

La Jolla Symphony and Chorus

Patrick Walders, Choral Director

40th Annual

Christmas Messiah Community Sing

by George Frideric Handel

St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church

Sunday, December 3, 2017

The Soloists

Carron Martin, *soprano* Gianna Hamilton, *mezzo-soprano*
Shahen Ohanian, *tenor* John Burt Polhamus, *bass*
Jared Jacobsen, *organ*

The Program

<i>Overture</i>	Chorus <i>p.66</i> For unto us a child is born
Recitative for Tenor- Shahen Ohanian Comfort Ye	<i>Pastoral Symphony</i>
Air for Tenor Every valley shall be exalted	Recitative for Soprano - A Carron Martin There were shepherds abiding in the field
Chorus <i>p.16*</i> And the glory of the Lord	Chorus <i>p.82</i> Glory to God in the highest
Recitative for Bass - John Burt Polhamus Thus saith the Lord	Air for Soprano - Carron Martin Rejoice greatly
Air for Bass But who may abide	Recitative for Alto - Gianna Hamilton Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened
Chorus <i>p.36</i> And he shall purify	Air for Alto He shall feed his flock
Recitative for Alto - Gianna Hamilton Behold, a virgin shall conceive	Air for Soprano - Carron Martin Come unto Him
Air for Alto and Chorus <i>p.54</i> Oh, thou that tellest	Chorus <i>p.98</i> His yoke is easy
Recitative for Bass - John Burt Polhamus For, behold darkness	Chorus <i>p.193</i> Hallelujah!
Air for Bass The people that walked in darkness	

**Page numbers correspond to the
Schirmer edition, complete vocal score*

**Concert Sponsors: Frances & Donald Diehl, in memory of their son Ted
Amee Wood & Eric Mustonen, in memory of Louise Wood**

Meet the Soloists

Illinois native **Carron Martin**, soprano, has recently made the transition to beautiful San Diego to follow new music and career opportunities. Possessing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Performance from Anderson University, Carron works as a Student Account Coordinator at Ashford University during the day, and in the evenings enjoys performing with San Diego Pro Arte Voices and Sacra/Profana. On the weekends, Carron can often be found running along the coast in Pacific Beach with her husband and musical partner, Ken Martin. Carron is excited to sing with La Jolla Symphony and Chorus for this special yearly tradition. Merry Christmas!

Gianna Hamilton, mezzo-soprano, is a senior Music Education major at San Diego State University where she sings as a consort and solo artist in the SDSU Chamber Choir. Gianna first performed Handel's *Messiah* in 2014, and the work has been a part of her life ever since. Upon completion of her degree and credential, Gianna wishes to teach middle school choir and world music, realizing her passion for ethnomusicology, especially folk music, in the classroom. Gianna would like to thank Dr. Walders for his support in her pursuit of music, and her family for their support throughout her life.

Shahen Ohanian, tenor, performed at a young age but planned to study engineering until he was cast in his high school's production of *Cinderella*. Since then, he has won competitions in his home town of Fresno and has sung live on KVPR radio. In fall 2016, he competed in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and recently, he earned first place in the fall 2017 San Diego NATS solo competition. Ohanian attends San Diego State University majoring in Vocal Performance, has earned lead roles in their annual opera performances, and sings as soloist and consort artist in the SDSU Chamber Choir.

Bass/baritone **John Burt Polhamus'** career has included everything from opera and oratorio to variety and composition. His operatic roles include Marcello in *La Boheme* and Count di Luna in *Il Trovatore*. He's sung principal bass parts in oratorios, including Handel's *Messiah* and *Theodora*, Haydn's *The Creation*, and Bach's *B Minor Mass* and *St. John Passion*. John has performed in West-End musicals such as *Phantom of the Opera*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Jolson – The Musical*. He has performed in Christmas variety shows in England and the U.S., including reciting poetry while manipulating a ventriloquist turkey! John wishes you all a very Merry Christmas!

Messiah-Sing Orchestra

(Members of La Jolla Symphony)

Steven Schick, *Molli & Arthur Wagner Music Director*

Michael Gerdes, Assistant Conductor

R. Theodore Bietz, Orchestra Manager

Ryan Beard, Orchestra Librarian

Celeste Oram, Production Assistant

First Violin

David Buckley
Anna Matuszszak
Evon Carpenter
Catherine Chyi

Second Violin

Ted Tsai
Judy Gaukel
Susan Brown
Ciara Dabkowski

Viola

Nancy Swanberg
Anne Gero-Stillwell

Cello

Max Fenstermacher
Cliff Thrasher

Contrabass

Christine Allen

Oboe

Heather Marks-Soady

Bassoon

Tom Schubert

Trumpet

Marcelo Braunstein
Andrew Harrison

Timpani

Daniel King

Appreciation Expressed

La Jolla Symphony and Chorus wishes to thank St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Father Michael Robinson, and Music Director Rebecca Steinke for their gracious hospitality in welcoming the community to share the experience of singing *Messiah* in this beautiful sanctuary.

