



La Jolla Symphony & Chorus

Ruben Valenzuela, Choral Director

42nd Annual

Christmas Messiah Community Sing

by George Frideric Handel

St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church

Sunday, December 15, 2019

The Soloists

Carolynne DalMonte, *soprano*

Evangelina Woo, *mezzo-soprano*

Mitch Rosenthal, *tenor*

Anthony Whitson-Martini, *bass*

Steven Gray, *organ*

The Program

Overture

Recitative for Tenor- Mitch Rosenthal

“Comfort Ye”

Air for Tenor

“Every valley shall be exalted”

Chorus (*p.16**)

“And the glory of the Lord”

Recitative for Bass –

Anthony Whitson-Martini

“Thus saith the Lord”

Air for Bass

“But who may abide”

Chorus (*p.36*)

“And he shall purify”

Recitative for Alto – Evangelina Woo

“Behold, a virgin shall conceive”

Air for Alto and Chorus (*p.54*)

“Oh, thou that tellest”

Recitative for Bass –

Anthony Whitson-Martini

“For, behold darkness”

Air for Bass

“The people that walked in
darkness”

Chorus (*p.66*)

“For unto us a child is born”

Pastoral Symphony

Recitative for Soprano –

Carolyne DalMonte

“There were shepherds abiding in
the field”

Chorus (*p.82*)

“Glory to God in the highest”

Air for Soprano – Carolyne DalMonte

“Rejoice greatly”

Recitative for Alto - Evangelina Woo

“Then shall the eyes of the blind
be opened”

Air for Alto

“He shall feed his flock”

Air for Soprano – Carolyne DalMonte

“Come unto Him”

Chorus (*p.98*)

“His yoke is easy”

Chorus (*p.193*)

“Hallelujah!”

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

Meet the Soloists

Praised for her lithe and elegant lyric soprano, **Carolyn DalMonte** is equally at home in opera, oratorio, and choral music. Recent opera roles include Adina in *L'elisir d'amore* (Donizetti), Dorinda in *Orlando* (Handel), Mimi in *La Bohème* (Puccini), and Despina in *Così fan tutte* (Mozart). Miss DalMonte has been a semi-finalist for the American Prize: Women in Opera Division as well as the Oratorio Division for 2017, 2018, and 2019. A graduate of the University of Delaware, she also earned a masters in Voice Performance and Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College. In San Diego she sings with Bach Collegium and maintains a voice and piano studio.

Evangelina Woo was born and raised in Faribault, Minnesota, where she began her musical career as the accompanist for her high school choir at Mass. She began singing in college at the University of Notre Dame and was a member of the University Chorale, where she grew to love choral music. She graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law and is now a full-time attorney at County Counsel. She has served as an alto section leader for the San Diego Master Chorale, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, and All Souls Episcopal Church. She has also sung as a member of numerous music groups in San Diego County, including the San Diego Pro Arte Voices, Sorelle, sacra/profana, Musica Vitale, and the South Coast Chamber Choir.

Mitch Rosenthal, *tenor*, moved from New Jersey to San Diego in 2012 and has been involved with many groups in town, including acting as Section Leader at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral since September 2012, Bach Collegium San Diego, the Folklore Guild, Willan West 2018, and Sacra/Profana. He attended St. Thomas Choir School, singing under Dr. Gerre Hancock at St. Thomas Fifth Avenue NYC. During high school he sang in the National Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys/Girls under Douglas Major and Bruce Neswick. Other positions held were with Immaculate Conception Church in Bridgewater, NJ and Grace Episcopal Church in Newark, NJ.

Freshly out of his residency at the Academy of Vocal Arts, **Anthony Whitson-Martini**, *bass*, was soloist in Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* with the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus and makes role debuts with Russian Opera Workshop in Philadelphia this summer. In concert and recital work, Anthony has received particular acclaim in performances with La Jolla Symphony & Chorus, San Diego Master Chorale, San Diego Community Orchestra, and Point Loma Chorale Union. Mr. Whitson-Martini was a winner in the 2019 and 2016 Musical Merit of San Diego Competition and is a two-time 1st Place Winner in the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus Competition. Anthony holds an Artist Diploma at the Academy of Vocal Arts and a B.A. Music from Point Loma Nazarene University.

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.

Messiah-Sing Orchestra

(Members of La Jolla Symphony)

