Echoes of Christmas

December
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2002

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MUSIC OF OUR TIME

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familiar tunes
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a mid-winter breath of fresh air

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Susanni
Patapan
Huron Carol
Carol of the Bells
Silent Night
Fum, fum, fum!
Prepare the Way
The Friendly Beasts
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Ai, nama mamina
Three Nativity Carols
Il est né, le divin enfant
The Virgin's Cradle Hymn
Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine
Tomorrow shall be my dancing day
Gabriel's Message
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Sweet Was the Song the Virgin Sang

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Dale Warland Singers</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Warland, Founder and Music Director</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwight Bigler, Assistant Conductor</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Ferko, Composer-in-Residence</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From the Executive Director</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Guests, Tom Crann and Dr. Lynn Trapp</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echoes of Christmas</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th Anniversary Special Recognition Award</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Notes</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recordings</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singers' Biographies</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honor Roll</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Patrons</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rachmaninoff’s All-Night Vigil (Vespers)
Saturday, February 1, 2003, 8:00 pm
The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis

Rachmaninoff’s monumental All-Night Vigil is one of the 20th century’s greatest and most important choral works. Masterfully performed, the music resonates in every alcove and archway of the breathtaking Basilica of Saint Mary. Don’t miss this unique and stirring musical event.

Sponsored by General Mills

Cathedral Classics
Saturday, March 22, 2003, 8:00 pm
The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis

Enjoy sacred choral treasures performed in the magnificent Basilica of Saint Mary. One of the most popular events of every season, this year’s concert features Miserere, an exquisite work for cello and choir by Belgian composer Rudi Tas, and the world premiere of a new composition by J. Aaron McDermid, winner of the 2001 Choral Ventures™ annual commissioning program. Tavener’s haunting Song for Athene and Mahler’s lush Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen also contribute to this inspiring evening of masterworks.

Sponsored by Ecolab, Inc.

Tickets for all concerts available through Ticket Works at: 612.343.3390
Special discounts for group sales available through the Dale Warland Singers office: 651.632.5870
30th Anniversary Concert
Sunday, April 27, 2003, 4:00 pm
Ted Mann Concert Hall
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Celebrate 30 years of choral excellence with an evening of favorites and new works created especially for the Dale Warland Singers. Hear an ethereal, atmospheric piece for French horns and double choir by Australian composer David Hamilton, and a much-anticipated world premiere by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, Aaron Jay Kernis.

Dale Warland himself contributes a new work, and DWS Alumni join the Singers for a spectacular finale. Order tickets early for this musical extravaganza!

Sponsored by Deluxe Corporation Foundation

Choral Ventures™
Monday, May 12, 2003, 7:00 pm
Tuesday, May 13, 2003, 7:00 pm
Sundin Music Hall
Hamline University, St. Paul

Welcome world-renowned percussion ensemble Zeitgeist as a special guest for the premiere of Shui Diao Ge To & Song, a new composition by Kui Dong, winner of the 2000 Choral Ventures™ annual commissioning program. A unique blend of prepared piano, percussive effects, speech, and elements from Chinese folk singing combine to create this engaging and memorable new choral work.

Zeitgeist and the Singers will also perform individually in a colorful, educational and entertaining program unlike any other Twin Cities musical event. Get your tickets now!

The following evening, May 13th, the Dale Warland Singers presents the annual Reading Session for the finalists of the 2003 Choral Ventures™ program. This free concert is a unique opportunity for all interested in the process of composing. Four new works will be rehearsed by the Singers, then the floor is open for audience questions and comments.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to let your voice be heard!

Sponsored by Jerome Foundation and American Composers Forum
Now celebrating its 30th Anniversary season of concerts, tours, radio broadcasts, and critically acclaimed recordings, the Dale Warland Singers is recognized as one of the world’s foremost a cappella choral ensembles. The 40-voice professional choir is based in Minneapolis/St. Paul.

The Dale Warland Singers has earned a reputation for its commitment to commissioning and performing new choral music. The ensemble has kept the choral genre fresh and alive by commissioning works from Dominick Argento, Stephen Paulus, Libby Larsen, Carol Barnett, George Shearing, Peter Schickele, Bernard Rands, Emma Lou Diemer, Libby Larsen, Carol Barnett, George Shearing, Peter Schickele, Bernard Rands, Emma Lou Diemer, Alice Parker, Frank Ferko, Brent Michael Davids, Mary Ellen Childs, Janika Vandervelde, Aaron Jay Kernis and Augusta Read Thomas, among others.

The Dale Warland Singers’ Choral Ventures™ program solicits works from emerging composers, and through this program, over $100,000 in commissions have been awarded to over fifty talented musicians.

In 1992, the Dale Warland Singers became the first-ever recipient of the Margaret Hillis Achievement Award for Choral Excellence. The organization shares this honor only with Chanticleer and the Vancouver Chamber Choir among professional choirs. The group’s extraordinary efforts on behalf of composers and new music resulted in ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming in 1992, 1993, 1996, and 1999.

In addition to a subscription season in the Twin Cities, the Dale Warland Singers tours throughout the United States and abroad. In 1990, the ensemble traveled to Stockholm and Helsinki to represent North America at the Second World Symposium on Choral Music. During the 1999-2000 concert season, the group concertized in the Southeastern United States. It has also appeared on Garrison Keillor’s original A Prairie Home Companion and has been featured on Public Radio International’s Saint Paul Sunday. The annual Echoes of Christmas and Cathedral Classics broadcasts reach listeners nationwide.

Last summer the choir made its debut at the Ravinia Festival (Chicago). The choir also performed at the American Society of Harpists National Conference and the Sixth World Symposium on Choral Music, both held in the Twin Cities.

The Dale Warland Singers also performs in collaboration with other Twin Cities arts organizations including the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, and the James Sewell Ballet. The Singers have worked under the batons of the late Robert Shaw, Hugh Wolff, Edo de Waart, Leonard Slatkin, Bobby McFerrin, David Zinman, and Roger Norrington.

