

Morning Star

Good-will to men, and peace on Earth Dobrinka Tabakova (b. 1980)

My Lord has Come Will Todd (b. 1970)

Angels We Have Heard On High arr. Matthew Culloton (b. 1976)

O Magnum Mysterium Francis Poulenc (1899 – 1963)

What Is This Fragrance? Edwin Fissinger (1920 – 1990)

O Magnum Mysterium Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O Nata Lux Michael John Trotta (b. 1976)

Noël Nouvelet arr. Sofia Söderberg (b. 1972)

Morning Star Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

Intermission

Six Chansons Paul Hindemith (1895 – 1963)

- I. La biche
- II. Un cygne
- III. Puisque tout passe
- IV. Printemps
- V. En hiver
- VI. Verger

Ave Generosa Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

E la don don, Verges Maria Anonymous

Lully, Lulla, Lullay Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

The Wexford Carol arr. Matthew Culloton (b. 1976)

Texts and Translations

Good-will to men, and peace on Earth (Dobrinka Tabakova)

Behold a lucid Light appears, Which brightens all the eastern sky, Hark, hark what sounds salute our ears, All glory give to God on high.

"Good-will to men, and peace on Earth,"
The Heav'nly Choirs united cry
At the Divine Redeemer's birth;
And glory be to God on high.

Let mortals catch the sacred flame, Till round the world the son shall fly Which sounds the Great Redeemer's Name And glory be to God on high.

My Lord has Come (Will Todd)

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels:
No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven; No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.

His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me.

Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels; No place for me but a stable. My Lord has come.

Angels We Have Heard On High (arr. Matthew Culloton)

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavn'ly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing. Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

See him in a manger laid, Whom the choirs of angels praise. Mary, Joseph, lend your aid While our hearts in love we raise.

O Magnum Mysterium (Francis Poulenc)

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in praesepio Beata Virgo cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum.

What Is This Fragrance? (Edwin Fissinger)

What is this fragrance gently wafting? Shepherds, my senses are a-stir. Never was perfume so entrancing, Never were blossoms quite so fair. What is this fragrance gently wafting? Shepherds, my senses are a-stir.

What is this light that shines so brightly Showing the way to Bethlehem? Even the star of morning's radiance Could never show a path more clear. What is this fragrance gently wafting? Shepherds, my senses are a-stir.

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament that animals might see the newborn Lord lying in a manger. In lowly manger lies our saviour Waiting to offer love Divine. What is this fragrance gently wafting? Shepherds, my senses are a-stir.

O Magnum Mysterium (Morten Lauridsen)

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in praesepio Beata Virgo cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum. O great mystery and wondrous sacrament that animals might see the newborn Lord lying in a manger.

O Nata Lux (Michael John Trotta)

O nata lux de lumine Jesu redemptor saeculi Dignare clemens supplicum Laudes preces que sumere

Qui carne quondam contegi Dignatus es pro perditis Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis with loving-kindness deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in

O Light born of Light,

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost, grant us to be members of thy blessed body.

Noël Nouvelet (arr. Sofia Söderberg)

Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici. Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci!

Chantons Noël pour le roi nouvelet. Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

L'ange disait: "Pasteurs, partez d'ici, L'âme en repos et le coeur réjoui: En Bethléem trouverez l'angelet."

En Bethléem étant tous réunis. Trouvent l'enfant, Joseph, Marie aussi. La crèche était au lieu d'un bercelet. Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel. Glory to God! Now let your praises swell!

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King. Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel.

Angels did say, "O shepherds come and see, Let your soul be at rest and your heart rejoice, Born in Bethlehem, a blessed Lamb for thee."

In Bethlehem, all united, Was found the child with Joseph and Mary mild, And for a crib, a manger, full of hay.

Morning Star (Arvo Pärt)

Christ is the morning star,
Who when the night of this world is past,
Brings to his saints the promise of the light of life,
The promise of the light of life opens everlasting day.

Six Chansons (Paul Hiundemith)

I. La Biche

Ô la biche : quel bel intérieur d'anciennes forêts dans tes yeux abonde ; combien de confiance ronde mêlée à combien de peur.

Tout cela, porté par la vive gracilité de tes bonds.
Mais jamais rien n'arrive à cette impossessive ignorance de ton front.

II. Un cygne

Un cygne avance sur l'eau tout entouré de lui-même, comme un glissant tableau; ainsi à certains instants un être que l'on aime est tout un espace mouvant.

Il se rapproche, doublé, comme ce cygne qui nage, sur notre âme troublée... qui à cet être ajoute la tremblante image de bonheur et de doute.

III. Puisque tout passe

Puisque tout passe, faisons la mélodie passagère ; celle qui nous désaltère, aura de nous raison. The Doe

Oh, a doe: what beautiful interiors of ancient forests abound in your eyes; drunk with so much confidence mixed with so much fear.

All this, supported by the strong slenderness of your leaps.
But nothing ever happens to that docile ignorance of your brow.

