

SACRAMENTO CHILDREN'S CHORUS PRESENTS

# *The Art of Song*



## SPRING CONCERT

CONDUCTORS Lynn Stevens, Julie Adams and Melanie Huber  
ACCOMPANISTS Helen Mendenhall, David Saul Lee and Meagan Kilpatrick-Milburn

Sacramento  
**Children's**  
CHORUS

Sunday, May 3, 2015, 4:00 p.m.  
Carmichael Seventh Day Adventist Church, Sacramento

ARTS  
COMMISSION

Oh sacred art, how oft in hours blighted,  
While into life's untamed cycle hurled,  
Hast thou my heart to warm love reignited  
To transport me into a better world!

So often has a sigh from thy harp drifted,  
A chord from thee, holy and full of bliss,  
A glimpse of better times from heaven lifted.  
Thou sacred art, my thanks to thee for this.

— Franz Schubert, from his love song to music, *An Die Musik*

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*This concert will be recorded. Please turn off all cell phones, pagers and electronic devices. No flash photography, please.*

# THE ART OF SONG    SPRING CONCERT

May 3, 2015

## **Cantus, Cantoris, Cappella Girls**

Without a Song

Vincent Youmans

Lyrics: Billy Rose and Edward Eliscu

Published in 1929 and featured in the musical play *Great Day, Without a Song* has been recorded by numerous performers such as Frank Sinatra, Perry Como and Louis Armstrong.

## **Cappella**

Two Shaker Hymns

Come to Zion

Traditional Shaker Hymn

On the Works of Our Hands

arr. Burton Bumgarner

The hymn is a song of praise typically of a religious nature. Like many of the early settlers to the United States, the Shakers, a religious sect, created and sang hymns to reflect their religious devotion and belief in love as the all powerful force in life.

Ave Maria

Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

Edited: Richard Proulx

There are many settings of the *Ave Maria* text. This is one of the earliest and most recognizable in the Renaissance literature. It begins with a short chant, an original song form that is sung in unison, followed by a motet, an early form of song that is sung by more than one voice.

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

This great German composer combined the traditions of the past with the emotions of the Romantics. In this song (from *A German Requiem*), Brahms "found the voice of every shade of emotion he wished to express." He began to write this beloved song upon the death of his mother. One of the first Requiems written in a language other than Latin, this song does not follow the traditional Latin texts of fear and sorrow, a Requiem for the dead; it is more hopeful, a Requiem for the living. Dedicated to Lynn Stevens' niece, Debbie Giere Butcher (1970-2015).

I Bought Me a Cat

American Folk Song

arr. Aaron Copland

American composer, Aaron Copland, established a uniquely American style by putting elements of jazz and folk tunes in his symphonies and ballets. This delightful children's song — brought to Carnegie Hall by the famous bass-baritone, William Warfield — is from Copland's arrangements of *Old American Folk Songs*.

## Cantate and Cantabile

Hansel and Gretel  
(Excerpts from the opera)

Engelbert Humperdinck (1854-1921)

Act 1. Home: Dance With Me

Act 2. The Forest: The Man in the Wood, Children, Children and Prayer

Act 3. The Witch's House: Oh Charming Castle, Hocus Pocus, Hop! Hop! Gallop!, Gretel's Hocus Pocus, Hansel's Hocus Pocus and Oh Happy Be!

**Hansel:** Charles Sander; **Gretel:** Audrey Felsted, **Witch:** Carrie Hennessey  
**Small Ensemble:** Brooke Nicholas, Allison Waterman, Ava Ellis, Esai Sedano, Isabel Arguelles, Tallulah Smith, Emelia Yang, Sophia Stuck and Lucy Goodman

Humperdinck is remembered for his opera, *Hansel and Gretel*, which was based on a libretto written by his sister from the fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm. Humperdinck is credited with developing the singing style called *Singspiel*, which means "speak-sing," a style Rex Harrison used in *My Fair Lady*.

## Cantus

Glory to God

Giovanni Pergolesi (1710-1736)  
arr. Michael Burkhardt

The Italian composer, Pergolesi, was most famous for developing the comic opera, but this delightful melody is from the often performed, *Stabat Mater*. In this rhythmic song, Pergolesi exhibits the Baroque style of "melodies that are cheerful, sensitive and imbued with a lyrical quality that resemble vocal arias" (operatic songs).

An Die Musik

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Schubert wrote over 600 secular songs, seven symphonies and numerous other works in his short lifetime. He is most famously associated with the development of lieder, a German art song set to poetry. He also developed the song cycle form, which is a collection of songs united by a common theme.

Linden Lea

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams collected English folk songs that he often used in his arrangements of hymn tunes and several compositions. His composing developed slowly, and he was 30 when he published his first piece, *Linden Lea*. The song expresses love for one's country and the beauty and warmth of a place one holds dear, where the "apple tree doth lean down low..."

