

Quiet Wonders

Perhaps you come to a Christmas concert to experience the comfort the familiarity of carols you have known all your life can bring you. Perhaps you come to a Women of Note concert because you know you will hear something you've never heard before, and it will be beautiful and interesting, or a truly exciting version of a carol you have heard. Perhaps you come to experience transcendence, contemplation, escape, enjoyment, rest, or jubilation. We come to share the music we love more and more with each rehearsal and performance. Music is a gift to the giver and to the receiver and we use these songs to wish you the best of Christmases, with special moments of peace, joy and contentment with friends and family, and with time for reflection upon the meaning of Christmas itself, God with us.

Soprano

Kelsey Barnes
Jeanette DeAndre
Doreen Hodgkins
Martinique Bishop
Barbie Nesmith
Catherine O'Day
Linda Ouye

Alto

Vicki Anderson
Sally Jones
Dodie Vonhof
Jubilee Whitman

Collaborative Artists

After 25 years free-lancing in New York City, pianist April Kuhr returned to her hometown of Shelton. She has performed in Europe and throughout the US. She has served as organist and choirmaster for the Catholic Chapel at West Point. She has been on the faculty of several universities and colleges, and is currently an adjunct Professor of Music at South Puget Sound

Special Thanks

Women of Note is under the umbrella of the 501(c)3 non-profit corporation of Harstine Island Community Choir. Donations are tax deductible. We are especially grateful to our season sponsor, *Betsy Groben*, who funded the Olympia Quartet, and for extra contributions from Women of Note members. We also appreciate the following organizations who made this concert possible:

*SoundPLAN International LLC
St. David of Wales Episcopal Church
Shelton High School Tech. Ed. Stagecraft students
David Miser, Auditorium Operations Engineer
Shelton Journal, Senior News, Coffee News and KMAS
Shelton and N. Mason Chambers of Commerce
Community Concert Association
YOU!*

Thank you for being here! Help us prepare the next events via a generous tax deductible donation. Donation baskets are at the door. All funds are used to bring choral music to Mason County. *Elizabeth, Women of Note*

Community College. She received her degrees from Pacific Lutheran University and the Eastman School of Music, and also studied at the Conservatory of Music in Wien, Austria. April is also Director of Music at the United Churches of Olympia.

Julie Funchion Sandvig, violin, performs in the Olympia Symphony, South Puget Sound Orchestra, and the Sorelle Quartet, and teaches private strings lessons. Jon Hanson, violin, performs in the Olympia Symphony and manages R.L. Ray violin shop. Damian Nelson, viola, performs with the Olympia Symphony, and teaches private violin and viola lessons. Elizabeth Gross, cello, performs with the Olympia Chamber Orchestra and the Sorelle Quartet. Laura Dickinson, flute, currently performs with the South Puget Sound Orchestra, adjudicates regionally and teaches privately in the Olympia area.

Kelsey Barnes studied Piano Performance and Music Education at Western Washington University. She has performed with many instrumentalists, vocalists, bands, choirs, and orchestras. She recently moved to Shelton where she teaches music at Evergreen Elementary and accompanies Harstine Island Community Choir.

Following her choral conducting studies under Ron Jeffers at Oregon State University, Elizabeth Berndt attended the Conservatory of Music in Stuttgart, Germany studying voice, piano and conducting. She taught high school music for ten years, served as accompanist for the German American Choir and as rehearsal director for a symphonic choir. She is also conductor/artistic director for the Harstine Island Community Choir.

2019 Concert Dates

Women of Note is bringing interesting concerts to Shelton in 2019. The May concert is titled, "Point of View." People have different points of view for nearly every topic in life. Women of Note would like to share some of theirs using songs that have become famous through use in historic movements and events and by the eclectic people who wrote them. Please join us:

"Point of View"

Thursday, May 23rd, 7PM
Shelton High School Performing Arts Center

In June, we have invited Maegi Ensemble, a Bulgarian Women's Choir, to share music from this region. It has a robust and interesting sound, with different vocal traditions and musical history.

Maegi Ensemble
Sunday, June 2nd, 3:00 pm
St. David of Wales Episcopal Church

Women of Note and Olympia Quartet's Christmas Concert

Quiet Wonders

Thursday, December 6
7:00 pm

**Shelton High School
Performing Arts Center**

Sunday, December 16
3:00 pm

**St. David of Wales
Episcopal Church**



Angels From the Realms of Glory

Piano, Barnes and Kuhr; Violin, Funchion Sandvig

Lyrics, Montgomery; Music, Smart; Arr. Forrest

What Child

Piano, Kuhr; Olympia Quartet

Lyrics, Dix; Music, Lohman

Veni, Veni Emmanuel Ero Cras (I Will Come)

Soloist, O’Day, Nesmith; Percussion, Barnes, Kuhr, Nesmith

The text of this hymn first appears in the 18th century, but is based on the much older “O” Antiphons which have their origins in the ninth century. When the antiphons are placed in the reverse chronological order, the first letter after the “O” forms the acrostic ERO CRAS (I Will Come).

December 23: O Emmanuel (O With Us is God)

December 22: (O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations)

December 21: O Rex Gentium (O Morning Start)

December 20: O Clavis David (O Key of David)

December 19: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)

December 18: O Adonai (O Lord)

December 17: O Sapiientia (O Wisdom)

Music, Trotta

O come, o come, the “I Am” that is with us. Break the bond of the captive people who mourn in exile derived of the incarnation of the Father. Rejoice! Rejoice! The great “I Am” will be born for you.

O come, gatherer of all nations, come to make all whole, to save your servants from their separateness.

