



Pedals & Pipes 2022-23 Concert Series Presenting Sponsors:
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HOLIDAY ORGAN SPECTACULAR

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2021 @ 7:30 p.m.

Todd Wilson, organ
Barry Perkins, trumpet
Joshua Ranz, clarinet
Dennis Kim, violin
Meredith Crawford, viola
Warren Hagerty, cello

PROGRAM

Traditional <i>Arr. Keith Chapman</i>	"Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella"
Vince Guaraldi <i>Arr. Barry Perkins</i>	<i>Christmas Time In Spain</i>
Leonard Cohen <i>Arr. Barry Perkins</i>	"Hallelujah"
Béla Kovács <i>Arr. Joshua Ranz</i>	"Sholem-Alekhem, rov Feidman!"
Gerald Near	Carillon on a Ukrainian Carol
Michael Colombier <i>Arr. Barry Perkins</i>	"Emmanuel"
Johan Sebastian Bach Charles Gounod	<i>Ave Maria</i>
Traditional <i>Arr. Barry Perkins</i>	"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"
George Frideric Handel <i>Arr. Steven Mahpar</i>	"Hallelujah" Chorus from <i>Messiah</i>
-Intermission-	
Marcel Dupre	<i>Variations on an Old Carol</i>
Jules Massenet	"Meditation" from <i>Thais</i>
Amaury Veray <i>Arr. Calzada</i>	"Villancico Yaucano"
Leroy Anderson <i>Arr. Steven Mahpar</i>	<i>Sleigh Ride</i>
Katherine K. Davis <i>Arr. Steven Mahpar</i>	"The Little Drummer Boy"
Adolphe Charles Adam <i>Arr. Steven Mahpar</i>	"O Holy Night"
Shirim <i>Arr. Joshua Ranz</i>	"Dance of the Dreidels"
Mel Tormé <i>Arr. Steven Mahpar</i>	"The Christmas Song"
Various	Holiday Sing-Along "Silent Night" "Joy to the World" "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Organist Todd Wilson is regarded across America and around the world as one of today's finest concert organists. He is head of the Organ Department at The Cleveland Institute of Music, and Director of Music and Worship at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Cleveland, Ohio. In addition, he

is Curator of the E.M. Skinner pipe organ at Severance Hall (home of The Cleveland Orchestra), and House Organist for the newly-restored Aeolian organ at the Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron, Ohio.



Barry Perkins has been Principal Trumpet of Pacific Symphony since 2004. He holds the Susie and Steve Perry Chair. Throughout his career, he has performed with many world-renowned orchestras, famous classical and jazz artists, as well as esteemed conductors. When he was in his early 20s,

Perkins held the position of Associate Principal Trumpet of the Mexico City Philharmonic for 5 years. Since then he has also performed with the San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, Baltimore Symphony, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

In addition to his live orchestra career, Perkins is an active Hollywood studio musician.



Joshua Ranz currently holds the position of utility/bass clarinet with Pacific Symphony, with whom he also acted as principal clarinet on the 2006 European tour. He is also Principal Clarinet of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and was featured prominently with them on their European

tour in the winter of 2008. He has recorded with Pacific Symphony and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and is active in the television and motion picture industry. Ranz is on faculty at Biola University and since 2004, Ranz has performed regularly with the Mainly Mozart Festival in San Diego, Calif. Ranz attended Yale School of Music where he studied with David Shifrin and received his Bachelor's degree at Harvard College, majoring in music composition and analysis.



Dennis Kim has been Concertmaster of Pacific Symphony since September 2018. He holds the Eleanor and Michael Gordon Chair. A citizen of the world, Kim was born in Korea, raised in Canada and educated in the United States. He has spent more than a decade leading orchestras in

the United States, Europe, and Asia. Most recently, he was Concertmaster of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra in New York. He was first appointed Concertmaster of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra at the age of 22. He then served as the youngest concertmaster in the history of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, before going on to lead the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra in Finland.



Meredith Crawford won her first orchestral audition and a seat with Pacific Symphony at the age of 22—before the completion of her senior year at Oberlin Conservatory. In September 2012, she was awarded the position of Assistant Principal Viola and

five years later, she won her

current position with the orchestra as Principal Viola. She holds the Catherine and James Emmi Chair. Additionally, she has been performing with the Los Angeles Philharmonic since April 2010, and more recently with the Riverside Philharmonic (as principal viola), the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and Irvine's Mozart Classical Orchestra.



Warren Hagerty has been Principal Cellist of Pacific Symphony since 2019. He holds the Catherine and James Emmi Chair. Warren has collaborated with many great musicians including Renée Fleming, David Shifrin, Cho-Liang Lin, and Orion Weiss. He has appeared at numerous festivals such

as the La Jolla Music Society SummerFest, Indiana University String Academy, Chelsea Music Festival, McGill International String Quartet Academy, and the New York String Orchestra Seminar, where he was principal cellist in 2010.

