# RHODES COLLEGE

presents

The

# RHODES SINGERS

# CHRISTMAS

at

# ST. MARY'S

RHODES SINGERS
Tony Lee Garner, Conductor
David Ramsey, Accompanist and Associate Conductor

RHODES MUSIC ACADEMY CHILDREN'S CHORUS Susan Van Dyck, Director Harriet Turnbull, Assistant to the Director

RHODES MUSIC ACADEMY YOUNG SINGERS Cynthia Harris, Director

ETHELINE MAYO MEMORIAL JUBILATE HANDBELL CHOIR Evergreen Presbyterian Church Harriet Turnbull, Director

> RHODES BRASS Lee Weimer, Director

DECEMBER 9, 1997 ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL (EPISCOPAL) 7:30 P. M.

# CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S

Michael Praetorius LA BOURREE Brass

arr. Peter V. Picerno CAROL OF THE BELLS arr. Arnold B. Sherman HE IS BORN Bell Choir

Ron Nelson CHORAL FANFARE

Rhodes Singers, Brass, Organ

Benjamin Britten HODIE CHRISTUS EST [Christ is born today] Children's Chorus (sung from the ambulatory)

PROCESSIONAL: HYMN 102 [congregation standing and singing] tune by Henry J. Gauntlett Once in royal David's city Choirs, Congregation, Bells, Brass, Organ

Nancy Telfer THE MAGI arr. Edmund Walters THE CUCKOO CAROL J. S. Bach; arr. Philip Baker O SAVIOR SWEET Austrian folktune; arr. Ronald A. Nelson SHEPHERDS' YODEL CAROL

Maria Cawood, flute Children's Chorus

arr. John Rutter DANCING DAY -- 'a cycle of traditional Christmas carols' Interlude - IV - V - VI Young Singers Elizabeth Houston, harp

John Adson TWO AYRES FOR CORNETTS AND SAGBUTS Brass

Herbert Howells **MAGNIFICAT** William Mathias IN EXCELSIS GLORIA Frank Boles ADAM LAY IBOUNDEN arr. Robert Shaw; Alice Parker THE CHERRY TREE CAROL soloists: Bernard Williams, Judith Smelser, Shelley Miller

Thomas Luis Vittoria AVE MARIA

A CHRISTMAS DIPTYCH William Billings WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS Supply Belcher THEN JOINTLY ALL THE HARPERS ROUND conductor: Jason Bishop

arr. Harry Simeone DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR Ralph Vaughan Williams WASSAIL SONG John Rutter TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS arr. R. L. Pearsall IN DULCI JUBILO Benjamin Britten

Rhodes Singers

JUBILATE DEO

HYMN 87 [congregation standing and singing] melody by Felix Mendelssohn Hark! the herald angels sing Choirs, Congregation, Bells, Brass, Organ

## **TEXTS**

## **CHORAL FANFARE**

Text: Gail Kurtz Music: Ron Nelson (1960)

The earth is white. A star shines in the east and angels celebrate the Christmas feast.
With joy for Jesus's birth we sing.
Alleluia.

## HODIE (Ceremony of Carols)

Text: Traditional Latin Music: Benjamin Britten (d. 1976)

Hodie Christus natus est; Hodie Salvator apparuit: Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli: Hodie exsultant justi dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia.

Born today is Christ, born for us:
Comes today, lo! to us the Savior comes:
Songs today angels sing, sing to men on earth,
And their praise Archangels bring:
Loud today the just men cry out, exulting:
Glory be to God on high, alleluia.

## THE MAGI

Text and Music: Nancy Telfer (1990)

Fine King with your gift of gold, why do you come this way? There is nothing here but a stable bare and a baby born today.

Camels swaying, donkeys braying, sheep and oxen wander near; Cattle mooing, pigeons cooing, all God's creatures gather here.

Fine King with your frankincense, your eyes are filled with light. Have you seen that star shining in the sky, that star so very bright?

Fine King with your gift of myrrh, have you come to see the Child? Could he be the King we have waited for, the son of Mary mild?

Oo, oo, all God's creatures gather here.

## THE CUCKOO CAROL

Text: Czech carol; trans. Percy Dearmer Music: arr. Edmund Walters (1975)

From out of a wood did a cuckoo fly, Cuckoo.

He came to a manger with joyful cry, Cuckoo.

He hopped, he curtsied, round he flew, and loud his jubilation grew,

Cuckoo, cuckoo.

A pigeon flew over to Galilee, Vrercroo.

He strutted, and cooed and was full of glee, Vrercroo.