## Cantoris

Et exultavit spiritus meus

(From *Magnificat in D major*)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

A German composer of the Baroque period, Bach enriched the German musical style "through his skill in counterpoint, harmonic and motivic organization and the adaptation of musical elements from abroad, especially France and Italy." He was deeply devoted to the Lutheran Christian tradition. This *Magnificat* is Bach's "ode to joy," as he expresses *My spirit rejoices in God*.

Beau Soir  
(Beautiful Evening)

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)  
arr. Linda Spevacek

This French Impressionist composer created a new type of melody through the use of "exotic Asian scales, church modes and the whole-tone scale," a scale that gives the music its ephemeral and haunting character. His early song, *Beau Soir*, captures an emotion, a moment in time.

*When 'neath the setting sun glows a river in evening,  
and the warm summer wind blows out across the field,  
Then from all things a thought arises to be happy,  
and it counsels the troubled heart.  
And it tells us we should enjoy the gift of living  
while we're young and the sun is setting in full bloom.  
For we shall go away, like water that is flowing.  
It to the sea. We to the tomb.*

Gloria

Gyorgy Orban (b. 1947)

Orban is a professor of composition at the Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary. This *Gloria* is from his *Mass No. 6* and shows his contemporary style of mixing traditional liturgical renaissance and baroque counterpoint with elements of jazz. SCC singers performed the *Gloria* last summer while on tour in Oregon. This song became a favorite with its offbeat rhythms, harmonies and musical playfulness.

## INTERMISSION

### Cantate and Cantabile

Dry Bones

Spiritual  
arr. Christi Cary Miller

The spiritual is a song form often based on stories from the Bible, in this case from the Book of Ezekiel. In the story, God has commanded Ezekiel to breathe the breath of God into the valley of the bones and they will come to life and be made whole, just as the House of Israel would be made whole by faith.

Chickery Chick

Sidney Lippman and Sylvia Dee  
arr. Kirby Shaw

The Sammy Kaye Orchestra recorded this "nonsense" song in 1945. It was notable and popular because of its silly words that had no meaning.

## Cantus

I've Got the World on a String

Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler  
arr. Steve Zegree

Introduced by Cab Calloway and Bing Crosby, and recorded by Frank Sinatra, this song was written in 1936 for *Cotton Club Parade*.

Goin' to Boston

Kentucky Traditional  
arr. John F. Campbell

Goin' to Boston is typical of hundreds of songs that came out of the American play-party tradition, a genre popular in rural America in the 19th and 20th centuries. Play parties were announced by word of mouth and were popular with young people in communities where dancing was prohibited due to religious beliefs.

## Cantoris

Shoo Shoo Baby

Philip Moore  
arr. Kirby Shaw

**Solo:** Anna Crumley

Written in 1943, *Shoo Shoo Baby* was made famous by the Andrew Sisters, a singing group popular during World War II. It is typical of swing style and the story is specific for the time: a young wife and mother waiting for the return of her husband who is wearing the "navy blue" and is off to the "seven seas" to fight.

The Sound of Music Medley

Rodgers and Hammerstein  
arr. Walter Ehret

**Solos:** Jennifer Thompson, Grace Fernandez, Molly Robinson, Emily Hancock, Julianna Fontaine, Rebecca Thompson and Tori Davis

This Broadway musical premiered in 1959 and the beloved movie debuted 50 years ago in 1965, winning the hearts of millions worldwide.

## Cappella

Love Is Here to Stay

George Gershwin (1898-1937)

This lovely melody was written for the Broadway production, *The Goldwyn Follies*, and was released soon after George Gershwin's untimely death. Dedicated to Christopher Stevens and Camille Mackler in honor of their upcoming wedding.

Sing, Sing, Sing

Louis Prima (1910-1978)  
arr. Mark Brymer

*Sing Sing Sing*, written in 1936, is closely identified with the Big Band and Swing Eras of the 1930s and 40s. This is an example of swing style at its "hottest."