La Jolla Symphony Chorus

Founded in 1965 by Patricia Smith
Patrick Walders, Choral Director
Victoria Heins-Shaw, Accompanist
Mea Daum, Manager
Marianne & Dennis Schamp, Librarians
Sean McCormac, Production Assistant

LA JOLLA SYMPHONY CHORUS PERSONNEL

SOPRANO

Marné Amoguis
Cherrie Anderson
Jami Baar
Marcia Banks
Elise Chen
Justine Desan
Lizze Fisher
Ruvani Fonseka
Samantha Foulk
Cecilia Frankenfeld
Georgia Gebhardt
Meryl Gross *
Irene Guo
Tanya Gutierrez
Marty Hambricht
Martha Hamilton
Ida Houby
Anita Ip
Lidia Jimenez-Garcia
Karen Johns
Hima Joshi
Karen Kakazu
Kathryn Kinslow
Justine Lee
Christine Lehman
Anna Lettang
Stacey Lichter
Aislinn Lowenberg
Haley MacPhee
Carol Manifold
Krystyna Olszewska

Alexandra Outcalt
Jennifer Savion
Amy Schick
Elizabeth Simmons
Jeanne Stutzer
Paula Tallal
Emily Tam
Maria Tiu
Melissa Troyer
Dasha Vovk
Mary Ellen Walther **
Sharon Willoughby

ALTO

June Allen
Magdolna Bornemisza
Sonja Brun
Kim Burton
Peggy Clapp
Jo Clemmons
Elinor Elphick
Karen Erickson
Cathy Funke
Kathleen Gullahorn
Vicki Heins-Shaw
Beverly Holtz
Jane Howell
Jin-Soo Kim
Emily Lobeck
Jean Lowerison
Mona McGorvin
Barbara McGowen

Debby Park
Cinda Peck
Barbara Peisch
Rebecca Ramirez
Tiffany Remuzzi
Valerie Rubins
Satomi Saito **
Lisa Scalabrino
Marianne Schamp
Janet Shields*
Carol Slaughter
Susan Taggart
Friederike Touillon
Amea Wood
Nina Woods
Danlei Zhao

TENOR

Nathan Daum
Walter Desmond **
Bill Eadie
James Gilliam
Paul Holtz
Anthony Leonard
Jim Macemon
Danny Maloney
Sean McCormac *
Cris Alfred N.Molina
Joe Mundy
Ashwin Rao
Samuel Rohrbach
Nathan Samskey

Dennis Turner
Tom Welch
Bill Ziefle

BASS

Jack Beresford**
Vic Cardell
Ned Dearborn
Larry Dickson
Jim Friedhofer
Peter Gourevitch
Bryan Heard
Don Jenkins
Michael Kaehr
David Limon
Marc Madison
Steve Marsh
Bill Miller
Gilbert Omens
Ray Park
Luke Schulze
Stewart Shaw*
Otto Sorensen
Julien Stroumza
Vincent Tedjasaputra
Richard Tilles

*Section Leader
**Assistant Section Leader

Messiah-Sing Tradition

Since December 1978 La Jolla Symphony and Chorus has given *Messiah-Sing* to the community as a celebration of the Christmas season. *Messiah-Sing* holds the distinction of being the first *Messiah* "sing-along" in San Diego County with its earliest performances at St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, La Jolla. The first performance was accompanied by Jared Jacobsen, then organist and choir-master at St. James; later performances were enhanced by the addition of the La Jolla Symphony Messiah-Sing Chamber Orchestra. *Messiah-Sing* became so popular that it finally "outgrew" St. James. At the invitation of Pastor David Jorstad, the community sing moved to Clairemont Lutheran Church in 1993, and remained there until it "outgrew" that sanctuary as well. December 2017 marks the fortieth *Messiah-Sing* and the twenty-second performance at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Carlsbad.

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus

Mission Statement

Rooted in San Diego for over 60 years, the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus enriches our lives through affordable concerts of groundbreaking, traditional and contemporary classical music.

