

Dec. 2009



# ORK COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY



WITH CHRISTINE VAN ARSDALE, HARP

*Christmas Favorites, Secular and Sacred*

SPECIAL GUESTS - ROCK HILL DISTRICT 3  
ELEMENTARY HONORS CHOIR

# *York County Choral Society*

*29<sup>th</sup> Season - 2009-2010*

Monday, December 7, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.

Oakland Baptist Church

Rock Hill, South Carolina

DAVID LOWRY, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

SUSAN READ, ACCOMPANIST AND VOCAL COACH



## **A KALEIDOSCOPE CHRISTMAS**

*Sacred and Secular Christmas Music*

with

SPECIAL GUESTS

THE ROCK HILL DISTRICT THREE ELEMENTARY HONORS CHOIR

BECKY SANDERSON AND GWENDOLYN B. COLTER, DIRECTORS

CHRISTINE VAN ARSDALE, HARP

SUSAN READ, PIANO AND ORGAN

PROGRAM

*Natus est nobis*

Tenors and Basses

Jacob Handl (1550-1591)

*A Ceremony of Carols*

Hodie Christus natus est  
Wolcum Yole!  
There is no Rose  
That yongë child  
Balulalow  
As dew in Aprille  
This little Babe  
Interlude  
In Freezing Winter Night  
Spring Carol  
Deo Gracias  
Hodie Christus natus est

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Christine Van Arsdale, harp  
Gayle Sawyer and Irene Pointon, soloists  
Sopranos and Altos, and Honors Choir

*Love came down at Christmas*  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
*Fantasia on Christmas Carols*

Andrew Hayler (b. 1966)  
David German (b. 1954)  
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Andy Castillo and Jarvis Miller, soloists  
Full Choral Society

Carol for Audience – *Stand to sing.*  
Hymn 173

Stanzas 1 & 4: sing in unison Stanzas 2, 3: sing in parts

*Adeste Fideles*

*Al Shlosba D'varim*  
*Camel Kneel Softly*

Julia McCallum, flute

Allan E. Naplan (b. 1972)  
Susan Hunt Paterson (b. 1962)

*The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*

Honors Choir

Traditional West Indian Carol  
arr. Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

*Winter Wonderland*

Tenors and Basses

Felix Bernard (1897-1944)

*The Twelve Days of Christmas*

Full Choruses

John Rutter (b. 1945)

## TEXTS

### *Natus est nobis* Jacob Handl

He has been born for us, God from God, light from light, who was in the beginning.  
A Virgin conceived the Word, a Virgin she remained.  
A Virgin has given birth to the King of all Kingdoms. Alleluia.

### *Ceremony of Carols* Benjamin Britten

#### PROCESSION Anonymous Latin, medieval

Today Christ is born; Today the Saviour has appeared;  
Today the angels sing, The archangels rejoice,  
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:  
Glory be to God in the highest. Alleluia!

#### WOLCUM YOLE! Anonymous 14<sup>th</sup> century

Wolcum be thou hevenè king. Wolcum Yole!  
Wolcum, born in one morning. Wolcum for whom we sall sing.  
  
Wolcum be ye Stevene and Jon. Wolcum Innocentes everyone.  
Wolcum, Thomas marter one. Wolcum, be ye, Good Newe Yere.  
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere, Wolcum Yole! Wolcum!  
  
Candelmesse, Quene of bliss. Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.  
  
Wolcum be ye that are here. Wolcum Yole!  
Wolcum alle and make good cheer. Wolcum alle another yere.  
Wolcum Yole! Wolcum!

#### THERE IS NO ROSE Anonymous English

There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bare Jesu:  
Alleluya.

For in this rose contained was  
Heaven and earth in little space:  
*Res miranda.* (A wonderful thing)

By that rose we may well see  
That he is God in person three:  
*Pari forma.* (Of the same form)

The angels sung the shepherds to:  
"Gloria in excelsis Deo",  
*Gaudeamus.* (We rejoice)

Leave we all this worldly mirth,  
And follow we this joyful birth:  
*Transeamus.* (Let us go)

#### THAT YONGĒ CHILD Anonymous 14<sup>th</sup> century

That yongē child when it gan weep  
With song she lulled him asleep;  
That was so sweet a melody  
It passèd alle minstrelsy.  
The nightingalē sang also:  
Her song is hoarse and nought thereto:  
Whoso attendeth to her song  
And leaveth the first then doth he wrong.

BALULALOW The brothers Wedderburn, fl. 1548; based on a text  
by Martin Luther (14483-1546)

O my deir hert, young Jesus sweet,  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee in my hert  
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir  
With sangis sweet unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my heart sall I bow,  
And sing that richt Balulalow!

AS DEW IN APRILLE Anonymous, published c. 1400

I sing of a maiden that is makèles<sup>1</sup>:  
King of all kings to her son she ches<sup>2</sup>.

He came al so stille there his moder was,  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass.

As dew in Aprille that falleth on the spray.

He came al so stille to his moder bour<sup>3</sup>,  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the flour<sup>4</sup>.

Moder and mayden was never none but she;  
Well may such a lady Goddes moder be.

