas Augustine Arne

Carrie Hennessey, Soprano Chorus and Audience



Sacramento
CHORAL SOCIETY
& Orchestra

MISSION

The Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra (SCSO), a California educational 501 c (3) non-profit organization established in 1996, is an auditioned, volunteer chorus with a professional orchestra committed to the performance, education, and appreciation of a wide range of choral orchestral music for the Greater Sacramento Region.

Since its establishment, the SCSO, conducted by Donald Kendrick, has grown to become one of the largest symphonic choruses in the United States. Members of this auditioned, volunteer, professional-caliber chorus, hailing from six different Northern California counties, have formed a unique arts partnership with their own professional symphony orchestra.

The Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra is governed by a Board of Directors responsible for the management of the Corporation. An Advisory Board and a Chorus Executive elected from within the ensemble also assist the SCSO in meeting its goals.

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WELCOME

JAMES MCCORMICK
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DOWNTON ABBEY SACRAMENTO CELEBRATION

On behalf of the Dowager, Lord Grantham, the Crawley family and the entire Downton Abbey Staff, we want to royally welcome you to this evening's unique performance of *The Music of Downton Abbey*.

Our SCSO *Downton* production is the result of a delightful collaboration with our good friends at KVIE Public Television and Capital Public Radio. Both KVIE and CPR have done a regal job of nurturing the *Downton* energy long after the series ended and they consistently add such quality to what we view and listen to daily in our region.

In addition to our stalwart SCSO Choral Orchestral Team conducted by Donald Kendrick, we are thrilled to welcome soloists Carrie Hennessey and Kevin Doherty as well as narrators Elizabeth Anne Springett and Alison Gilbreath to our stage. We are counting on you making your SCSO debut when you stand and join in singing with great pride the three rousing selections on tonight's program. Let's make the Dowager proud!

Thank you for your ongoing friendship and support. We hope to see many of you for tea at our post-concert reception in the lobby.

We celebrated the end of our 20th season with:

- *Singathon 2016* that raised \$50,000 to help sponsor our recent Spring concerts
- a successful Big Day of Giving 2016 – despite its serious technical challenges
- a \$24,600 Wells Fargo matching grant opportunity to help grow our annual fund
- the release of yet another new CD, *Carmina Burana II* – available in the lobby
- a planned June 2017 self-funded concert tour to Scandinavia and the Baltics

As we make our way towards our Silver Anniversary in 2021, we tip our hat to you and we thank you from the very bottom of our collective SCSO hearts! Together we really do make great things happen in the arts.





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THE DOWNTON ABBEY MYSTIQUE

Conductor Donald Kendrick and the SCSO are both proud and delighted to bring the Northern California première of *The Music of Downton Abbey* to our Sacramento stage this evening. We're thrilled that you could join us as we travel back in time together to bring you music that was probably enjoyed by the Crawley family at the turn of the 20th century written by Parry, Handel, Vaughan Williams, Davies, Hadley, Elgar, Arne and Holst in tonight's performance of *The Music of Downton Abbey*.

British Choral music in the late 19th and early 20th centuries is considered some of the most dynamic in musical history. The flowering of the choral art in England during this period was funded by aristocratic families such as the characters of Downton Abbey. This evening's featured music may well have served as *the real life soundtrack* of the Earl of Grantham and his family.

Tonight's performance features outstanding choral and orchestral music from post-Edwardian England paired with narrations about memorable events from the storyline of the popular British series. Indeed tonight's *Downton* script may well be considered acted-out program notes and the three works that offer audience participation opportunities will surely provide a warm sense of community engagement and a strong interaction with our stalwart SCSO Team.

WHY HAS DOWNTON ABBEY BECOME SUCH A MASSIVE CULTURAL PHENOMENON?

Why is this highly popular British Television series the most-watched series in PBS's 45-year history and why does it hold a Guinness World Record as the Most Critically Acclaimed Television Show?

The *Downton* series was launched in 2011 in the U.S. as we were in the throes of a recession. It is a known fact that when we feel unsafe, we look to the past for comfort. Nostalgia is a powerful emotion and *Downton Abbey* delivers nostalgia in spades. The series is beautiful to look at, features gorgeous homes and good-looking actors and outstanding costumes. The cast is a wide cast. For almost any viewer there's a character they either recognize or relate to.