During the 1999-2000 season, the choir released a new recording featuring Leonard Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms and Benjamin Britten’s Rejoice in the Lamb. Past recordings include Blue Wheat, a collection of American folk music which The Seattle Times described as “the loveliest choral disc to emerge in a long time... sung by what is probably America’s best chorus.” Another of the Singers’ lauded releases is December Stillness, which BBC Music magazine gave its highest rating for performance and sound, calling it, “... splendid, melting stuff.” The South Jersey’s Courier-Post called the 1994 release of Cathedral Classics, “an unmatched musical experience,” while The Oregonian stated simply, “peerless.” Earlier recordings by the Singers include, Fancie, A Rose in Winter, Christmas Echoes, Carols for Christmas, Choral Currents, as well as 12 others.
Soprano
Beth Althof
Wendi Buck
Marie Spar Dymit*
Jodi Hermanson
Pamela Marentette
Melissa Morey
Deborah Loon Osgood
Sarah Schiomer
Dawn Schuffenhauer
Naomi Staruch
Monica Stratton

Alto
Abbie Betinis
Galina Erickson
Joanne Halvorsen*
Melissa Holm-Johansen
Lynette Johnson
Natalia Kojanova
Mary C. Maiden Müller
Anna George Meek
Krista Palmquist

Tenor
Joel Beyer
Joel C. Fischer*
Eric N. Hopkins
Justin Karch
David Nordli
Hal Snyder
Anthony Sofie
Gregory Tambornino

Bass
Jeffrey Bipes
Matthew Culloton*
Dave Jacobson
Brian Kremer
Patrick McDonough
Michael Meyer
Jack Nelson
Kevin Michael Norberg
Tim O'Brien
Terry Sheetz
Brian L. Steele

* section leader
Dale Warland, celebrated American musician, has made an indelible impression on the landscape of contemporary choral music both nationally and internationally. During his time with the Dale Warland Singers, he has shaped a vocal ensemble known for its exquisite sound, technical finesse, and stylistic range. From this platform, Warland not only masters the traditional repertoire, but has commissioned over 230 new choral works.

The choral world has responded by bestowing its highest honors on Warland, including a special award in 2002 from Chorus America and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) for Warland's "pioneering vision, leadership and commitment to commissioning and performing new choral works at the highest level of artistry." Other awards and recognition include the 2001 Louis Botto Award for Innovative Action and Entrepreneurial Zeal; the 2001 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award in recognition of his lifetime achievements as a choral conductor and his continued contribution to the arts in Minnesota; and the 1995 Michael Korn Founder's Award, the highest honor for a choral conductor in the United States, previously awarded to Robert Shaw, Margaret Hillis, and Roger Wagner, among others.

Warland's appearances as a guest conductor have taken him to the podiums of the Swedish Radio Choir, Danish Radio Choir, Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Opus 7 Vocal Ensemble, the Utah Chamber Artists, the Grant Park Music Festival and Israel's Cameran Singers. Warland has also rehearsed and prepared choirs for performances of major works in collaboration with notable conductors and composers including Robert Shaw, Edo de Waart, Leonard Slatkin, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, and Kryzstof Penderecki.

Warland is committed to sharing his knowledge about the choral arts and has served on the faculty of the All-Japan Chorus League National Competition in Fukuoka, Japan; has lectured on American music at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki; served on the artistic staff of the Tolosa Choral Festival in Spain; acted as co-chair of both the choral and recording panels of the National Endowment for the Arts; and completed a 19 year tenure as Director of Choral Music at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.
Dwight Bigler joined the Dale Warland Singers in August 2001 as Pianist, Apprentice Conductor, and Artistic Administrative Assistant. In his new position as Assistant Conductor, he contributes to a variety of artistic areas including repertoire selection, programming and choral preparation. He continues to serve as DWS pianist and assist the Composer-in-Residence with the implementation of the Choral Ventures™ program.

Mr. Bigler received his Associate in Music degree from Ricks College in 1996. During his time there, he was the principle oboist in the Ricks College Symphony and Chamber Orchestras, a winner of the annual Concerto Competition in the piano area and was the Assistant to the Ricks College Men's Choir.

He is also a graduate of Brigham Young University, holding a Bachelor of Music degree (summa cum laude) in piano performance and pedagogy and a Master of Music degree in choral conducting. He has studied with Ronald J. Staheli, Mack Wilberg, Paul Pollei and Shulamit Hoffmann.

While at Brigham Young University, Bigler conducted the BYU Women's Chorus, the University Chorales, and he served as pianist for a variety of BYU ensembles and for numerous student recitals. Dwight is also an emerging composer with a number of commissioned works and arrangements to his credit.

Frank Ferko is a well-established composer who has specialized in compositions for the voice, particularly for choral ensembles. His music has been performed by a variety of distinguished ensembles, including the Dale Warland Singers, Bella Voce, Magnum Chorum, and the American Repertory Singers. In 2000 his music was presented in live performances or on radio broadcasts in thirty countries around the world.

Winner of a variety of awards, including three fellowships from the Illinois Arts Council, the Padrone-Kantscheidt Award from Northwestern University and annual ASCAP Awards for the past 13 years, Ferko's work has received high critical acclaim in The American Record Guide, Fanfare, Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun Times, The Diapason, The American Organist and the British journal, Choir and Organ. In 1997, Ferko was the winner of the Dale Warland Singers New Choral Music Program.

Ferko holds degrees from Valparaiso University, Syracuse University and Northwestern University. In addition to composing, he has lectured and published articles on many aspects of 20th century music.
from the executive director

Dear Friends,

How pleased we are that you could join us for our Echoes of Christmas concerts during this, our 30th Anniversary Season. Dale has put together a program of favorite selections from several of our holiday CD’s as well as four new works written especially for this season.

If you like what you hear tonight, why not take the Dale Warland Singers into your home this holiday season. In November we released our 25th recording, "Christmas with the Dale Warland Singers." Included on this CD are selections such as The Friendly Beasts, Silent Night and Hark the Herald Angels Sing. Of the 21 works, eight were written or arranged especially for us. You can purchase the CD’s at any of our concerts this year or at the locations listed in the ad at the front of this program book.

For the first time in five years, the Singers will take Echoes of Christmas outside of the Twin Cities. We are pleased to appear at Trinity Lutheran Church in Brainerd, Minnesota and are grateful for the generous financial support of our corporate sponsor, American National Bank of Minnesota.

Our performance in Brainerd is one of 10 appearances regionally and nationally this year, including Evanston, Illinois (Ravinia Festival); Duluth, Rochester and St. Cloud, Minnesota; Fort Dodge and Iowa City, Iowa; Provo and Salt Lake City, Utah; and Rexburg, Idaho. During our stay in Salt Lake City, we’ll appear with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir on their weekly Sunday morning television broadcast. All of our tour concerts will include an opportunity for us to present educational services to local communities.