## All Choirs

Oye la Musica  
(Hear the Music)

Jay Althouse

**INSTRUMENTALISTS:** Flutes – David Saul Lee and Meagan Kilpatrick-Milburn; Trumpet – David Saul Lee; Trombone – Kari Estrada; Bass – Davis Bartoe; and Drums – Tim Stephenson

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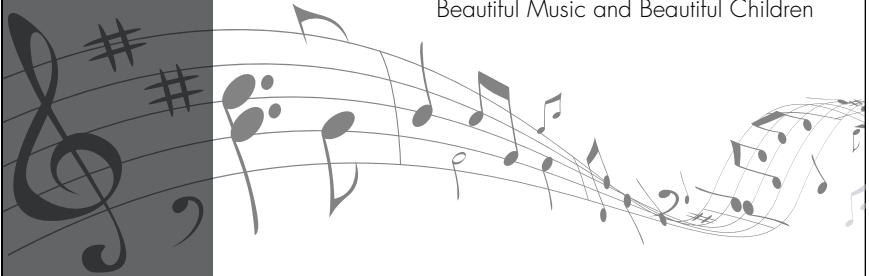
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Enhancing Children's Lives... Inspiring Audiences

## LYNN STEVENS



**Lynn Stevens**, artistic director, conductor and co-founder of the Sacramento Children's Chorus, has more than 30 years experience in teaching choral music to children. Ms. Stevens received a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Southern California, and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from California State University, Sacramento. It was during her masters program that Ms. Stevens co-founded the Sacramento Children's Chorus with

Dr. Donald Kendrick, 22 years ago.

Ms. Stevens conducts the SCC Cappella, the high school choir and Cantoris, the advanced touring choir. Ms. Stevens is also on the faculty of the music department at CSUS teaching choral conducting. She has led SCC touring choirs internationally in Sweden, Norway, British Columbia, England, France, Czech Republic, Hungary and China, and nationally in Honolulu, Los Angeles, Eugene OR, and New York City (Carnegie Hall).

Also to her list of credits, Ms. Stevens enjoyed a performing career after college when she sang professionally and traveled internationally with the Ray Conniff Singers, The Norman Luboff Choir, and with The Carpenters. Ms. Stevens received the Arts & Business Council's 2010 Arts Educator of the Year Award.

## JULIE ADAMS



**Julie Adams**, director of Cantate and Cantabile, is an accomplished conductor with a passion for using music to make a positive difference in our communities. Equally comfortable with classical and jazz styles, children and adults, Ms. Adams has conducted and performed with large choral ensembles, chamber choirs and jazz ensembles throughout her career. She received her Bachelor of Music in Choral/Vocal Music from California State

University, Long Beach in 1985 and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from California State University, Sacramento in 1996.

Ms. Adams began her teaching career at American River College in 1992. She served on the music faculty at California State University, Sacramento for nine years where she taught vocal jazz. Ms. Adams has presented choirs and workshops to the American Choral Directors Association and the California Music Educators Association. Her choirs have been honored with performances at statewide and regional events.

Ms. Adams recently retired from her position as artistic director of RSVP, the a cappella ensemble she founded in 2000. She was a 2005 National Philanthropy Day Distinguished Honoree for her work with RSVP.

## MELANIE HUBER



**Melanie Huber**, director of Cantus, is an experienced choral director and music educator. She holds a degree in Music Education from California State University, Sacramento as well as a California teaching credential. She currently works for Folsom Cordova Unified School District as a music teacher. Her choirs have received superior ratings at Golden Empire Music Festival and “Overall Best Middle School Choir” at Music in the Parks.

Ms. Huber has enjoyed performing with the CSUS Choral program for the last 20 years under the direction of Dr. Donald Kendrick and vocal instruction with Dr. Robin Fisher. Her performing credits include America’s Youth in Concert, Sarah Brightman and Boston Pops. She also serves as music director and vocalist for Mercy Center Auburn Retreat Center and St. Mel’s Catholic Church.



### *Our Vision*

To inspire a life-long love of music in our students through the pursuit and enjoyment of musical excellence.

### *Our Mission*

The Sacramento Children’s Chorus develops skilled, passionate and confident students through exceptional music education and performance experiences.

### *Our Values*

Commitment • Harmony • Excellence • Growth • Joy

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### *Our Staff*

*Executive Director*

**Daphne Tom Quist**

*Office Manager*

**Beth Steele**

## HELEN MENDENHALL



**Helen Mendenhall**, principal accompanist, has been with SCC since the year after its founding. Ms. Mendenhall performs frequently as a soloist, and is a sought after accompanist at the piano, organ and continuo for a wide variety of soloists and ensembles. She received a Bachelor of Science in Music from George Fox University and a Master of Arts from California State University, Chico. Ms. Mendenhall taught music in public schools for more

than 10 years and has held many church music positions including organist/pianist for Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Sacramento and choir director at Red Bluff Presbyterian Church. In addition to her responsibilities with the SCC, Ms. Mendenhall teaches piano and organ in her private studio. Ms. Mendenhall also teaches the SCC program, *Music Makers*.

## DAVID SAUL LEE



**David Saul Lee**, accompanist for *Cantate* and *Cantible*, is in his fourth season with SCC. He also plays for the El Camino High School Choral Department and is the Musical Director to the Oakmont High School Theatre Department. He accompanied the Sheldon High School Choral Department (2008-12) and played for the Sacramento Opera Company (2011-12). He has also accompanied the CMEA Middle School Honor Choirs since 2010

and has been a member of the piano staff at the Cazadero Music Camp since 2012.