There are two family set-ups—the blood-related family upstairs and the one that is artificially created by colleagues working closely together downstairs. We may not either have servants or be servants but we all experience similar rivalries, romances and friendships, whether with siblings, friends or co-workers. The master/servant relationship is at the core of many brilliant dramas. It seems we are all still fascinated by the boundaries set and blurred between employer and employee.

There's even a *Downton Abbey* effect, named to explain the sudden success of things which have nothing in fact to do with the show but have nonetheless enjoyed a benefit—republished books from the era hitting the bestseller list,

THE DOWNTON ABBEY MYSTIQUE

visitor numbers to English stately homes increasing year after year, the recent popularity of 1920s baby names, the surge of butlers employed in China. As social media has exploded in the last few years, the *Downton Abbey* conversation has taken place online between viewers watching the show from their sofas or bamboo mats.

According to Julian Fellowes, creator and scriptwriter of *Downton Abbey*, “The audience enjoys watching fundamentally decent people trying to go about their lives, as opposed to the usual television set piece of cops and robbers. Together we follow the lives of the people upstairs and downstairs. It’s a period drama with the pace of a soap opera.”

We heartily salute and thank our *Downton Abbey* media partners, KVIE Public Television and Capital Public Radio, for their collaboration with the SCSO on this unique and exciting production. On behalf of the Dowager, Lord Grantham and the Crawley family, we welcome you to *The Music of Downton Abbey*.

WHAT WOULD THE DOWAGER COUNTESS SAY?

Violet, the Dowager Countess—played by the venerable Maggie Smith—is perhaps considered the best character in the show, if not the best character on television period. With a fiery wit, a reservoir of wisdom, and an endless supply of pithy zingers, it’s no wonder she serves as a role model for so many. She’s always in control of every situation, carries herself with unwavering poise, and yet, deep down, is really an old softy, which is what lends even her most brutal of lines a sweet and sensitive quality. Here are some of the Dowager’s memorable quotes chosen by SCSO Members.

James McCormick, PhD

*“I am a woman, Mary.
I can be as contrary as I choose.”*

“Vulgarity is no substitute for wit.”

*“Don’t be defeatist, dear.
It’s very middle class.”*

“What is a weekend?”

“At my age one must ration one’s excitement.”

*“Principles are like prayers.
Noble, of course, but awkward at a party.”*

THE DOWNTON ABBEY MYSTIQUE



HOW DOWNTON ABBEY CHANGED WITH THE TIMES

(Courtesy of KVIE)

The Crawley family witnessed technological and social changes that swept through Britain during the early 1900s.

- 1914** A telephone is installed at the Abbey
- 1917** Downton Abbey becomes a convalescent home
- 1920S** Cora's fortune is lost when the Grand Trunk Railway goes bankrupt
- 1922** Mrs. Patmore gets a refrigerator
- 1924** The Crawley family gets a radio to hear King George V speak
- 1925** Bertie Pelham flies to Morocco. Commercial aviation began in Britain in 1919

FEATURED DOWNTON ABBEY COMPOSERS



John Lunn
1956 –
Downton Abbey
Suite
Us and Them



Sir Hubert Parry
1848–1918
I Was Glad
Jerusalem
My Soul, There is a
Country



Patrick Hadley
1899–1973
Nightfall



**Sir Henry
Walford Davies**
1869–1941
Crossing the Bar



Gustav Holst
1874–1934
I Vow to Thee,
My Country



Sir Edward Elgar
1857–1934
As Torrents in Summer
The Snow



**George Frideric
Handel**
1685–1759
Funeral Anthem



Ralph Vaughan Williams
1872–1958
Lord, Thou Hast Been
Our Refuge



Thomas Arne
1710–1778
Rule, Britannia!

TEXT

I WAS GLAD WHEN THEY SAID UNTO ME

SIR HUBERT PARRY

I was glad, glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is builded as a city, that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

NIGHTFALL

PATRICK HADLEY

On wood and wave the gath'ring shadows fall,
The trees are whispering in the twilight gray,
As if one last 'good night' they fain would say
Ere darkness shrouds them in her dusky pall.

Now one by one broad oak and poplar tall
melt into shade; the golden mantled day
Past the hushed lakelet
Softly steals, softly steals away,
And solemn night sits silently on all.

But hark! the night wind slowly creeping by
with low, dull moan the spreading darkness fills,
And slumbering nature wakes to sympathy.

For one and all the oaks and poplars sigh.
And floating faintly o'er the far off hills.
A deep sad voice comes sobbing from the sea.