We have so many exciting opportunities this season and more are lining up for 2003-04 and 2004-05. It is through the generosity of so many of you that we have come so far in the past few years, and we’d like to be able to count on you, our friends and fans, to continue your support during these difficult economic times.

A local foundation has given us a tremendous opportunity to get a head start on our next 30 years! The Mardag Foundation will match dollar for dollar all new and increased contributions to the Dale Warland Singers up to a total of $25,000! If you’ve never made a contribution to the Dale Warland Singers, now would be a great time to do so. And, if you’re already a donor and can give just a little extra this year, that extra amount will be matched by the Foundation.

This is a critical year for all non-profits, but especially for small and mid-sized arts organizations, which don’t have the benefit of large endowments to help them get through tight economic times. If you believe in the artistry and mission of the Dale Warland Singers, we hope you will “speak” with your wallets and encourage others to do the same.

Enjoy the concert … don’t forget to pick up your copy of “Christmas with the Dale Warland Singers” at intermission or after the concert.

Gayle M. Ober, Executive Director
**tom crann**  
**pre-concert moderator**

Tom Crann is a classical music host and producer for Classical 24, Minnesota Public Radio's national classical music network. He's heard locally from 9am to 1pm each weekday in the Twin Cities on 99.5 KSJN. In May 1999, he became the first American "presenter" with a daily program on national radio in Ireland. He was one of the original voices of Lyric FM when Radio Telefís Éireann (RTÉ), Ireland's national broadcaster, put that country's first full-time classical music and arts station on the air.

A New Jersey native, he's managed to put his love of music and his English degree from Providence College to use in public radio since 1987, working at stations in St. Louis; Evansville, Indiana; Buffalo, New York; and Los Angeles. He is still an occasional contributor on cultural life in the United States for Lyric FM, and has been published in the Irish Times. One of his proudest moments: He once made Steve Allen laugh on air during a pledge drive in L.A.

**dr. lynn trapp**  
**pre-concert organ recital**  
**st. olaf catholic church**

Dr. Lynn Trapp holds a distinguished career as concert organist, conductor, composer and liturgist. Through his many performances and clinician work for regional and national music conventions, conducting engagements in the U.S. and abroad, and publications of organ and choral music with six major publishers, he has become well-known as a leader in church music.

A national competition winner at the organ, he is a recording artist and clinician for World Library Publications, Chicago, IL, as a member of the Liturgical Organists Consortium. He serves as Director of Worship & Music, Organist, at St. Olaf Catholic Church in downtown Minneapolis where he recently directed the installation of the new 67-rank Lively-Fulcher pipe organ.

Dr. Trapp is the winner of many academic and service awards including the prestigious National Presser Foundation Award and the 2002 Spirit and Truth Award from the University of Notre Dame for his contribution to the field of liturgical music. He holds degrees from Southern Illinois University (BM), University of Notre Dame (MM), and University of Kansas (DMA).
Echoes of Christmas

Saturday, December 7, 2002, 8:00 pm
Free organ recital by Dr. Lynn Trapp, 7:30 pm
St. Olaf Catholic Church, Minneapolis

Sunday, December 8, 2002, 4:00 pm
Wayzata Community Church, Wayzata

Saturday, December 14, 2002, 8:00 pm
Central Presbyterian Church, St. Paul

Sunday, December 15, 2002, 7:00 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church, Brainerd

This concert is sponsored by Minnesota Monthly

Please note: No cameras or recording devices of any kind may be used during performances. Please turn off any electronic beeping devices (watches, pagers, etc.) or leave them with an usher prior to the performance. Please hold your applause until each section is completed.

I. CAROLS FROM EUROPE

Prepare the Way* .......................................................... Dala Melody
(Margareta Jalkeus)

Gabriel’s Message* ......................................................... Basque
(Stephen Paulus)

The Friendly Beasts* ......................................................... Medieval Carol
(Jeffrey Van)

Joel Fischer & Lynette Johnson, soloists

Come, love we God* .......................................................... Daniel Pinkham

II. WORLD PREMIERE

A Festival of Carols ......................................................... Frank Ferko

The Angel’s Song
Go, Tell It On the Mountain
Do You Know the Song That the Angels Sang
The Sky Can Still Remember
Christmas Bells

Marie Spar Dymit & Beth Althof, soloists

Commissioned for the Dale Warland Singers by Tim and Gayle Ober
in loving memory of Stephen and Mary Anne Ober. Vitae brevis, ars longa.

III. CHRISTMAS CLASSICS

Long, long ago* .............................................................. Herbert Howells

The Rune of Hospitality* .................................................... Alf Houkom

A Hymn to the Mother of God* ........................................... John Tavener

INTERMISSION
IV. NEW AMERICAN CAROLS

Winter Solstice 2001 (world premiere) ................................Alice Parker
Commissioned for the Dale Warland Singers to celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Bertie and Arden Anderson

Ev'ry Christmas I Hear Bells (world premiere) ......................Dave Brubeck
Commissioned by David and Jane Cooper in honor of David's parents, Robert and Mary Cooper, with gratitude for those first piano lessons, and for planting the seeds of a lifelong love affair with music.

When Christ Was Born of Mary Free (world premiere) ..........Alf Houkom
Commissioned for the Dale Warland Singers to celebrate their 30th Anniversary Season

V. CHRISTMAS CLASSICS

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*............................................Elizabeth Poston

The Three Kings*...........................................................Healey Willan

little tree*........................................................................Steven Heitzeg

VI. CAROLS OF DALE WARLAND

Coventry Carol*.................................................................English
Conducted by Dale Warland

What Child is This?*..........................................................English

Wexford Carol*....................................................................Irish
Conducted by Dwight Bigler

VII.

Sing We Now of Christmas*..............................................French
(Fred Prentice/Carol Barnett)

*This work has been recorded by the Dale Warland Singers and is available for purchase during intermission and after tonight's concert.

The concert on December 7, 2002 will be recorded for future broadcast by Minnesota Public Radio.
30th anniversary special recognition award

As we looked at the many ways to celebrate our 30th-anniversary season, all of us at the Dale Warland Singers thought it important to acknowledge certain companies, organizations and individuals who have helped us become what we are today, one of America's premiere vocal ensembles.