And showed, with jewelled wings unfurled, his joy that Christ was in the world, Vrercroo, vrercroo, vrercroo.

A dove settled down upon Nazareth, Tsucroo.
And tenderly chanted with all his breath, Tsucroo.
'O you,' he cooed, 'so good and true, my beauty do I give to you,
Tsucroo, tsucroo, tsucroo.'

## O SAVIOR SWEET

Text: Philip Baker Music: J. S. Bach; arr. Philip Baker (1983)

O Savior sweet, O Savior mild, who came to earth a little child: Who brings God's love to us today and stays with us to guide our way. O Savior sweet, O Savior mild.

O Savior sweet, O Savior dear, the Father's love has brought you here. From heaven above you came to earth, with joy we celebrate your birth, O Savior sweet, O Savior dear.

O Savior sweet, O Savior kind, the way to serve you we would find. The gifts we have all come from you, O keep us always kind and true, O Savior sweet, O Savior kind.

## SHEPHERDS' YODEL CAROL

Text and Music: Ronald A. Nelson (1994), on an Austrian folktune

Over fields as we were watching by our sheep through the night, Angel choirs opened the heavens with their news of delight, singing.....

'Glory to God in the highest, Glory to God and peace on earth!

Glory and peace to all.'

'You must go now to the stable,' said the heavenly voice.
'There the Christchild you will worship, and the world will rejoice,' singing.....

We have found you, like a poor boy, in a manger so small. Lord of sheep and Lord of shepherds, little child, Lord of all. We sing.....

## DANCING DAY

Music: arr. John Rutter (1974)

## There is No Rose of Such Virtue

Text: Anonymous, 15th c.

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu. Alleluia. For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space. Res miranda (Let us see this thing).

## **Coventry Carol**

Text: Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors, 15th c.

Lully, Iulla, thou little tiny child, By-by, Iully, Iullay.

O sisters too, how may we do for to preserve this day This poor youngling for whom we do sing?

Herod the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day His men of might, in his own sight, all young children to slay.

That woe is me, poor child for thee! And ever morn and day, For thy parting neither say nor sing By-by, lully, lullay.

## Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Text: Traditional English

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance:

Sing O my love. This have I done for my true love. Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance; Thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance:

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor, this was my chance, Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance:

## **MAGNIFICAT**

Text: Canticle of Mary (Luke 1: 46-55) Music: Herbert Howells (d. 1983)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm.

He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## IN EXCELSIS GLORIA

Text: Anonymous, 15th c. Music: William Mathias (d. 1992)

Gloria, in excelsis gloria (Glory in the highest). Christo paremur cantica (We sing to Christ our maker).

When Christ was born of Mary free, in Bethlehem in that fair city, Angels sang e're with mirth and glee

In excelsis gloria.

Herdsmen beheld these angels bright, to them appeared with great light, and said: 'God's son is born this night.'

This King is come to save his kind, in the scripture as we find; Therefore this song have we in mind:

Then, dear Lord, for thy great grace, grant us the bliss to see thy face, Where we may sing to thy solace:

## ADAM LAY YBOUNDEN

Text: Anonymous, 15th c. Music: Frank Boles (1993)

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond: Four thousand winter thought he not too long.

Deo gracias. (Thanks be to God)

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, As clerkès finden written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, The apple taken been. Ne had never our lady a-been heavenè queen.

Blessed be the time that apple taken was.

Therefore we moun singen

Deo gracias.

## THE CHERRY TREE CAROL

Text: collected from 'Folk Songs of the Kentucky Mountains' by Josephine McGill
Music: arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw (1953)

When Joseph was an old man, an old man was he, He married Virgin Mary, the Queen of Galilee.

Then Mary spoke to Joseph, so sweet and so mild: 'Joseph, gather me some cherries, for I am with child.'

Then Joseph flew in anger, in anger flew he: 'Let the father of the baby gather cherries for thee.'

Then Jesus spoke a few words, a few words spoke he: 'Let my Mother have some cherries, bow low down, cherry tree.'

The cherry tree bowed low down, bowed low down to the ground, And Mary gathered cherries, while Joseph stood around.

Then Joseph took Mary all on his right knee: 'What have I done, Lord? Have mercy on me.'

Then Joseph took Jesus all on his left knee: 'Oh, tell me, little baby, when thy birthday will be.'

'The sixth day of January my birthday will be, When the stars in the elements shall tremble with glee.'