JERUSALEM

SIR HUBERT PARRY

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God on
England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did that countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
among those dark Satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold,
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear, Oh! clouds unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire.
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
On England's green and pleasant land.

TEXT

CROSSING THE BAR

SIR HENRY WALFORD DAVIES

Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face:
Now I know in part; but then shall I know even as I am known.

Sunset and ev'ning star, and one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea.
But such a tide as moving seems asleep, too full for sound and foam.
When that which drew from out the boundless deep turns again home.

Twilight and ev'ning bell, and after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell, when I embark;
For tho' from out our borne of Time and Place the flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face when I have crost the bar. Amen

MY SOUL, THERE IS A COUNTRY

SIR HUBERT PARRY

My soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skilful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger
Sweet Peace sits crowned with smiles
And One, born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious Friend,
And, O my soul, awake!

Did in pure love descend
To die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flow'r of Peace,
The Rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges,
For none can thee secure
But One who never changes,
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

I VOW TO THEE, MY COUNTRY

GUSTAV HOLST

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best,
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

I heard my country calling, away across the sea,
across the waste of waters she calls and calls to me.
Her sword is girded at her side, her helmet on her head,
And round her feet are lying the dying and the dead.
I hear the noise of battle, the thunder of her guns,
I haste to thee my mother, a son among thy sons.

TEXT

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago.
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering,
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

AS TORRENTS IN SUMMER

As torrents in summer
Half dried in their channels,
Suddenly rise, tho' the
Sky is still cloudless,
For rain has been falling,
Far off at their fountains.

THE SNOW

O snow, which sinks so light,
Brown earth is hid from sight,
O soul, be thou as white as snow,
O snow, which falls so slow,
Dear earth quite warm below;
O heart, so keep thy glow
Beneath the snow.

O snow, in thy soft grave
Sad flow'rs the winter brave;
O heart, so soothe and save,
as does the snow.
The snow must melt, must go,

FUNERAL ANTHEM

Their bodies are buried in peace,
But their name liveth evermore.

SIR EDWARD ELGAR

So hearts that are fainting
Grow full to o'erflowing,
And they that behold it
Marvel, and know not
That God at their fountains
Far off has been raining!

SIR EDWARD W. ELGAR

Fast, fast as water flow.
Not thus, my soul, O sow
Thy gifts to fade like snow.

O snow, thou'rt white no more,
Thy sparkling too, is o'er;
O soul, be as before,
Was bright the snow.
Then as the snow all pure,
O heart be, but endure;
Through all the years full sure,
Not as the snow.

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

TEXT

LORD THOU HAST BEEN OUR REFUGE RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever the earth and the world were made,
Thou art God from everlasting and world without end.

Thou turnest man to destruction; again Thou sayest
Come again ye children of men
For a thousand years in Thy sight are
but as yesterday, seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

Background chorus:

*O God our help in ages past
Our hope for years to come
Our shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal home.*

As soon as Thou scatterest them
they are even as a sleep and fade away
suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green and groweth up,
but in the evening it is cut down, dried up and withered.
For we consume away in Thy displeasure,
and are afraid at Thy wrathful indignation.
For when Thou art angry all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end as a tale that is told.

The years of our age are three score years and ten,
and though men be so strong that they come to fourscore years,
yet is their strength but labour and sorrow.
So passeth it away, and we are gone.
Turn Thee again, O Lord at the last.
Be gracious unto Thy servants.
O satisfy us with Thy mercy, and that soon.
So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever the earth and the world were made,
Thou art God from everlasting and world without end.

TEXT

And the glorious Majesty of the Lord be upon us.
Prosper Thou, O prosper Thou the work of our hands
O prosper Thou our handywork.

RULE BRITANNIA!

When Britain first, at Heav'n's command,
Arose from out the azure main;
This was the charter of the land,
And guardian angels sung this strain:

**Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the waves;
Britons never will be slaves.**

THOMAS AUGUSTINE ARNE

The nations not so blest as thee,
Must in their turn to tyrants fall,
While thou shalt flourish great and free,
The dread and envy of them all.

**Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the waves;
Britons never will be slaves.**

Still more majestic shalt thou rise,
More dreadful from each foreign stroke;
As the loud blast, that tears the skies,
Serves but to root thy native oak.

**Rule, Britannia! Britannia, rule the waves;
Britons never will be slaves.**

Calling Area Singers!