To start this season-long “thank you,” the Dale Warland Singers is honored to present its first award to Glenn Warner, Manager of the Choral Music Department at Schmitt Music.

“Since the very inception of the Dale Warland Singers 30 years ago, Glenn has always been there to help locate hundreds of single scores and fill our orders for thousands of multiple copies of choral works, both known and unknown. No matter how unusual or difficult it was to locate the music requested, Glenn always pursued the necessary research with the greatest fervor and commitment one could imagine.

Whenever I needed information, facts or statistics related to choral publishing for workshop presentations, Glenn shared his extensive knowledge and incomparable experience. In a nutshell, he has been consistently helpful, is hardworking and a man of highest integrity.

— Dale Warland

Glenn Warner began his career at Schmitt Music in 1964 in the choral music department. In 1969, he became the manager and currently retains that position. His music education began in third grade when he started playing the piano and continued into high school with organ lessons. He recalls fond memories of sitting in the car on Sunday afternoons listening to organ recitals by Alexander Schreiner. Glenn furthered his music education by attending Gustavus Adolphus College for one year and then transferred to the University of Minnesota where he earned a bachelor’s degree in music with an organ minor.

While working at Schmitt Music, Glenn also served as a church choir director and organist. He is an active member of the American Guild of Organists and is currently the organist at Grace Trinity Lutheran Church. Glenn lives in Minneapolis and has two sons and five grandchildren.
program notes
by brian newhouse

Echoes of Christmas

I. CAROLS FROM EUROPE

Dala Melody (Margareta Jalkeus): Prepare the Way

If you were to attend a Swedish church in early December, you'd most likely hear this tune. As the pastor lights the Advent candle, Swedes sing Prepare the Way. The melody comes from the Dalarna province, a region with a lively folk music tradition. Margareta Jalkeus arranged this hymn which she says reminds her of "the warm feeling of candlelight in the dark and icy Swedish winter."

Prepare the Way

Prepare the way, O Zion;
Ye awful deeps rise high;
Sink low ye lofty mountains,
The Lord is drawing nigh;
O Zion, He approaches,
Your Lord and King for aye;
Strew palms where He advances;
Spread garments in His way.

The righteous King of glory,
Foretold in sacred story.
O blest is he that came
In God the Father's name.

Basque (Stephen Paulus): Gabriel's Message

Composer Steven Paulus describes "pages and pages of carols on Dale Warland's living room floor, and there we are on our hands and knees looking at this one, then that, trying to find the best to arrange for Echoes of Christmas." The annual Christmas hunting party also includes Warland's wife, Ruth, a talented pianist and singer. "She's been after me for years to have 'Gabriel's Message,' one of her favorites, arranged," says Warland. As a 2001 Christmas present to her, he commissioned Paulus' version of "Gabriel's Message" in Ruth's honor.

Gabriel's Message

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow,
his eyes as flame.
"All hail!" said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favour'd lady."
Gloria!

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel,
by seers foretold.
Most highly favour'd lady."
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify His Holy name."
Most highly favour'd lady,
Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born,
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
Most highly favour'd lady,
Gloria!

Blessed Mother, gentle Mary,
Gloria!
Guitarist Jeffrey Van's music—whether it's an original or an arrangement—is almost always marked by a sense of ease and effortlessness. "Anything I struggle over," he says, "trying to fix again and again, is fodder for the wastebasket. The old tune, 'The Friendly Beasts,' has that same innate quality of naturalness that I find attractive. My job as an arranger was simply to keep it sounding fresh."

**The Friendly Beasts**

Jesus our brother, kind and good,  
Was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around him stood.  
Jesus our brother, kind and good.

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,  
"I carried his mother up hill and down,  
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town."  
"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

"I," said the cow, all white and red,  
"I gave him my manger for his bed,  
I gave him my hay to pillow his head."  
"I," said the cow, all white and red.

"I," said the sheep with curly horn,  
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm,  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn."  
"I," said the sheep with curly horn.

"I," said the dove from the rafters high,  
"I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry,  
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I."  
"I," said the dove from the rafters high.

Thus every beast by some good spell,  
In the stable dark was glad to tell  
Of the gift each gave Emmanuel.

**Daniel Pinkham: Come, love we God**

The carols so far in this section have all been inspired by old tunes, but Daniel Pinkham was moved to write "Come, Love We God" after discovering this poem. The words date from the Middle Ages and were first published in the early 1600s. They alternate between Latin and Old English; likewise, Pinkham does his own back-and-forthing, between a simple one-line melody and richer chordal passages.

**Come, love we God**

Come, love we God! Of might is most  
The Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost,  
*Regnante jam in aethera;*  
Three kings came from the east country,  
Which knew they by astronomy,  
*Et Balam vaticinia;*

The which made man, both more and less,  
And create him to his likeness,  
*O Quanta sunt hec opera.*  
They offer'd him gold, myrrh, incense;  
He took them with great diligence:  
*Quam digna est infantia.*

The herdsmen came with their offering  
For to present that pretty thing  
*Cum summa reverential.*  
They turn'd again full merrily,  
Each came unto his own country:  
*O Del mirabilia,*

They gave their gifts that child until  
They were receiv'd with full goodwill:  
*Quam grata sunt hec munera!*  
They had heaven's bliss at their ending,  
The which God grant us old and young.  
*Deo Patri sit Gloria.*

-Text collected by Sir Richard Shanne, 1611
II. World Premiere

Frank Ferko: *A Festival of Carols*

The composer writes: "*A Festival of Carols* for mixed chorus and harp is based on five Christmas carol texts by 19th-century American poets and hymn writers. It had been my intention to use texts from even earlier American writers, but I found that most carols sung here before then were brought by European immigrants. The 19th century, however, produced an abundance of new American-grown texts and carols. In my *A Festival of Carols*, all of the melodies and harmonizations are new, with the harp used both as an accompanying instrument and as an intrinsic thread within the larger musical fabric."

The Angel's Song

*Refrain:*

[Gloria in excelsis Deo
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.]

Rolling downward, through the midnight,
Comes a glorious burst of heavenly song;
'Tis a chorus full of sweetness-
And the singers are an angel throng.

Glory! glory in the highest!
On the earth goodwill and peace to men!
Down the ages send the echo;
Let the glad earth shout again!