Administrative Staff

Diane Salisbury
Executive Director

Adam Perez
Patron Services Manager

Meg Engquist
Corporate Partnerships &
Events

How to Reach Us

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus
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La Jolla, CA 92093-0361
Phone: 858-534-4637
LaJollaSymphony.com

Choral Director's Program Note

For many years, we have printed this Program Note for our *Messiah-Sing*:

Handel's *Messiah* has become "people's music" in the best sense. Just as certain traditional styles of hymn-singing and folk-singing have been shared by generation after generation, so has the performance of *Messiah*. The uplifting distinction of *Messiah* as people's music, however, is that we are not only singing traditional and familiar music, but we are at the same time participating in a great work of art. It is in this sense of *Messiah* as the best of people's music that the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus invites the community to join with us to sing the Christmas portion this holiday season.

When we first did the "Sing" some colleagues accused Choral Director Emeritus David Chase of "selling out" – going commercial. "It's *Art!* Not *Sing-along with Mitch!*"

But from that first successful *Messiah-Sing*, David realized it had nothing to do with being commercial, but everything to do with the warmth and joy of the folks who sing – many of them year after year. And yes, it does have one thing in common with Mitch Miller and what he discovered in the early 1960's: Communities do love to sing together, and they deserve the opportunity. Now, we can toast the longest-running tradition of its kind in San Diego.

For David, the soloists and orchestra, and now, for me, it continues to be a special opportunity. This annual mercurial performance is the equivalent of attending the finest historical and contemporary museums of our time. Handel's *Messiah* has a knack for being both historical and current at the same time. When I gather musicians to perform this piece, I get the same vibe from a jazz "jam" session where audience and musicians anticipate something special. Since 1741, *Messiah* has rattled the walls of venues, people, cultures, and the world. In the midst of our busy and tech-cluttered lives, our *Messiah-Sing* will remind us to take a look around, smell the roses, and appreciate art for an hour or so.

And then, after the *Hallelujah* Chorus, we will cheer for each other. We will smile and laugh and cry, and hug each other. We'll take photos in this beautiful church and selfies wearing holiday clothes. We will feel it is *really* Christmas and that we *really* love one another. We will be people inspired by this music, together.

Is there a better way to enjoy G.F. Handel and his timeless masterpiece?

-Patrick Walders (and David Chase)

January Chorus Auditions Announced

La Jolla Symphony Chorus, Dr. Patrick Walders, Choral Director, holds auditions on Saturday, January 13, 2018. The 120-voice chorus rehearses on Wednesday evenings at the University of California, San Diego, Conrad Prebys Music Center. Chorus membership is open to community members with music training as well as to students at UCSD. Male vocalists are especially needed for upcoming concerts.

Chorus repertoire for winter quarter 2017 will be the performance of Carl Orff: *Carmina Burana* on March 16, 17, and 18.

The chorus has received local, national and international recognition for presenting well-known choral masterpieces as well as introducing unusual or rarely heard works to its audiences; and has been proclaimed official *Cultural Ambassadors* of the City and County of San Diego. The final concert of the season will be presented on June 9 and 10, and will feature Gabriel Fauré: *Requiem*.

For an audition appointment, interested singers should contact chorus manager Mea Daum by email at chorus@lajollasympphony.com or by phone at 858-243-2045 (evenings). Detailed information about the audition process is available in the "Chorus Auditions" section of the Website: www.lajollasympphony.com.

More Concerts with Chorus and Orchestra Coming Up at UCSD

This spring La Jolla Symphony and Chorus combine for two memorable concerts at UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium:

March 16, 17 & 18, 2018	Patrick Walders, conductor
Franz Liszt	<i>Les Preludes</i>
Carl Orff	<i>Carmina Burana</i>

New Choral Director Patrick Walders makes his conducting debut with the full orchestra and chorus in the electrifying *Carmina Burana*. Guest artists include: Tasha Koontz, soprano; John Russell, tenor; Kyle Ferrill, baritone; and North Coast Singers "Caprice" youth chorus.

June 9 & 10, 2018	Steven Schick, conductor
Rand Steiger	<i>Temple</i>
Courtney Bryan	<i>Yet Unheard</i>
Ornette Coleman/arr. T. Chodos	<i>Lonely Woman</i>
Gabriel Fauré	<i>Requiem</i>

Maestro Steven Schick closes the season with a concert highlighting the 50th anniversary of the LJS&C's affiliation with UCSD. Guest artists include: Helga Davis and Priti Gandhi, sopranos; Patrick Walders, baritone; Peter Evans, trumpet; and Mark Dresser, contrabass.