Would you like to become a member
of the SCSO?

Auditions are currently being held for experienced
choral singers with good sight-reading skills and a
commitment to excellence.

The Chorus rehearses in the CSUS Music Department, September
through May on Monday evenings from 7:00–9:30 PM and presents several
concerts during the season.

For more information, contact the SCSO: 916-536-9065 or scso2005@gmail.com
or SACRAMENTOCHORAL.COM/auditions



SCHOLA CANTORUM OF SACRED HEART CHURCH

Donald Kendrick, Conductor
Ryan Enright, Organist

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Donald Kendrick, Conductor
Ryan Enright, Accompanist

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Bella Vista High School Chamber Choir – Wendy Carey, Conductor
El Camino High School Concert Choir – David Vanderbout, Conductor

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MUSIC DIRECTOR

DR. DONALD KENDRICK

Since 1985, Dr. Donald Kendrick has worked diligently to create awareness of the power and importance of the choral and choral orchestral art via three important pillars in our society: the Community, the State, and the Church. His impact as an educator and conductor has greatly enhanced the quality of life in our region and has resonated on a national and international level.



Dr. Kendrick has studied at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, Boston's New England Conservatory of Music, Stanford University, and he holds a doctoral degree from the Eastman School of Music where he also served on the faculty. He is active as a guest conductor and an adjudicator for choral festivals throughout the country. Dr. Kendrick has taught at Louisiana State University, the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music, and at universities in Canada where his choirs won national competitions for their excellence.

In 1996 he became the founding conductor of the Sacramento Choral Society & Orchestra (SCSO), the only chorus among the 12,000 community choruses in the United States to have a collective bargaining agreement with a professional orchestra. The SCSO regularly presents choral orchestral concerts in Sacramento at the Community Center Theater, Memorial Auditorium, Fremont Presbyterian Church, and the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as in Davis at the Mondavi Center. Under Dr. Kendrick's leadership, the SCSO has produced nine professionally mastered CDs and has a unique KVIE PBS documentary that is shown nationally throughout the United States.

In May 1995, he made his Carnegie Hall conducting debut in a performance of Verdi's *Requiem*. In May 2003, Dr. Kendrick returned to Carnegie Hall with the SCSO to conduct a triumphant performance of Orff's *Carmina Burana*.

In July 2004, Conductor Kendrick led SCSO members and guests from the Sacramento State Choral Music Program on their first international European tour to Munich, Prague, Vienna and Budapest. In July 2006, Dr. Kendrick led the Sacramento Choral Society and guests from the Sacramento State Choral Music Program on a performance tour of China, with concerts in Beijing, Tianjin, Xian, Jinan (Sacramento's Sister City) and a special performance on the Great Wall. In 2008 he made his debut with the SCSO in LA's Disney Hall in a well-received performance of the Mozart *Requiem*. In 2009 he led the SCSO on a tour of Western Canada with performances in Victoria and Vancouver, British Columbia. In June 2013, Dr. Kendrick toured with members of the SCSO to Italy with performances at St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, in Lucca, and on the Great Altar of St. Peter's (the Vatican) in Rome. In July 2015, he toured with SCSO members and led performances in Paris (Notre Dame), Normandy (American Cemetery) and London (St. Paul's Cathedral).

In addition, Dr. Kendrick is co-founder and former artistic director of the Sacramento Children's Chorus with conductor Lynn Stevens. The group celebrated its 20th anniversary on stage with the SCSO with a new jointly commissioned work by Randol Alan Bass for the *Wells Fargo Home for the Holidays* performance in December 2012.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dr. Kendrick is also Director of Choral Activities at Sacramento State University where he conducts the Chamber Choir, the Concert Choir, the Women's Chorus and the University Chorus. He also directs the Graduate Degree Program in Choral Conducting which he initiated in 1986. His Sacramento State Choirs have performed in Europe, the United States and Canada, where they appeared on an international telecast at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Canada. In May 2004, he received the Sacramento State School of the Arts *Outstanding Community Service Award* for his work in linking the community to the University. Dr. Kendrick was recently named *Outstanding Teacher of the Year* by the Capitol Section of the California Music Educators Association (CMEA).