-English portion of text by Robert Lowry (1826-1899)

Go, Tell It On the Mountain

*Refrain:*

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching
Over silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

- John W. Work, Jr. (1872-1925)

Do You Know the Song That the Angels Sang

*Refrain:*

All glory in the highest,
Peace on earth, goodwill to men,
Glory in the highest,
Peace, goodwill to men;
Glory in the highest,
Glory in the highest,
Peace on earth, goodwill to men.

Do you know the song that the angels sang
On that night in the long ago,
When the heavens above with their music rang
Till it echoed in the earth below?
Do you know the song that the shepherds heard
As they watched o'er their flocks by night,
When the skies bent down, and their hearts were stirred
By the voices of the angels bright?
Refrain

-Abner P. Cobb (1854-1923)

The Sky Can Still Remember

The sky can still remember the earliest Christmas morn,
When in the cold December the Savior Christ was born.
No star unfolds its glory, no trumpet wind is blown,
But tells the Christmas story in music of its own.

O never failing splendor! O never silent song!
Still keep the green earth tender, still keep the gray earth strong,
Still keep the brave earth dreaming in deeds that shall be done,
While children's lives come streaming like sunbeams from the sun.

O angels sweet and splendid, throng in our hearts and sing
The wonders which attended the coming of the King;
Till we too, boldly pressing where once the shepherds trod,
Climb Bethlehem's Hill of Blessing, and find the Son of God.

-Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Christmas Bells

Refrain:
[Gloria in excelsis Deo
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.]

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
Refrain

And thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved singing on its way,
A voice, a chime
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
Refrain

-English portion of text by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82)

III. Christmas Classics

Herbert Howells: Long, long ago

Herbert Howells once said, "I am not a religious man." However, over a 60-year career of teaching and "making people sing," he became England's most respected church composer. He taught at the Royal College of Music and at the famed St. Paul's Girls' School, succeeding Gustav Holst in 1936 as director of music. Because his motivation wasn't from religious conviction, he looked to his friendships with individual musicians to inspire the music. Written for a choral-director friend of his, Long, long ago features the softly clashing dissonance and easily unfolding melody that were Howells' signature touches.
Long, long ago

Refrain:
Long, long ago, Oh! so long ago
Christ was born in Bethlehem
To heal the world's woe.

His Mother in the stable
Watched him where he lay
And knew for all his frailty
He was the world's stay.

Refrain

She listened to his breathing
And oh! her heart was light.

Refrain

She tended him and nursed him,
Giving him her breast,
And knew that it was God's son
In her crook'd arm at rest.

Refrain

Shepherds at the sheepfolds
Knew him for their King;
And gold and myrrh and
frankincense
Three wise men did bring.

Refrain

For he should be the Saviour,
Making wars to cease,
Who gives joy to all men,
And brings to them peace.

Refrain

-Alf Houkom: The Rune of Hospitality

Alf Houkom taught for many years at Cornell College in Iowa before retiring and moving to the Southwest. His The Rune of Hospitality dates from his final years in Iowa. It was born, unlike most new music today, without a commission or a grant. Houkom was sitting in his easy chair, Christmas-time 1984, reading a book on old Scandinavian runes. Suddenly this rune of Gaelic origin "simply grabbed me," he says. "In my experience, Christianity has the capacity to be a closed-door faith. This text struck me with its openness, with the possibility for the Christ to come in any place. The music just unfolded, purposefully simple."

The Rune of Hospitality

I saw a stranger yestere'en,
I put food in the eating place,
Drink in the drinking place,
Music in the list'ning place;
And in the sacred names of the Triune
He blessed me and my house,
My cattle and my dear ones.
And the lark said in her song:
Often, often, often
Goes the Christ in the stranger's guise:
Often, often, often
Goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.

-From the Gaelic

John Tavener: A Hymn to the Mother of God

England's John Tavener wrote A Hymn to the Mother of God in 1985 in memory of his own mother. Its text comes from the Liturgy of St. Basil, and speaks of the almost cosmic power which the Orthodox Church attributes to the Mother of God. Tavener splits the choir in half: one group begins singing, echoed four beats later by the other, creating a foggy, swirling effect. At certain points, though, the two choirs meet up and their sound clears bright as a winter dawn.
**A Hymn to the Mother of God**

In You, O Woman full of Grace,  
the angelic choirs,  
and the human race  
all creation rejoices.  

O sanctified Temple,  
mystical Paradise,  
and glory of Virgins.  

In You, O Woman full of Grace,  
all creation rejoices.  
all praise be to You.  

-from the Liturgy of St. Basil

**INTERMISSION**

**IV. NEW AMERICAN CAROLS**

**Alice Parker: Winter Solstice 2001**

Alice Parker gained fame early in her career for the dozens of American folksongs she arranged with the late Robert Shaw. But she’s also a fine composer in her own right, as *Winter Solstice 2001* shows. She says, “Contrast is the essence of this piece. The poem sets the serenity of traditional carols against the much harsher mood of the violence of September 11, 2001.” Parker’s piece ends with several parts of the text layered on top of each other, which, she says, “mirrors the ambivalence of our feelings at this time, which also reflect the violence that was part of Bethlehem in Biblical days. But ‘silvery songs’ still hum through ‘life coarse and mean.”

**Winter Solstice 2001**

too soft and schon  
the Christmas songs  
all wrapped in plush  
al rapt in hush  

life is wild  
untamed unstable  
and yet in ebon midnight  
silvery songs hum  
piercing and bitter  
alluring and exquisite  

stark the rock  
dark the night  
sharp the frost  
hard the birth  

a dark and dire  
and lone endeavor  

-Susan Palo Cherwien

**Dave Brubeck: Ev’ry Christmas I Hear Bells**

Best known for his long career at the jazz piano, Dave Brubeck is also a skilled choral writer. His most famous recording (also the first-ever million-selling jazz tune) remains 1959’s off-kilter *Take Five*, and across the
decades he's continued to push the jazz envelope with startling ideas in melody, harmony, and rhythm. For Christmas 2002 he's swinging in a surprisingly straight-forward 4/4 meter, setting a devotional text written by his wife, Iola.

_Ev'ry Christmas I Hear Bells_

Ev'ry Christmas I hear bells tolling 'cross the earth. Bells that tell of Bethlehem and His wondrous birth. Son of God and Newborn King! Trumpets sound and angels sing. Frightened shepherds, first at hand, Wise men cross the desert sand.