He came al so stille there his moder lay,

THIS LITTLE BABE

Robert Southwell (1561?-1595)

This little Babe so few days old is come to rifle Satan's fold;  
All hell doth at his presence quake though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmèd wise the gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field, his naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shor are babish cries, his arrows looks of weeping eyes,  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall, his bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes; of shepherds he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound, the angels' trump alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight, stick to the tents that he hath pight.  
Within his crib is surest ward, this little Babe will be thy guard.  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy, then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

IN FREEZING WINTER NIGHT

Robert Southwell

Behold, a silly tender babe in freezing winter night,  
In homely manger trembling lies; alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full, no man will yield this little pilgrim bed.  
But forced he is with silly beast, in crib to shroud his head.

This stable is a Prince's court, this crib his chair of State;  
The beast are parcel of his pomp, this wooden dish his plate.

The persons in that poor attire his royal liveries wear;  
The Prince himself is come from Heav'n; this pomp is prizèd there.

With joy approach o Christian wight, do homage to thy King;  
And highly praise his humble pomp, wich he from Heav'n doth bring.

SPRING CAROL William Cornysh, 16<sup>th</sup> century

Pleasure it is to hear iwis, the birdis sing.  
The deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale, the corn springing.  
God's purveyance for sustenance, it is for man, it is for man.  
Then we always to Him give praise, and thank Him then.

DEO GRACIAS Anonymous 15<sup>th</sup> century

*Deo gratias!*  
Adam lay ybounden<sup>1</sup>,  
Bounden in a bond,  
Four thousand winter  
Thought he not too long;

And all was for an apple,  
An apple that he took,  
As clerkës finden  
Written in their book.

Né had one apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Né had never Our Lady  
A been Heaven's Queen.

Blessèd be the time  
That apple takèn was.  
Therefore we moun singen:  
*Deo gratias!*

PROCESSION (repeat)

Three Christmas Pieces

Hayler, German and Vaughan Williams

*These three works contain very familiar words. The first is a poem by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), and the second by hymn writer Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), a statue of whom stands outside Trinity Episcopal Church, Copley Square, Boston. The Vaughan Williams Fantasia includes several familiar texts of carols: "The Truth sent from above," "Come all you worthy gentlemen," and "On Christmas night."*

*Al Shblosha D'varim*

Allen E. Naplan

*The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace*

*Camel Kneel Softly*

Susan Hunt Paterson

*Camel, kneel softly the babe has been found. You've followed, you've traveled, You've found hallowed ground. You've carried your Master to Bethlehem town, Camel kneel softly tonight, tonight, Camel kneel softly tonight. Camel kneel softly, The star in the sky Is twinkling so brightly it shines in your eye. Our heav'ly Creator has shown you the way. Camel rest gently today, today Camel rest gently today. Camel kneel softly, kneel proudly, rest easily. Camel kneel softly tonight.*

*The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*

Traditional West Indian Carol

*The Virgin Mary had a baby boy, and they said that his name was Jesus. He come from the glory, He come from the glorious kingdom. The angels sang when the baby was born, and proclaimed him the Savior Jesus. He come from the glory, He come from the glorious kingdom. The shepherds ran to where the baby was born, and they worshiped the Savior Jesus. He come from the glory, He come from the glorious kingdom. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy, and they said that his name was Jesus. Sing "Alleluia, allelu," and they said that his name was Jesus.*

WINTER WONDERLAND

FELIX BERNARD

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

ARR. JOHN RUTTER

*The texts of these two works need no introduction. "Winter Wonderland" is the first – and likely last attempt of the YCCS singing barbershop music! Happy Holidays!*

**YORK COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY**  
 DAVID M. LOWRY, DMA, HONRSCM, CO-FOUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR  
 SUSAN READ, ACCOMPANIST AND VOCAL COACH  
 FAYE DANIEL, MUSIC LIBRARIAN

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*The York County Choral Society is a registered 501 (c) (3) charitable organization  
 and an affiliate of the Arts Council of York County United Arts Fund.*

**YORK COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY SINGING MEMBERS**

Ann Adams	Dave Cowan	Pat Johnson	Greg Reynolds
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	Priscilla Jennings	Irene Pointon	

**ELEMENTARY HONORS CHOIR MEMBERS**

Cadin Alvarado	Danielle Delgado	Sarah Ochoa
Neelie Bailey	Benjamin Doyle	Hailey Paolone
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Quinest Bishop	Sarah Ervin	Tay' Anthony Pittman
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Joshua Dantzler	Robert Leaks	Jasmyn Wallace
Jada Davis	Claire McCallum	Mejia White
Phillip Dean	Cameron McClenningham	Elizabeth Yekeh
	Devarius McDonald	

The Elementary Honors Choir of Rock Hill Schools was established in 1992. This choir was created to provide a quality choral experience for musically talented fourth and fifth grade students in the district. To become a member, a student must first be nominated by his or her school's music teacher. Approximately one hundred twenty nominated students audition individually and through this process fifty-five to sixty new and returning students are chosen to be members of this special choir. After the auditions for new students are completed in the fall, choir rehearsals are held after school once a week for the remainder of the school year. The Honors Choir presents both winter and spring concerts and performs at many community events. Choir members and directors are thrilled to have the opportunity to perform with YCCS this evening.