## **AVE MARIA**

Text: Hymn to the Mother (liturgical roots)
Music: Thomas Luis Victoria (d. 1611)

Hail, highly favored, God is with thee.

Blessed art thou above all women, and blessed be thy offspring.

Blessed be thy son, the Son of God, the Lord most high.

Pray for us sinners, now and when the hour of death comes.

Amen.

## A CHRISTMAS DIPTYCH

ed. Craig Timberlake

## While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

Text: Nahum Tate Music: William Billings (d. 1800)

## Then Jointly All The Harpers Round

Text: Anonymous Music: Supply Belcher (d. 1836)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.

Then jointly all the harpers round, in mind unite with solemn sound: And strokes upon the highest string, made all the heavenly arches ring.

### DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR

Text and Music: Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne arr. Harry Simeone (1962)

Said the night wind to the little lamb,
'Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb.
Do you see what I see?
A star, dancing in the night, with a tail as big as a kite.'

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy,
'Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy.
Do you hear what I hear?
A song, high above the tree, with a voice as big as the sea.'

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty King,
'Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king.
Do you know what I know?
A child shivers in the cold, let us bring him silver and gold.'

Said the king to the people everywhere,

'Listen to what I say:

Pray for peace, people everywhere!

Listen to what I say:

The Child sleeping in the night will bring us goodness and light.'

### WASSAIL SONG

['Wassail'--'Wes hal'-- Old English for 'Be thou whole(hail)']

Text: Traditional English
Music: 'sung by an old person in the county' to
Ralph Vaughan Williams (d. 1958), who freely arranged

Wassail, Wassail, all over the town, Our bread it is white and our ale it is brown. Our bowl it is made of the green maple tree. In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his right eye, Pray God send our master a good Christmas pie.

A good Christmas pie as e'er I did see.

In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his right horn, Pray God send our master a good crop of corn.

A good crop of corn as e'er I did see.

In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his long tail, Pray God send our master a good cask of ale.

A good cask of ale as e'er I did see.

In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Come butler, come fill us a bowl of the best, Then I pray that your soul in heaven may rest. But if you do bring us a bowl of the small, May the devil take butler, bowl and all!

Then here's to the maid in the lily white smock, Who tripped to the door and slipped back the lock, Who tripped to the door and pulled back the pin, For to let these jolly Wassailers walk in.

Wassail all over the town.

### TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Text: Traditional English Music: arr. John Rutter (1970)

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me a partridge in a pear tree.

On the second day ... two turtle doves.

On the third day ... three French hens.

On the fourth day ... four calling birds.

On the fifth day ... five gold rings.

On the sixth day ... six geese a-laying.

On the seventh day ... seven swans a-swimming.
On the eighth day ... eight maids a-milking.
On the ninth day ... nine ladies dancing.
On the tenth day ... ten lords a-leaping.
On the eleventh day ... eleven pipers piping.
On the twelfth day ... twelve drummers drumming.

## IN DULCI JUBILO

Text: Traditional Latin; ed. and adapted by Reginald Jacques Music: 14th c. German; arr. R. L. Pearsall

In dulci jubilo (in sweet jubilation), let us our homage shew;
Our heart's joy reclineth in praesepio (in a manger),
And like a bright star shineth, matris in gremio (in his mother's lap).
Alpha es et O, alpha es et O (thou art beginning and end).

O Jesu parvule (O tiny Jesus)! I yearn for thee alway! Hear me, I beseech thee, O Puer optime (O best of boys)! My prayer let it reach thee, O Princeps gloriae (O Prince of glory)! Trahe me post te! trahe me post te (draw me after Thee)!

O Patris caritas (O love of the Father), O Nati lenitas (O gentleness of the Son)!

Deeply were we stained, Per nostra crimina (through our crimes);

But thou hast for us gained, Coelorum gaudia (the joys of heaven).

O that we were there! O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia (Where are the joys), where, if that they be not there?

There are angels singing, Nova cantica (new songs),

There the bells are ringing, In Regis curia (in the royal court):

O that we were there! O that we were there!

## **JUBILATE DEO**

Text: Psalm 100 Music: Benjamin Britten (d. 1976)

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands.

Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God.

It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves.

We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise.

Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting,

And his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### THE RHODES SINGERS

## Sopranos

Bertz. Christine Callsen, Christi Conner, Jeana Cook, Catherine Cook, Erin Cooper, Cathi Dickerson, Jennifer Gietz, Tanva Gilbert, Allison Harrison, Meredith Hoffman, Jessica Holcombe, Amy

Lanneau, Sarah Lanza, Telky Leith, Maegan Lockridge, Heather McCaul, Fiona Miller, Shelley Ransford, Carolyn Rhew, Janet Toth, Davienne West, Abigail West, Emily Williams, Katie

### Altos

Anthony, Amy Babcock, Raven Batchelor, Melissa Bays, Emily Brewer, Amanda Dellinger, Andrea Hall. Amanda Heard, Ailsa Heisler, Lauri Kopitsky, Karen

Loux, Tara McKenzie, Chris Meredith, Susan Mize, Lauren Molina, Molly Nuffer, Anne Ogden, Emily Padgitt, Tiffany Smelser, Judith Stepp, Sarah Thomas, Elisabeth

### Tenors

Bishop, Jason Ehmsen, Jeff Granger, Nik Quigley, John

Ryan, Nathan Standard, Maequita Williams, Bernard

Basses

Betar, Patrick Cargile, Craig Fullerton, Barry Hill, Jon Jordan, Sam Lum, Richard

Olsen, Kevin Patterson, Chris Pichon, Ed Smith, Michael Weatherman, David Willis, Brian

#### MUSIC ACADEMY CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Barnes, Kenneth Barnhart, Lesley Bouck, Tori Branston, Katy Brown, Sierra Bryant, Annalise Bryant, Katie Burch, Amber Craft, Bonnie Craft, Richard Craft, Virginia Dike, Katherine Evans, Whitney

Feuerstacke, Lindsey Fletcher, Eric Fountain, Casey Harkness, Melissa Heiberg, Anna Heiberg, Haley Herbert, Suzannah Hill, Elizabeth Jennings, Laura Johnson, Ashley Josephson, Clarissa Maguire, Erin Matthews, Kyla Eric Lindh, Rehearsal Accompanist

McCain, Mia McKelroy, Rachel McKinzie, Tabia Mitchell, Jerica Mukherji, Aditi Nwobilor, Chidozie Parrish, Lauren Porcher, Stephany Powell, Trey Reed, Jacob Ross, Heather Ross, Stephanie

Scott, Zach Shea, Eileen Shea, Robert Simmons, Noralee Singleton, Samantha Smith, Aaron Smith, Rachel Spence, Kerry Sprayberry, Sarah Waddell, Tori Wilensky, Leah Williams, Ashlei Wolley, Leann

#### MUSIC ACADEMY YOUNG SINGERS

Aaron, Starr Ball, Jamie Beydler, Kimberly Boulden, Rachel Crone, Amy Demetrio, Christy

Edmonds, Brett Elam, Kathryn Garner, Margaret Greer, Katie Hoback, Jessica Koon, Laura Long, Jessica

Newton, Aura Perkins, Susan Phillips, Kelly Reed, Jennifer Ross, Erin Scott, Lauren

Smith, Jeremy Smith, Luke Smith, Myla Spence, Emily Thomas, Lillian Wilensky, Abigail

#### ETHELINE MAYO MEMORIAL JUBILATE HANDBELL CHOIR

Auwarter, Julie Becker, M. J.

Bencsath, Kalman Crumpley, Merrie Jo Garner, Bette

Mize, Lauren Perez. Ana

Turnbull, Harriet Wills, Liz

#### THE RHODES BRASS

Lee Weimer, Joel Rusche, Chris Carillo, trumpet Shawn Hagen, horn; Mark Rogan, Mark Vail, trombone

#### THE RHODES SINGERS

The Rhodes Singers, in addition to this eleventh annual Christmas concert at St. Mary's, have this past weekend participated in Ralph Vaughan Williams's 'Hodie' for the sixth consecutive year. They will join members of the Rhodes Mastersingers Chorale March 29, 1998 in a performance of Maurice Duruflé's 'Requiem,' with Tony Lee Garner conducting.

The touring tradition of the Singers has been alive for most of the twentieth century. In May of 1996 the ensemble, with members of the Mastersingers Chorale, travelled to the Czech Republic, Hungary and Austria, marking the seventh European tour for the Singers, and continuing the global tradition that dates to the Romanian tour of 1976 and continues with a 1999 tour of Scandinavia and Poland. The sixty-first spring tour takes the Singers to Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama in May of 1998.

Professor Tony Lee Garner became conductor of the Singers in 1967. In addition to holding the conducting post, he is Chair of the Music and Theatre departments at Rhodes, Conductor of the Rhodes Mastersingers Chorale, and Director of Music at Evergreen Presbyterian Church. He was founder and principal conductor of the Masterpiece Festival Chorus and Orchestra, Conductor of the Rhodes Chamber Orchestra, and was for twenty-seven years Musical Director at Theatre Memphis. He spent five summers in southern France as a member of the Robert Shaw Institute Singers, a group that has recorded six discs for Telarc and performs in New York annually as a part of Carnegie Hall's concert series.