Ev'ry Christmas I hear bells sounding world around, Telling once again the tale-miracles unbound! Prince of Peace and Saviour King! Tongues in ev'ry language sing, Praising Him who's born this day, promis'd light to show the Way.

Toll the bells, loud and clear! Hear them ring far and near! Ring the bells on Christmas day!

-Iola Brubeck_

**Alf Houkom: When Christ Was Born of Mary Free**

Houkom's latest Christmas score was written in his new home, Corrales, New Mexico, where he moved after resigning his Cornell position in 1987. Despite the uniquely American desert surroundings in which it was created, "When Christ Was Born of Mary Free" is modeled after English carols. Those old carols are usually in strophic form-where each verse is set to the same music-and Houkom follows that tried and true method for the most part. But at the fourth verse ("Then, dear Lord..."), when the words become a heartfelt prayer, he breaks open the form by slowing the perky tempo a notch and writing new music in rich five- and six-part block chords.

**When Christ Was Born of Mary Free**

When Christ was born of Mary free, In Bethlem in that fair city, Angels sung e'er with mirth and glee.

_Refrain:
Christo paremus cantica.
In excelsis gloria._

Herdmen behold these angels bright, To them appeared with great light And said, "God's Son is born this night."

_Refrain_ -Anonymous 15th Century

**V. CHRISTMAS CLASSICS**

**Elizabeth Poston: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree**

British composer Elizabeth Poston discovered this odd, profound text, "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree," while digging through a compilation of little-known early American poetry. Its writer was an anonymous
Revolutionary-era believer, who perhaps came on the image of Christ as shade and rest while sitting in his or her own orchard one warm afternoon. Poston crafted a simple, gracious melody to carry that striking image.

**Jesus Christ the Apple Tree**

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit, and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be,  
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,  
Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be,  
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

- from Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs, compiled by Joshua Smith, New Hampshire, 1784

**Healey Willan: The Three Kings**

The Canadian choral master Healey Willan wrote hundreds of motets for the choir of St. Mary Magdelene's in Toronto, a group he led for nearly 50 years. *The Three Kings* shows him at his best as he quietly retells the old story of those visitors to the Bethlehem stable. Most of the music moves peaceably, but at the words "Come in, ye Kings..." Willan opens the throttle and gives the singers some of the most glorious lines in all the season's music.

**The Three Kings**

'A light the manger lit:  
There lay the Mother meek.  
Said they, 'This place is fit:  
Here is the rest we seek!'

'They loosed their latchet strings;  
So stood they all unshod.  
Come in, ye Kings!  
And kiss the Feet of God.

-Laurence Housman

**Steven Heitzeg: little tree**

The child-narrator of Cummings' poem lovingly addresses this tree as if it were another child. Such respect given to all creatures is at the center of Steven Heitzeg's artistic ethic. Born and raised on a southern Minnesota dairy farm, Heitzeg dedicates himself to the illumination of nature's many voices; in his orchestral scores he incorporates things like horse bones and agates, birch bark and soil to "celebrate the beautiful in all things." Nothing so exotic in little tree—just a beguiling melody that, like the poem, seems to come straight from a child's heart.
VI. CAROLS OF DALE WARLAND

English: Coventry Carol
English: What Child Is This?
Irish: Wexford Carol

A trio of carols arranged by Dale Warland shows his longstanding devotion to creating great new music for the season. His version of Coventry Carol dates from 40 Christmases ago, written for a doctoral assignment at the University of Southern California. What Child Is This comes from 1980 and is dedicated to his son, David, then 17 years old. And Wexford Carol was arranged in 1985 for an Echoes of Christmas concert, subsequently recorded for "On Christmas Night," one of those treasured old Augsburg Publishing House LPs featuring the DWS in seasonal carols.

VII.

French (Fred Prentice/Carol Barnett): Sing We Now of Christmas
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Try a cup of rich, satisfying cello concertos. Indulge in a frothy fanfare.


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Soprano Beth Althof teaches music at Rice Lake Elementary and voice lessons at Centennial Middle School in Lino Lakes, and is an accompanist for the children’s choirs at St. Mark Lutheran Church. She graduated from the University of Illinois with a music education degree. Beth was a member of the Elysian Singers, a five-voice early music group based in La Crosse, WI, and the LaCrosse Chamber Chorale before joining the DWS. She lives in White Bear Lake with her husband, Jay, and their two daughters. This is Beth’s eighth season with the Singers.

Abbie Betinis, an alto in her second year with the Singers, is a freelance music engraver and composer. A recent graduate of St. Olaf College, she has also studied composition with faculty at Juilliard and the Paris Conservatory. Abbie is currently working for composer Libby Larsen while pursuing a masters degree in music composition at the University of Minnesota. She is from Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

Joel Beyer, tenor, is a fourth year member of the Singers. A native of Bottineau, North Dakota, he is a graduate of North Dakota State University with a B.S. in music education. He is a 14-year teaching veteran, currently teaching at Apple Valley High School. Joel is a past state president of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) for the state of North Dakota.

Jeffrey Bipes holds a Bachelor of Music in K-12 Vocal Education from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. He has directed 7 choirs at Dover-Eyota High School and three different ensembles for the Honors Choirs of Southeast Minnesota. He is currently working for Best Buy Inc. Jeff sang with the Concordia College Choir, the Rochester Choral Arts Ensemble, and the RCAE Vocal Jazz Sextet before moving to the Twin Cities and joining the DWS.

Soprano Wendi Buck sang with the Dale Warland Singers from 1992 to 1996 and is thrilled to be able to return for the ensemble’s 30th anniversary season. Wendi holds a B.A. in music from the College of William and Mary and an M.A. in occupational therapy from the College of St. Catherine. She has spent the last three years working as an occupational therapist and teacher at the International School of Islamabad, Pakistan, and now lives in St. Francis, MN with her husband and daughter.

Matthew Culloton is currently in his fourth season with the Singers. In addition to his singing duties, he serves as Bass Section Leader and Music Librarian. Since Fall of 2000, Matthew has been Director of Choral Activities at Hopkins High School. He is also ACDA of MN’s Male Choirs Repertoire and Standards Chair. As a composer and arranger, Matthew has works published by Hinshaw Music and Mark Foster Music (Shawnee Press). He is a 1998 graduate of Concordia College, Moorhead MN.