Dr. Kendrick is also Organist and Director of Music at Sacramento's Sacred Heart Church where he conducts *Vox Nova* and *Schola Cantorum*. The latter ensemble has recorded eight CDs and has toured throughout North America, Spain, England, Italy and Austria. In February 2005, *Schola Cantorum* was selected to perform at the National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association in Los Angeles at the new cathedral Our Lady of the Angels. In June 2007 Dr. Kendrick toured Italy with Sacred Heart's *Schola Cantorum* where they performed at a Papal Audience for Pope Benedict XVI and at St. Peter's (The Vatican) on the Great Altar. He also led Schola on a concert tour of Austria in June 2009 with performances in Vienna, Graz and Salzburg. Dr. Kendrick returned to Italy with *Schola* in June 2013 for performances in Rome, Florence and Venice.

Come join a unique Team – the SCSO! 



The SCSO is currently seeking
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Put your passion for the arts
and leadership skills to work for
the good of the community.

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scso2005@gmail.com

ARTISTS



CARRIE HENNESSEY, SOPRANO

Known for her soaring voice and richly nuanced characters, soprano Carrie Hennessey is consistently thrilling audiences and critics in opera and concert appearances around the world. Ms. Hennessey's much awaited debut in Previn's *A Streetcar Named Desire* "gave us a Blanche that let us burrow into her character's soul, even into the darkest crevices...Hennessey, using a one-two punch of music and drama, made it resonate in a way that equaled the finest stage performances of the part I've seen" (Fresno Bee). Ms. Hennessey's embodiment of the title role in the West Coast Premiere of

Tobias Picker's opera *Emmeline* earned her a Bay Area Broadway World Awards for "Best Leading Actress in a Musical" nomination. Praised for bringing her signature "exquisite vocal purity and range to the title role" and was "nothing short of sensational" (San Francisco Classical Voice). With West Bay Opera as Mimi in *La Bohème*, she was said to be "...possessed of a full, powerful lyric soprano, which delivers Puccini's arias and duets richly. Her "Mi chiamano Mimi" (Yes, they call me Mimi) in Act 1 is gorgeous". On only one day's notice, Ms. Hennessey made her debut with the Modesto Symphony Orchestra, as soprano soloist in Mahler's *Symphony No. 4*, to great acclaim.

This season includes debuts as soprano soloist in Britten's *War Requiem* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 2* as well as debuts at the Concertgebouw in Bruges, in Ypres, Belgium and at the Liederhalle in Stuttgart, Germany singing the soprano solo in Verdi's *Requiem*. Alongside the world renowned composer Ricky Ian Gordon in the fall of 2016, Ms. Hennessey gave Master Classes and performed a recital of his original art songs. Other highlights include Mahler's *Symphony No. 4*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* and Vaughn Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*.

Recent engagements include her debut with the Houston Symphony at Jones' Hall, Mozart's *Mass in C minor* at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Budapest, Hungary and Reduta Hall in Bratislava, Dvorak's *Requiem* in Rudolfinum Hall in Prague, Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* at the International Mahler Festival in the Czech Republic, Verdi's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Villa Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and *Lobgesang*. Other recent operatic highlights include Sarah Miles in the Bay Area premiere of Jake Heggie's *The End of the Affair* with West Edge Opera, Mimi in *La Bohème* with West Bay Opera, a reprise of *The Woman in La Voix Humaine* in NYC, and Lauretta in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Magda and Floria Tosca in Puccini's *A Man and His Muses* for Sacramento Opera.

Ms. Hennessey utilized her theatrical background by working with the Sacramento Opera and the Sacramento Children's Chorus to stage direct their joint production in *Brundibar* and continues to actively support music education through lectures and Master Classes in the communities in which she works, as well as nurturing a thriving private vocal studio in Northern California.

Diana, England's Rose

Is the subject of popular books by author/speaker Susan Maxwell Skinner, who worked with the Princess in London for eight years.

Now a Sacramento resident and supporter of this choral program, Susan is available for talks and book events.

Call (916) 481-0334
or Email sknrband@aol.com
www.susanmaxwellskinner.com

www.facebook.com/Princess-Diana-by-author-Susan-Maxwell-skinner-632668680228825/?ref=bookmarks



Lend A Heart Lend A Hand Animal-Assisted therapy was founded in 1987 and is comprised of more than 150 volunteers dedicated to sharing hope and understanding through our well-trained, certified handlers and animals. The goal of every interaction is to contribute to the improvement of the client's overall well-being in over 65 local organizations in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter & Yolo Counties.