Steven Schick, Music Director

Michael Gerdes, Assistant Conductor

R. Theodore Bietz, Orchestra Manager

Ryan Beard, Orchestra Librarian

Jacques Zafra, Production Assistant

First Violin

David Buckley

Andy Helgerson

Ted Tsai

Cello

Max Fenstermacher

Contrabass

Christine Allen

Trumpet

Ken Fitzgerald

Timpani

James Beauton

Second Violin

Susanna Han-Sanzi

Judy Gaukel

Anne Gero-Stillwell

Oboe

Heather Marks-Soady

Anna Torrezan de Sousa

Bassoon

Tom Schubert

Viola

Nancy Swanberg

Loie Flood

La Jolla Symphony Chorus

Founded in 1965 by Patricia Smith

Ruben Valenzuela, Choral Conductor

Luke Schulze, Assistant Director

Victoria Heins-Shaw, Accompanist

Mea Daum, Manager

Marianne & Dennis Schamp, Librarians

Tam Phan, Facilities Manager

LA JOLLA SYMPHONY CHORUS PERSONNEL

Soprano		
	Lidia Jiminez-Garcia	Kathy Archibald
Cherrie Anderson	Karen Johns	Michelle Arneson
Nicole Avakyan	Hima Joshi	Sonja Brun
Jami Baar	Karen Kakazu	Peggy Clapp
Marcia Banks	Jin-Soo Kim	Jo Clemmons
Marcia Biller	Kathryn Kinslow	Monica Disselkoen
Frances Castle	Mona McGorvin	Susan Elden
Devlin Cole	Barbara McGowen	Elinor Elphick
Hannah Davis	Alexandria Mills	Karen Erickson
Sally Dean	Clara Pierone	Ellie Ferd
Hannah De Los Reyes	Amy Schick	Cathy Funke**
Lauren Dorst	Elizabeth Simmons	Kathleen Gullahorn
Jingru Fang	Maria Tiu	Jane Howell
Ruvani Fonseka	Jessica Trost	Deanna Johnson
Cecilia Frankenfeld	Mary Ellen Walther*	Jean Lowerison
Meryl Gross**	Jules Wang	Carol Manifold
Marty Hambright	Minah Yoo	Debby Park
Martha Hamilton		Barbara Peisch
Ida Houby	Alto	Tiffany Remuzzi
	June Allen	

La Jolla Symphony Chorus

LA JOLLA SYMPHONY CHORUS PERSONNEL cont.

Alto	Tenor	Bass
Valerie Rubins	Jacob Alvarez	Jack Beresford*
Satomi Saito*	Walter Desmond**	Victor Cardell
Marianne Champ	Bill Eadie	Craig Disselkoe
Janet Shields	Joseph Garcia	Jim Friedhofer
Erin Smith	Michael Kaehr	Peter Gourevitch
Carol Slaughter	Michael Kreuzer	Bryan Heard
Emmalyn Spruce	Anthony Leonard	Steve Marsh
Jil Stathis	Jim Macemon	Bill Miller
Christine Stephen	Tam Phan	Gilbert Omens
Beth Sullivan	Samuel Rohrbach	Ray Park
Susan Taggart	Nathan Samskey	Luke Schulz
Amee Wood	Derek Snyder	Otto Sorensen
Nina Woods	Dennis Turner	Stewart Shaw**
Cindy Zhang	Bill Ziefle	

**Section Leader

*Assistant Section Leader

Administrative Staff

Stephanie Weaver
Executive Director

Adam Perez
Operations Manager

Melanie Intrieri
Marketing & Development
Coordinator

How to Reach Us

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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 2019 marks the twenty-fourth *Messiah-Sing* at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Carlsbad.

Conductor's Program Note

What keeps us returning to Handel's *Messiah* year after year? Indeed, this is a work that has an unbroken performance history dating back to Handel's lifetime. That *Messiah* became an institution is without question a testament to Handel's unparalleled storytelling prowess. Much of the appeal of *Messiah* is displayed in Handel's masterful use of text painting to create an impression of a plot or narrative, where one is not present. Handel's *Messiah* becomes more than the sum of its parts; yet, each moment captivating on its own.

This afternoon's *Messiah* 'sing' serves as a catalyst for fostering community, bridging gaps, and for a brief moment we are drawn once more by Handel's musical genius. A community 'sing' of any kind, be it *Messiah*, a rousing church hymn, or the ubiquitous *Take me out to the ball game* is community music making at its best.

It is more than the sum of its parts, each of us bringing our collective experiences woven into one rich community tapestry.

Welcome to LJSC's Messiah 2019 'Sing'!

Ruben Valenzuela

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.

January Chorus Auditions Announced

La Jolla Symphony Chorus, Dr. Ruben Valenzuela, Choral Director, holds auditions on Saturday, January 11, 2020. The 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 2020 will be the performance of Benjamin Britten: *War Requiem* on March 14 and 15. 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 6 and 7, and will feature Gioachino Rossini: *Stabat Mater*.

Audition appointment scheduling along with detailed information is available online at www.lajollasympphony.com. See "Chorus Auditions" in the About Us section of the Website.

More Concerts with Chorus and Orchestra Coming Up at UCSJ

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

March 14 & 15, 2020

Steven Schick

Michael Gerdes, conductors

Benjamin Britten *War Requiem*

June 6 & 7, 2020

Ruben Valenzuela, conductor

John Adams *The Chairman Dances*

Felix Mendelssohn *Violin Concerto*

Gioachino Rossini *Stabat Mater*

Guest artists include: Ariana Strahl, soprano; John Russell, tenor; John Buffett, baritone; and San Diego Master Chorale and a children's choir.

Guest artists include: Alisa Jordheim, soprano, Sarah-Nicole Carter, mezzo-soprano, James Onstad, tenor, Jonathan Woody, bass; and Ayrton Coehlo Pisco, violin.