Marie Spar Dymit has sung with the Dale Warland Singers since 1985, and became soprano section leader in 1991. Marie teaches vocal music at White Bear Lake High School’s South Campus, where she is in charge of four performing ensembles. She holds music degrees from St. Olaf College and Arizona State University, and serves as the Women’s Choir Repertoire and Standards Chairperson for ACDA of Minnesota. Marie is a frequently heard soloist with the Singers, and has sung on eleven DWS recordings.

A native of Moscow, Russia, Galina Erickson is in her second season with the Dale Warland Singers. She holds a Bachelor of Music Performance degree from North Central University, has sung with the Minnesota Opera chorus and now serves as a section leader at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Currently she works as a Russian medical interpreter.

Tenor Joel Fischer received a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Iowa State University in 1998. He has been a soloist at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church in Minneapolis and at St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Joel, in his fifth season with the DWS, is also the Music Director at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church in St. Louis Park.

Joanne Halvorsen, alto section leader, is in her twenty-fifth season with the Dale Warland Singers. As a member of the ensemble, she has toured to Europe, Canada and around the United States, singing in some of the finest concert halls.
in the world. Jo recently retired from teaching after 31 years at Fridley Middle School as choral instructor and Fridley High School as musical and artistic director for the drama program. She is currently Music Director at Faith United Methodist Church, conducting the Sanctuary Choir and her youth group, "Able Cain Raisers."

Soprano Jodi Hermanson is excited to be in her first season with the Dale Warland Singers. Since graduating from Doctor Martin Luther College with majors in Elementary Education and Music Education, Jodi has taught in the elementary classroom, taught elementary level music and directed both children's choirs and adult choirs. Jodi has had the privilege of singing under Marin Alsop at the Cabrillo Music Festival and LeRoy Kromm in the San Jose Symphonic Choir. She is currently serving as a Professor of Music in the areas of voice and choir at Doctor Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN.

A graduate from St. Olaf College in 1998, alto Melissa Holm-Johansen is currently pursuing a MM in voice performance/vocal pedagogy at the University of Minnesota. She is frequently a featured soloist at the Norwegian American Memorial Church, Mindekirken, where this year she will be performing music by Edvard Grieg, W.A. Mozart and Henning Sommerro at the annual Leiv Eriksson festival in October. The past summer was spent in Tuscany, Italy traveling and performing music by Mozart and Gluck. This fall, Melissa can be heard in the University of Minnesota school of Music's production of Strauss' Ariadne of Naxos. Besides enjoying performing around the metro, she teaches private voice and guitar lessons and sings at Wesley United Methodist church in Minneapolis.

Eric Hopkins, a tenor from Oregon, IL, is beginning his fourth season with the Dale Warland Singers. Eric holds a bachelor's degree in vocal music from Luther College where he sang in the Nordic Choir under the direction of Weston Noble. He also sings with the Hosanna Choir of St. Steven's Lutheran Church in Bloomington.

David Jacobson is a free-lance baritone, having just begun his seventh season with the Dale Warland Singers. He has sung with many diverse ensembles, such as the Rod Smith Big Band, Voce Magna, and the Minneapolis Vocal Consort. Currently, David performs with the Merrie Olde Christmas Carolers during the holidays, and is the bass soloist/section leader for Wesley United Methodist Church.

Lynette Johnson, mezzo soprano, joined the Dale Warland Singers in 1987. She is a past member of Voce Magna, a small, local voice ensemble and has appeared as a guest soloist with the Valley Chamber Chorale and at several area churches. Lynette also sings with the worship ensemble and choir at Excelsior Covenant Church. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from North Park College in Chicago.

Tenor Justin Karch, in his third year with the Dale Warland Singers, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from North Dakota State University. He has been a soloist as well as president and secretary of the NDSU Concert Choir. He was also active in the NDSU Madrigal Singers and the Little Country Theater at NDSU.

Natalia Kojanova, alto, is in her first year with the Dale Warland Singers. A native of Russia, she is a graduate of Novosibirsk State Music College, Russia, with degrees in choral conducting and vocal performance. Natalia has sung with some of the finest ensembles and choirs, including The Chamber Choir of the Novosibirsk Philharmonic Society, Shadyside Presbyterian Chancel Choir and Bach Cantata Choir, Pittsburgh, PA, the vocal ensemble "Markell's Voices," and a vocal quartet at All-Saints Russian Orthodox Church, Russia.

Baritone Brian Kremer is enjoying his fourth season with the singers. He holds a B.M. in Music Production and Engineering from Berklee College of Music and has produced recordings for the Rose Ensemble and Dare To Breathe. He currently serves as cantor and section leader at St. Louis King of France Catholic Church in St. Paul and section leader/soloist for the Gregorian Singers. Brian has also performed with the Theatrical Music Company and the Vermont Symphony Chorus.

Mary Maiden Müller, alto, is a graduate of Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in both vocal and flute performance. Mary has sung with the Dale Warland Singers in previous years and more recently participated in a number of choral projects in the Twin Cities area as well as serving as soloist and section leader for various church choirs. Mary is currently employed by the Hazelden Foundation as Development Data Systems Manager.
Pamela Marentette, soprano, is thrilled to return to the DWS for a third season. She holds Bachelor of Music degrees in Voice Performance and Music Education from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Pam has taught vocal and classroom music in Minnesota and Illinois, and she is currently working for the Northwest Area Foundation in St. Paul.

Patrick McDonough, bass and a native of Rochester, Minnesota, completed his undergraduate work in Music Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Superior then subsequently undertook graduate studies in Choral Conducting at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Patrick has previously held the position of Director of Music for several Twin Cities churches and is a former member of the Rose Ensemble and the Minnesota Chorale. Currently, Patrick works for American Express Financial Advisors as a Business Systems Analyst.

Anna George Meek, alto, is a freelance violinist who plays professionally with the Minnesota Sinfonia and The Aurora String Quartet; she also serves as concertmaster for The Mississippi Valley Chamber Orchestra. She has studied voice and violin at Yale University and The Peabody Conservatory, and currently has her own studio of violin students. Also a writer, Meek teaches at the Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis. Her book of poems, Acts of Contortion, won the 2002 Brittingham Prize from the University of Wisconsin Press. She was recently awarded a 2002 Minnesota State Arts Board grant for her poems.

Michael Meyer is in his third season as a bass with the Singers. Originally from Silver Bay, Minnesota, Michael attended St. Olaf College and graduated with a degree in Economics in May of 2000. While at St. Olaf, Michael sang in the St. Olaf Choir for three years and performed in two on-campus operas. Since graduation, he has worked in the marketing department of the Minnesota Orchestra. Michael also serves as the Singer Representative to the Board of Directors for the Dale Warland Singers.