Becky Sanderson, director of the Elementary Honors Choir of Rock Hill Schools, is an elementary music specialist and teaches grades K-5 at York Road Elementary School. She holds both the B. M. E. and M. M. degrees from Winthrop University as well as a Specialist's Certificate in Music Education (Choral). Mrs. Sanderson is also the director of the Young Musicians Choir at Oakland Baptist Church.

Gwendolyn B. Colter, associate director and accompanist for the elementary Honors Choir of Rock Hill Schools, is an elementary music specialist and teaches grades K-5 at Independence Elementary School. She received her B.M.E and M.M.E degrees from Winthrop University and is the church musician for Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church in York, SC.

SPRING CONCERT  
**Mostly Mozart**

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2010 – 4:00 P.M.  
Neely's Creek Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church  
974 Neely's Creek Road, Rock Hill

We are pleased to take our Spring Concert to Neely's Creek recently renovated church with its fine acoustic and rebuilt Æolian-Skinner Organ.

LOOKING AHEAD  
30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF YCCS

*Requiem*  
by

**GIUSEPPE VERDI**  
with four great soloists and full orchestra  
David Lowry, conductor

The Winthrop Chorale, prepared by Dr. Katherine Kinsey, will be in the chorus  
all in James F. Byrnes Auditorium, Winthrop University

It will be the only concert of the 30<sup>th</sup> season, taking place in February 2011.

Look for more information soon on the web site

[www.yorkcountychoralsociety.org](http://www.yorkcountychoralsociety.org)

## YCCS PATRONS 2009-2010

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Shirley & Cory Fishburne  
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### TWELVE DAYS?

In modern society, the retail market often deals with the misuse of "twelve days," in an effort to sell as much as possible. Actually, the twelve days of Christmas refer to the church kalendar from December 25 until January 6, the day called Epiphany - celebrating the coming of the Wise Men who recognize the Christ child. In England, from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, Roman Catholics were not allowed to practice their faith (the state church being the Church of England), so English Catholics had numerous secret ways to practice their faith symbolically. Here are some of the symbols.

*The partridge* is Christ;  
*two turtle doves* are the Old and New Testaments;  
*hens* were faith, hope and charity (or the gifts of the Magi);  
*calling birds*, the four Gospels;  
*rings*, the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament);  
*geese*, the six days of creation;  
*swans*, seven gifts of the Holy Spirit  
*maids*, eight beatitudes;  
*ladies*, nine fruits of the Holy Spirit;  
*lords*, the Ten Commandments;  
*pipers*, eleven faithful disciples; and  
*drummers*, the twelve tribes of Israel, or the twelve points of the Apostles' creed.

## A MUSICAL QUIZ

*How many can you answer before the concert begins?*

### WHO?

1. Who is Jacob Handl?
2. Who is Ralph Vaughan Williams?

### WHAT?

3. What is SPEBSQSA?
4. What was a big YCCS event in 2006?

### WHY?

5. Why did Phillips Brooks write the text "O Little Town of Bethlehem?"
6. Why is the Spring Concert in Neely's Creek Church?

### WHEN?

7. When was the first performance of YCCS?
8. When did YCCS sing in the United Kingdom?

### WHERE?

9. Where was most of Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* composed?
10. Where is the Hebrew text *Al Shlosha D'varim* found?

### HOW?

11. How many strings does a harp have in an octave?
12. How many rehearsals does a YCCS concert get?

### Answers

- 1) A Slovene composer, often known as Jacob Gallus, for some time the choirmaster of the Prague cathedral. No relation to George Frideric Handel.
- 2) RVW is one of the most important British composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> C., along with Gustav Holst, Benjamin Britten, William Walton, Michael Tippett, Thomas Ades, and James MacMillan.
- 3) The Barbershop Harmony Society, technically the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quarter Singing in America, Inc. (Barber shop was two words, but modern usage is commonly Barbershop.)
- 4) We were in residence as cathedral choir for four days in the Washington National Cathedral.
- 5) For a Christmas service in 1868 in Philadelphia, recalling his visit to Bethlehem three years earlier.
- 6) Because the renovated space has a great acoustic for singing and the new installation of a rebuilt Æolian-Skinner organ is just what we need.
- 7) April 4, 1982, Handel's *Messiah* Parts II & III.
- 8) In July of 2000 and 2003. We sang in all four countries: England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.
- 9) Aboard the *Axel Johnson*, a Swedish cargo vessel on a month's voyage in 1942 from the USA to Britain, all the while being in dangerous waters of U-boat activity.
- 10) In *Pirka Avot* 1:2, from the *Talmud*.
- 11) Just seven—A, B, C, D, E, F, G, for six-and-a-half octaves; a complicated mechanism operated by pedals, one for each pitch, changes the pitch flat, natural and sharp. And you think 10 fingers are complicated!
- 12) Usually 12, on Thursdays, 8-9:45 pm.