O come thou light of life (Morning Star) to shine on us by your coming, dispel the clouds of night, drive away the shadows of death.

S’Vivon (“Spinning Top”) - Traditional Jewish folk song

Piano, Kuhr; Violins, Funchion, Hanson

Spinning top, spin, spin, spin, Chanukah is a good holiday! It is a holiday of joy for the people. A great miracle happened there!

Arr. Shields

I’ll Be Home for Christmas

Soloist, DeAndre

Lyrics, Gannon; Music, Kent; Arr. Hayes

Three in White A - suite of songs about snow, arranged for Elektra

Flute, Dickinson

Women of Note give our special thanks to Stephen Smith for providing his manuscript copy of his arrangement and Elektra, the prestigious women’s choir of Canada, for allowing Women of Note to share this wonderful music with you.

Arr. Smith

Away in A Manger - American Christmas Carol attributed to Murray, 1887

Soloists, Nesmith, Whitman; Flute, Dickinson

Arr. De Cormier

Huron Carol - Traditional Canadian Carol

Piano, Kuhr

This carol was created by a famous missionary to Canada’s First Nations people, Father Jean de Brébeuf, to deliver the message of the birth of Christ in a context the people of Canada could understand. Combining a native name for God, references to hunters instead of shepherds with the news that “Jesus your king is born, Glory to God in the highest”, the result has become a beloved part of Christmas in Canada.

Arr. Henderson

‘Twas in the moon of wintertime, When all the birds had fled. That mighty Gitchi Manitou, sent angel choirs instead;

Before their light the stars grew dim, and wond’ring hunters heard the hymn: “Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria”.

Within a lodge of broken bark, the tender Babe was found, A ragged robe of rabbit skin, enwrapped his beauty round; But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high: ‘Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria”.

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou, The Holy Child of earth and heav’n is born today for you.

Come kneel before the radiant Boy, who brings you beauty, peace and joy. “Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria”.

I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In - Traditional English folk tune

Piano, Kuhr; Olympia Quartet

The words of this carol were written by wandering minstrels. In the original version, the three ships were the ones taking the supposed skulls of the wise men to Cologne cathedral in Germany. Since the Middle Ages when it was first written, there have been many different lyrics. We sing the most common lyrics about Mary and Jesus travelling to Bethlehem.

Arr. Henderson

Still, Still, Still - Traditional Austrian Carol

Soloist, Anderson

Arr. Dean

The Three Kings

Piano, Kuhr

Three Kings came riding from far away, Melchior and Gaspar and Baltasar; Three Wise Men out of the East were they, And they travelled by night and they slept by day, For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.

The star was so beautiful, large and clear, That all the other stars of the sky Became a white mist in the atmosphere, And by this they knew that the coming was near Of the Prince foretold in the prophecy.

So they rode away; and the star stood still, The only one in the grey of morn; Yes it stopped - it stood still of its own free will, Right over Bethlehem on the hill, The city of David, where Christ was born.

And cradled there in the scented hay, In the air made sweet by the breath of kine, The little child in the manger lay, The child, that would be king one day Of a kingdom not human, but divine.

They laid their offerings at his feet: The gold was their tribute to a King, The Frankincense, with its odor sweet, Was for the Priest, the Paraclete, The myrrh for the body’s burying.

The mother wondered and bowed her head, Her heart was troubled yet comforted.

Lyrics, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; Music, Chilcott

Water Under Snow is Weary (Vesi Vaesyy lumen alle)

Piano, Kuhr; Flute, Dickinson

The composition was created from an old and familiar melody from Kalevala, the national epic of Finland. Every Finn would recognize it from his school song books as “the Kalevala tune.” The distinctive 5/4 rhythm and notes limited to a minor pentachord, lend the song its distinctive atmosphere.

Lyrics Laettemae; Translation, Bosley; Music, Wessman

The First Noel - Traditional English Carol from Sandy’s Christmas Carols, 1833

Piano, Kuhr; Olympia Quartet

Arr. Forrest

Night of Silence

Soloist, Anderson; Piano, Kuhr; Olympia Quartet

Cold are the people, winter of life, We tremble in shadows this cold, endless night, Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, Flowers that will echo the sunrise, Fire of hope is our only warmth, Weary, its flame will be dying soon

Voice in the distance, call in the night, On wind you enfold us you speak of the light, Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, Rumours of a dawn so embracing, Breathless love awaits darkened souls, Soon will we know of the morning

Spirit among us, shine like the star, Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar, Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, Rising in the warmth of your Son’s love, Star unknowing of night and day, Spirit we wait for your loving Son

Lyrics, Music, Kantor

Hark! The Herald Angles Sing

Piano, Barnes, Kuhr; Olympia Quartet

This hymn was written by Charles Wesley, an English Methodist leader and hymn writer. He wrote over 6,000 hymns, more than any other male writer (Fanny Crosby wrote 8,000). His goal in writing hymns was to teach the poor and illiterate sound doctrine. Wesley, inspired by the sounds of London church bells while walking to church on Christmas Day, wrote the “Hark” poem meant to be read on Christmas Day. In 1753, George Whitefield, a student and eventual colleague of Wesley’s, adapted the poem into the song we know today.

Lyrics, Wesley, Music, Mendelssohn; Arr. Forrest

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King! Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.” Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With th’ angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem.” Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored: Christ, the everlasting Lord; Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the virgin’s womb. Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see; Hail, th’incarnate Deity: Pleased, as man, with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!

Hail! the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail! the Son of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die: Born to raise the son of earth, Born to give them second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King !”