Soprano Melissa Morey begins her second season with the Dale Warland Singers this year. Originally from North Dakota, she is a graduate of St. Olaf College with a B.M. in Vocal Education. While at St. Olaf, Melissa was an active singer and horn player, performing with the St. Olaf Choir, St. Olaf Orchestra, and St. Olaf Band. She continues to sing and play in the Twin Cities in several professional, semi-professional and community ensembles.

Jack Nelson is new to the Singers this year. He studied music at Bradley University and Northwestern University, and after receiving his Masters in vocal performance from Northwestern, studied voice with Margaret Harshaw at Indiana University. Throughout, he performed many of the great choral works with choral groups in Illinois as Baritone soloist. He participated as Baritone in the Bradley University Chorale when it took the Grand Prix at the 1976 Recontres des Internationales, in Tours, France, and again in 1981 when the Chorale placed third. He is currently an attorney in Saint Paul.

Kevin Michael Norberg, bass, is delighted to return for his second season with the Singers. Kevin received a Congressional appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and attended Bethel College in Saint Paul. A professional actor, singer, and published composer, he has appeared nationally on stage and network television. Kevin is known to theater audiences as Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof and the Apostle Peter in the widely acclaimed North Heights Lutheran Church Passion Play, a role he originated and has played for fourteen seasons. Kevin also serves the Twin Cities arts community as a professional filmmaker and digital video producer with his own production company-Studio By The Pond. He lives in Arden Hills with his wife, Rebecca, and their son, Kris.

Tenor David Nordli is a charter member of the Dale Warland Singers. David recently retired from 26 years as Vocal Music Director at Hopkins High School. He holds a B.A. degree from Luther College and a M.Mu.Ed. from the University of Minnesota. David has sung with the Festival Singers of Minneapolis, Concentus Musicus, and the Paul Kaye Singers. He is currently Principal Tenor Soloist with the Minnetonka Association of Music, Director of Music and Chancel Choir Director at Robbinsdale United Church of Christ, and he teaches voice at Wayzata High School.

Baritone Tim O'Brien is a musicology student at the University of Minnesota. A 1999 graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College, Tim joined the Singers that same year.

Deborah Loon Osgood joined the Dale Warland Singers in 1984 and has been heard in DWS concerts and recordings regularly since then. A soprano, Deb is a
graduate of St. Olaf College and holds a degree in Political Science. While at St. Olaf, Deb sang in the St. Olaf Choir, where she was a regular soloist and soprano section leader. In addition to her performances with the DWS, Deb has sung with Magnum Chorum and has served many area churches as a soloist and section leader. Deb is president of The Osgood Group, a consulting firm that helps clients meet their objectives through communications, leadership and management services. She specializes in providing interim executive director services for non-profit organizations.

Krista Palmquist holds a BA in voice performance from Bethel College in St. Paul, an MA in voice performance from Eastern Michigan University, and has nearly completed her DMA in voice performance from the University of Minnesota. She is a soprano soloist at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, and she teaches voice at North Central University and at Saint Joseph’s School of Music. Krista is also an active art song recitalist, performing music from a wide range of countries and musical periods. Krista lives in St. Paul with her husband and three children. This is her second season with the Dale Warland Singers.

Originally from Milwaukee, soprano Sarah Schlomer received a bachelor of arts in communications from Wisconsin Lutheran College. She is currently a floral designer at Garden Gate Flowers in Edina.

Soprano Dawn Schuffenhauer recently attended St. Olaf College and received a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Music Education. While at St. Olaf, Dawn was a member of the St. Olaf Choir. She is currently employed at Donaldson Company, Inc. This is Dawn’s third season with the Singers.

Terry Sheetz, baritone, holds a B.A. in music education and church music from Bethel College and an M.M.A. in choral conducting from the University of Minnesota. He has served on the music faculties of Macalester College, Bethel College, and several community colleges in the Twin Cities. Terry has also served as assistant conductor of the Minnesota Chorales and Oratorio Society of Minnesota. Currently, he is a piano technician and church music director.

Originally from Houston, TX, tenor Hal Snyder is in his fourth season with the Singers. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Texas Tech University where he studied voice under the direction of Karl Dent.

Anthony Sofie, tenor, is joining the Singers for his first season this year. He recently relocated from the University of MN Duluth where he earned a BM in Vocal Performance and BA in Theatre. Most recently he served as Staff Accompanist and Music Director for the UMB Departments of Music and Theatre respectively. In 1999, Anthony was the accompanist for the MN Opera Educational Tour of Madame Butterfly.

This is the fifth DWS season for soprano Naomi Christensen Staruch. Naomi supports Minnesota banks through investment portfolio management as a Vice President of UBB Securities at the United Bankers’ Bank. She firmly believes that music is a sweet elixir of life and that singing helps balance the demands of high finance. Naomi lives with her husband Steven in Minneapolis. In addition to music, they are passionate about gardening, traveling and social justice.

Brian Steele is in his ninth season with the Dale Warland Singers. His credits include voice-over and studio session work, a national radio personality, and vocalist with numerous groups including the Montana Chorale and the Grammy award-winning Oregon Bach Festival Choir. He is a soloist and section leader with the Westminster Presbyterian Church choir in Minneapolis and teaches private voice at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Brian is also a professional restoration remodeler.

Soprano Monica Stratton is beginning her sixth year with the singers. She is a graduate of St. Olaf College and the New England Conservatory of Music, from which she received a Master’s degree in vocal performance. Monica sings at Guardian Angels Church in Oakdale and is a freelance violinist. She also works in Maplewood as a librarian for the Ramsey County Public Library System.

Gregory Tambornino, tenor, is in his fifth year with the Singers. He has been active in choral singing since he was a boy chorister. Greg sang for many years as a countertenor, most notably performing and recording with Concentus Musicus Renaissance Ensembles. He is currently tenor soloist and section leader at the Church of St. Patrick in Edina. Greg received a degree in Piano Performance from the University of Minnesota School of Music, studying with Alexander Braginsky. Greg is an attorney in sole practice, where he has served a number of music, arts, and nonprofit organizations.
honor roll

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Thank you for helping us accomplish this! If you have any questions or comments about tonight's program, please let us know:

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