Mr. Lee also teaches private lessons on the piano and voice and has performed solo and ensemble work on trumpet, flute, saxophone, cello, baritone and percussion. Over the last several years he has served as the coach to the band and choir at Harvest Church in Elk Grove. He has also worked with other schools including Smedberg, Mitchell, Pinkerton and Arden middle schools, as well as West Campus, Franklin, Oakmont, Christian Brothers and Cosumnes Oaks high schools. Mr. Lee has worked with many conductors including Lynn Stevens, Julie Adams, Dr. Donald Kendrick, Dr. Anthony Arnold, Stafford Hebert, James Mazzaferro, Linda Lovaas, Dr. Eric Hammer of UOP, Bruce Olstad, Michael Morgan, Timm Rolek, Ryan Murray, Anthony R. Parnter and many others.

## MEAGAN KILPATRICK-MILBURN



Meagan Kilpatrick-Milburn, accompanist for Cantus, is a pianist, teacher, soloist, and chamber musician. Ms. Kilpatrick-Milburn has taught piano for over 12 years and is a newly certified Suzuki teacher. She is a recent graduate from Rudolf Steiner College in Waldorf Education and received her Bachelor's and Master's in Piano Performance from California State University, Sacramento and New York University. A member of the Music Teachers' Association of California and the Suzuki Association of the Americas, she lives in Sacramento with her husband Clayton and their two cats, Freya and Lincoln.

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Michelle Schramm  
Luna Sedano  
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Isabel Arguelles  
Claire Bryant  
Ashley Cua  
Ava Ellis  
Audrey Felsted  
Clifford Ficker  
Lucy Goodman  
Eva Guile  
Kaia Hitzeman  
Sofia Jordana  
Yaritza Molina  
Brooke Nicholas  
Charles Sander  
Esai Sedano  
Tallulah Smith  
Sofia Stuck  
Emma Thatcher  
Annabelle Wang  
Allison Waterman  
Dominique White  
Emelia Yang

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Sophia Breslau  
Gabby Casentini  
Anna Crumley\*  
Macey Curtis  
Emma Davis  
Tori Davis  
Mariel Dozier\*  
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Destiny Elazier\*  
Grace Fernandez  
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*\*also sings with Cappella*

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**With special thanks to:** Mosaic Law, Carmichael Seventh Day Adventist Church, Tracie Davis, Paula Kuhlman, Victor Pietrzak, Flourish, Marian Metson, and the SCC parent volunteers who help make our season a success.



*Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> season*, the **Sacramento Children's Chorus** is the region's premier youth choral ensemble, enjoying both critical recognition and broad audience acclaim. The singers representing five counties in the area perform a wide variety of modern and traditional works with numerous pieces reflecting languages and cultures from around the world.

***SCC's notable concert appearances include:***

- 2014** Women's Choral Festival at the Pacific International Children's Choir Festival – PICCFEST, July 7-13 in Eugene, Oregon, and the Green Show, Shakespeare Festival, Ashland, Oregon.
- 2013** Tour to China, June 17-29
- 2012** Chosen to perform at the ACDA Conference in Reno, Nevada
- 2010** Pacific Rim Children's Chorus Festival, July 13-21 in Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2010** Brundibár, a Children's Opera, in collaboration with the Sacramento Opera and the Sacramento Youth Symphony.
- 2009** Sing a Mile High Choral Festival, University of Denver, Denver CO.  
Guest conductor, Rollo Dilworth
- 2008** Tour to Norway and Sweden
- 2008** 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season Concert at the Mondavi Center
- 2007** Pacific International Children's Choir Festival at the Oregon Bach Festival
- 2006** One of 30 choirs from around the world chosen to compete at the International Choral Kathaumixw Festival, British Columbia
- 2005** Carnegie Hall, New York City, under Dr. Donald Neuen
- 2005** Chosen to perform at the prestigious national convention of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) in Los Angeles
- 2004** Recipient of the Best of Sacramento award as the best children's chorus in the area
- 2003** Tour to Prague and Budapest
- 2002** Chosen to perform at the regional convention of the ACDA, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2000** Tour to England and France

SCC presents three seasonal concerts each year and has performed with the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra, Sacramento Ballet, Sacramento Master Singers, Sacramento Opera and at the Sacramento Jazz Festivals. Other noteworthy civic performances include the opening games of the Sacramento River Cats, the memorial services of Congressman Robert Matsui and Mayor Joseph Serna, the inaugurations of Gov. Gray Davis and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Opening of the Legislative Sessions, and the grand opening of the Crocker Art Museum.

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