Professor David Ramsey is the associate conductor and accompanist for the Singers. Mr. Ramsey, in wide demand as a concert artist and accompanist, is Organist-in-Residence at Rhodes and Director of Music and Organist at St. John's United Methodist Church. He was organist for the Memphis Chicks professional baseball team for twenty-two years. In the fall of 1996 he completed a tour of Italy as organist for the St. Francis of Assisi Church choir of Memphis, a trip highlighted by two appearances at St. Peter's Basilica.

## THE RHODES MUSIC ACADEMY CHILDREN'S CHORUS

The MACC ensemble, a 52-voice community chorus, is in its sixth year at Rhodes. The fourth through seventh graders perform at a variety of occasions in the Memphis community throughout the school year, including two annual appearances with the college Singers, at Christmas and the spring concert.

The conductor is Susan Van Dyck, whose infectious enthusiasm for teaching and working with children has had much to do with the success of the choir. She graduated from Rhodes, then received her Master of Education degree from the University of Memphis. She is Orff Music Specialist at the Campus School of UM and Director of the Children's Chorus for Opera Memphis productions. A 1993 recipient of the Rotary Award for Teacher Excellence, she is an active clinician, holding workshops around the country for elementary music educators.

### THE RHODES MUSIC ACADEMY YOUNG SINGERS

One of the newest singing ensembles of the Academy, the Young Singers is under the aegis of Rhodes and Evergreen Presbyterian Church. Students in grades 7-12 comprise MAYS, now in its second year and becoming increasingly active.

The director of the Young Singers, Cynthia Harris, is a doctoral candidate at the University of Memphis and a Kodály specialist.

## OUR COMPACT DISC RECORDINGS

The Rhodes Singers newest CD, "Make a Joyful Noise: A History of Communal Singing in America," recorded at the conclusion of the 1994 spring tour, was released in late 1994. It is available after tonight's concert in the adjoining Parish Hall for the price of \$15.

The Singers Christmas CD, "O Magnum Mysterium," previously released in 1992, features settings by Victoria, Poulenc and Rhodes alumnus Hayes Biggs of the timeless Christmas text "O Magnum Mysterium." It also includes music by Memphis composer Shirley W. McRae, Kenneth Leighton and others, and is also available for \$15.

## IN SUPPORT OF THE ART

Everyone knows that producing art is an expensive enterprise. Everyone knows that encouraging young performers is one of the brightest hopes for our future as a society. If you would like to be a part of producing art at Rhodes College and if you would like to encourage our young performers in the pursuit of their art, you are invited to make a gift to any one of the following restricted funds which are available. Simply mail your tax deductible gift to the Development Office, Rhodes College, 2000 North Parkway, Memphis, TN 38112, naming the fund and any specific designation for its use.

The Adams Music Library Fund (for general support of library program)
The Gladys Cauthen Memorial Fund (for general support of the music program)
The Lois Maer Memorial Fund (for piano rebuilding)
The Jane Soderstrom Music Fund (for maintenance of instruments)
Tuthill Chamber Music (for support of chamber music performance)
The Maude Walker Memorial Fund (for general support of the music program)
The Rhodes Choral Music Series (for support of choral concerts)
The Rhodes Academy Scholarship Fund (for support of worthy students)

## CHORAL MUSIC AT RHODES 1997-1998 REMAINING CONCERTS

(for ticket information call the McCoy Theatre Box Office at 843-3839)

February 15, at 4:00 p. m. \* St. Mary's Cathedral (Episcopal) VESPERS (ALL-NIGHT VIGIL), OP. 37 by RACHMANINOFF Mastersingers Chorale

March 29, at 4:00 p. m. \* Evergreen Presbyterian Church SACRED MUSIC OF OUR TIME: AVE MARIA and MASS by STRAVINSKY PATER NOSTER and REQUIEM by DURUFLÉ Rhodes Singers and Mastersingers Chorale

May 2, at 8:00 p. m. \* Church of the Holy Communion GREAT CHORUSES FROM THE AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE Mastersingers Chorale

May 15, at 7:30 p. m. \* Evergreen Presbyterian Church Annual Spring Concert SACRED MUSIC IN AMERICA: THEN AND NOW Rhodes Singers and Music Academy Children's Chorus