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ARTISTS



KEVIN DOHERTY, BARITONE

Kevin Doherty is the Morning Classical Host at Capital Public Radio in Sacramento. Before he was a staple on the airwaves, Mr. Doherty began his musical journey as an operatic baritone. On stage, he has been performing for nearly 20 years. He has appeared in many of the masterpieces including *La Boheme*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Il Trovatore*, *Il Barbieri di Siviglia*, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *L'Elisir d'Amore* and more. In 2004, he traveled to Citta della Pieve, Italy to create the role of Demetrius in the world premiere of an

operatic adaptation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Kristin Hevner. In concert, Mr. Doherty has appeared as the baritone soloist with many different orchestras across the Southeast. Some of his favorite works include Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*, Dvorak's *Te Deum* and Haydn's *Mass in the Time of War*.

Driven by a desire to produce opera on his terms, Mr. Doherty started an opera company in 2013 in Knoxville, Tennessee called Marble City Opera. MCO continues to produce shorter and smaller scaled operas in unique spaces across the area. In addition to creating and promoting opera, he has played an integral role in helping several chamber groups get their start on the concert stage. While in Knoxville, he discovered radio, landing a job as the classical music host on weekend mornings at WUOT where he also served as the primary fill-in as the local Morning Edition host. Mr. Doherty is delighted to be making his debut with the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra.

A Warm Welcome to

KIRA – OUR DOWNTON ABBEY DOG (STAND-IN FOR ISIS)

In our search for a Labrador Retriever to join us at this evening's concert as a stand-in for the Grantham family's *Isis*, we were fortunate to meet Kira and her owner Kathy Prendergast. Born with royalty in her pedigree at the Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael, California, Kira made a career change some years ago to become a Therapy Dog as she was too playful and dog-distracted to become a Guide Dog. How lucky for us!

Kira has charmed and delighted SCSO Members at rehearsals with her entertaining tricks, a wagging tail, fun antics and huge smile! She regularly visits people at hospitals and convalescent care facilities and she also provides therapy for autistic children, homeless children and children with selective mutism. She is a star in the local nonprofit *Lend A Heart* that provides animal assisted therapy throughout our region. Kira considers everyone her friend and invites you to grab a quick photo with her in the lobby at intermission or at the post-concert reception. Kira's favorite classical composers are Carl Orff and J.S. Bark!

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ARTISTS



ALISON GILBREATH, NARRATOR MILLICENT DANFORD, LADY ALICE'S NIECE

Alison trained to be an actress at the Academy of Live and recorded Arts in London, gained a BA in Theatre Practice from Guildford School of Acting and trained in Paris with the French master clown, pedagogue, and professor of theatre, Philippe Gaulier. She has worked as a professional actress, director and drama teacher for over 20 years. She is currently the Education

Outreach Director at Sutter Street Theatre and musical theatre teacher at the Phoenix School in Folsom. Her recent credits acting credits include Bonnie in *Anything Goes*, Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* and Lady of the Lake in *Spamalot*. She will be playing the role of Nancy, in *Oliver* at Sutter Street Theater in April.



ELIZABETH ANNE SPRINGETT, NARRATOR ALICE, DUCHESS OF KIRKWOOD

Elizabeth is thrilled to be one of the Narrators for the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra's production of *The Music of Downton Abbey*. Elizabeth discovered her passion for acting as a child living in England, where she loved to imitate foreign accents and mimic British celebrities. She has a BA in Theatre and studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Los

Angeles. Elizabeth has appeared in numerous plays, staged readings, and short films in Los Angeles, before relocating to Sacramento. Some of her favorite theatrical roles here in Sacramento include: Madge in *The Dresser*, Mary Magdalene in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, Rose Arnott in *Enchanted April*, and Bear in *Duet for Bear and Dog*.

Currently, she is working on a Sci-Fi Podcast for Errant Phoenix Production's *Breaker Reborn*, voicing the character of Flax, scheduled for release later this year. In early April, she will be on stage again, portraying the character of Lurlene Turnover in EMH Theatre's production of *Daddy's Dyin', Who's Got the Will?* at the Ooley Theatre. Elizabeth would like to thank Donald Kendrick, James McCormick and the SCSO for this wonderful opportunity, and her parents and friends for all of their love and support. To quote Downton's beloved Violet, Dowager Countess of Grantham, "Life is a game, where the players must appear ridiculous."



The Sacramento Choral Society & Orchestra wishes to thank the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission for their ongoing support via the Cultural Arts Award.

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