A swan

A swan advances over the water completely surrounded by [reflections of] itself, like a sliding tableau; thus at certain instants a being which one loves is in motion through all space.

He approaches, reflected twofold, like a swan who is swimming, [approaching] our troubled soul... which to this being is added the wavering image of happiness and doubt.

Since all is passing
Since all is passing,
Let us make a passing melody.
The one that quenches our thirst
Will be right for us.

Chantons ce qui nous quitte avec amour et art; soyons plus vite que le rapide départ.

IV. Printemps

Ô mélodie de la sève qui dans les instruments de tous ces arbres s'élève, accompagne le chant de notre voix trop brève.

C'est pendant quelques mesures seulement que nous suivons les multiples figures de ton long abandon, ô abondante nature.

Quand il faudra nous taire, d'autres continueront... Mais à présent comment faire pour te rendre mon grand cœur complémentaire?

V. En hiver

En hiver, la mort meurtrière entre dans les maisons; elle cherche la sœur, le père, et leur joue du violon.

Mais quand la terre remue sous la bêche du printemps, la mort court dans les rues et salue les passants.

VI. Verger

Jamais la terre n'est plus réelle que dans tes branches, ô verger blond, ni plus flottante que dans la dentelle que font les ombres sur le gazon. Let us sing what leaves us With love and art; Let us be quicker Than the quick departure.

Springtime

O song that from the sap art pouring And through the sounding board Of all this greenwood art soaring, Amplify our brief tone, The dying strain restoring.

Tis but few measures duration That we share the fantasy, The endless variation Of thy long ecstasy, O nature, fount of creation.

After our song is ended,
Others will assume the part...
But meanwhile how can I tender
Unto thee all my heart
in full surrender?

In winter

With the winter, Death, grisly guest Through the doorway steals in Both the young and the old to quest, And he plays them his violin.

But when the Spring's spades are beating Frozen earth beneath blue sky, Then Death his way goes fleeting Lightly greeting passersby.

Orchard

The earth is nowhere so real a presence As mid thy branches O orchard blond And nowhere so airy as here in the pleasance Of lacy shadows on grassy pond. Là se rencontre ce qui nous reste, ce qui pèse et ce qui nourrit, avec le passage manifeste de la tendresse infinie.

Mais à ton centre, la calme fontaine, presque dormant en son ancien rond, de ce contraste parle à peine, tant en elle il se confond.

There we encounter that which we quested That which sustains and nourishes life, And with it the passage manifested Of sweetest tenderness undying.

But at thy center the spring's limpid waters Almost asleep in the fountain's heart, Of this strange contrast scarce have taught us Since of them it is so truly part.

Ave Generosa (Ola Gjeilo)

Ave, generosa
Gloriosa et intacta puella
Tu pupilla castitatis
Tu materia sanctitatis
Que Deo placuit

Hail, generous
Glorious and pure maiden
You are the pupil of chastity
You are the embodiment of sanctity
That pleased God

E la don don (Ananymous)

E la don don, Verges Maria, E la don don, peu cap de sang Que nos densaron. E la don don.

O garçons aquesta nit Una verge n'a parit, Un filio qu'es tro polit, Que non au tan en lo mon.

Digas nos qui te l'a dit, Que Verges n'a ya parit, Que nos may avem ausit Lo que tu diu giràn ton.

A eo dian los argeus, Que cantavan alta veus La grolla n'exelsis Deus, Qu'en Belén lo trobaron. She is our Lady, the Virgin Mary. and "don don", bright pale are the feet that dance for us, and she is our Lady.

O lads! On this night a virgin gave birth to a fine boy without equal in this world.

"Say who told you so, that a virgin gave birth, for we've never heard the like."

"The angels said so singing in loud voices 'Gloria in excelis Deus', and he is to be found in Bethlehem." Lully, Lulla, Lullay (Philip Stopford)
Lully, Iullay, thou little tiny child,
Bye bye, Iully, Iullay.
Thou little tiny child,
Bye bye, Iully, Iullay.

O sisters too, how may we do For to preserve this day This poor youngling for whom we sing, "Bye bye, lully, lullay?"

Herod the king, in his raging, Chargèd 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 mourn and day For thy parting neither say nor sing, "Bye bye, lully, lullay."

The Wexford Carol (Matthew Culloton)
Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending his beloved son.

With Mary holy we should pray, To God, with love, this Christmas Day: In Bethlehem upon that morn, There was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep; To whom God's angels did appear, Which put the shepherds in great fear.

"Prepare and go," the angels said,
"To Bethlehem; be not afraid,
For there you'll find, this happy morn,
A princely Babe, sweet Jesus, born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind The shepherds went the Babe to find, And, as God's angel had foretold, They did our Saviour, Christ, behold.

Within a manger he was laid, And by his side the Virgin Maid Attending on the Lord of Life, Who came on earth to end all strife.

Wascana Voices Members

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Thank you for attending our concert! Follow us on facebook and Instagram for choir news and upcoming performances.