HOLIDAY ORGAN SPECTACULAR PROGRAM NOTES

Music is one of the holiday season's greatest joys. This year, the Pacific Symphony's annual Organ Spectacular combines the grandeur of the concert organ with the joyous voices of the trumpet, violin, viola, clarinet, and cello. It's a gift box filled with pleasures that are new, old and unexpected. Here's a sampling of the surprises in store:

Carols from far and near

"Bring a torch, Jeanette Isabella" is a centuries-old French carol that tenderly evokes a familiar theme: being quiet in the presence of the newborn Christ. (Other examples of this theme include the ubiquitous "Silent Night" and in Brahms' lovely *Geistliches Wiegenlied*.) Then it's off to Spain for Vince Garibaldi's "Christmas Time in Spain", arranged by the Pacific Symphony's own Barry Perkins. In "Villancico Yaucano," we hear a Puerto Rican carol by Amaury Veray that has become a favorite around the world. And in Gerald Near's stirring "Carillon on a Ukrainian Carol," we encounter a surprise: did you know that the familiar "Carol of the Bells" came to us from Ukraine?

A touch of the ecumenical

Today's eclectic program might just inspire you to hang a *Mogen David*, the traditional six-pointed Jewish star, from the nearest Christmas tree. "The Christmas Song", a seasonal standard perhaps better known by its first line, "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire," was actually penned by Mel Tormé—an American Jew and a jazz singer of legend. Tormé's Jewish immigrant parents arrived at Ellis Island with the name Torma; they left with Mel's memorable stage name, thanks to the immigration officer who re-spelled it. Similarly, the perennial favorite "White Christmas" was written by Irving Berlin, a one-man hit machine who was the son of Jewish immigrants.

In the Jewish holiday vernacular, we hear the Chanukah song "Dance of the Dreidels" and the energetic "Sholem-Alekhem, rov Feidman!", a tribute to the venerated Klezmer musician Giora Feidman. Klezmer music, a traditional style that originated among the Ashkenazi Jews of Eastern Europe in small string bands that often featured a solo clarinet, surged in popularity in the U.S. during the 1970s, fueled in part by the success of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Klezmer bands often feature clarinet soloists, and Hungarian composer Béla Kovács, like Feidman himself, is a great clarinetist. In the emotive energy of Klezmer playing we hear unmistakable similarities to American jazz—the "blue" notes of the scale as well as the swing, syncopation and soul of an oppressed people seeking to find and express joy through music. Kovács'

characteristically exuberant musical tribute takes its name from the traditional Hebrew greeting "sholom aleichem," or "peace be with you."

A visit to the world of opera and ballet

Balletomanes know Adolphe Adam not just from the music of "O Holy Night", but also as the composer of the classic full-length ballet *Giselle*. The carol's beauty has inspired generations of listeners, but there's another reason why it is a special favorite among opera singers: the glorious climactic high D we hear just before the end. Joan Sutherland, Renée Fleming, and Luciano Pavarotti are just three of the many opera stars who have recorded it.

On the other hand, opera fans may wonder what a girl like Massenet's notorious courtesan, *Thais*, is doing on a program of holiday music. But the "Meditation" from the opera that bears her name is a moment of sublime introspection both for her and the audience, as well as a moment of glory for the soloist who plays it. As we listen, it's possible to hear *Thais* turn away from the pleasures of the flesh toward the greater joys of spiritual redemption.

Massenet knew that in *Thais*' epiphany, he provided a rare showcase for violists. But Bach could scarcely have imagined that the Prelude No. 1 from his Well-Tempered Klavier—a simple series of keyboard arpeggios starting and ending in C major—would offer a similar opportunity for generations of sopranos and violinists. All it took was for Charles Gounod to graft a melodic line onto Bach's composition a century later, creating the beloved "Bach-Gounod Ave Maria". Whether singing or bowing, the soloist must produce immaculate legato phrasing—either changing direction with the bow arm while barely lifting the bow from the strings, or vocalizing the melody with the unctuous smoothness that Mozart likened to oil floating on water.

And now, a peek at the critic's yuletide notebook

First: the "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's *Messiah*. It's not positioned at the end of this monumental oratorio; have you ever wondered why audiences sometimes stand while it is sung? According to accounts by Handel's contemporaries—in this case, probably true—this music so overwhelmed early listeners that they spontaneously rose to their feet in awe, beginning a tradition that persists to this day in many parts of the world.

Next: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen". Can you find the punctuation error? Add a comma after 'merry.' It's not that the gentlemen are merry; instead, 'rest ye merry' is a Shakespearean-era greeting similar in meaning to 'sholom aleichem.' Rest ye merry, all, and enjoy the concert!

HOLIDAY SING-ALONG



Silent Night

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

Joy to the World

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy new year

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy new year

Oh, bring us some figgy pudding
Oh, bring us some figgy pudding
Oh, bring us some figgy pudding
And bring it right here

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy new year

We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
So bring it right here

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy new year

We all like our figgy pudding
We all like our figgy pudding
We all like our figgy pudding
With all its good cheers

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy new year

We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy new year