

San Francisco Youth Chorus Presents:

 *Winter Memories* 

Saturday December 10 at 4pm

First Universalist Unitarian Church of SF

Katherine Gerber, *Artistic Director*

Christopher Rhodes, *Associate Conductor*

Tricia Cronin, *Choreography*

*With Guest Artists* Mark Abbott, Andrea Gutierrez, and Charlie Wadley

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<b>Betelehemu</b> Nigerian Carol <b>Winter Lullaby</b> Pink Zebra <b>Ma Navu</b> Trad. Hebrew <b>White Winter Hymnal</b> Fleet Foxes <i>Body percussionists: Emily Shispiniski, Renee Fenner, Cerys Cherny, Kai Psaros, PJ Strauss</i>	CANTANDO
<b>Red Boots On</b> Bob Chilcott <b>Fruitcake!</b> Hageman/Leka	CANTANDO   ALLEGRO
<b>Blustery Day</b> Victoria Ebel-Sabo <b>Stars that Twinkle and Shine</b> Joyce Eilers <b>The Moon</b> Andy Beck <b>Dodi Li</b> trad. Hebrew <b>Sparklejollytwinklejingly</b> from "Elf." <i>Soloists: Sarah Cordes-Andrews and Sofia Won</i>	ALLEGRO
<b>The Little Birch Tree</b> Russian Folk Song arr. Goetze <b>Jamaican Noel</b> arr. Linda Spevacek <b>Everybody Say Peace</b> John Jacobson	SCHERZO
<b>Minka</b> Ukrainian Carol <b>Here in My House</b> Aline Shader <b>Chrissimas Day</b> trad. Appalachian arr. McRae/Lech <b>Lights of Hanukkah</b> Joan Solomon	SONATA
<b>Last Christmas</b> George Michael <i>Soloists: Aurora Buenviaje, Tabitha Davis, Esther Morrison, Peyton Death, Ada and Kai Psaros</i> <b>Cool Yule</b> Steve Allen	CANTANDO
<b>Night of Silence</b> David Kantor <b>Winter Wonderland</b> Bernhard Brothers	CANTANDO   ALLEGRO ALL

**Winter Wonderland Sing-Along:**

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening? In the lane, snow is glistening  
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight, walking in a winter wonderland.  
Gone away is the bluebird, here to stay is a new bird.  
He sings a love song while we stroll along, walking in a winter wonderland.  
In the meadow, we can build a snowman And pretend that he is Parson Brown.  
He'll say, are you married? We'll say, NO MAN! But you can do the job when you're in town  
Later on, we'll conspire, as we dream by the fire.  
To face unafraid the plans that we've made, walking in a winter wonderland  
In the meadow, we can build a snowman, and pretend that he's a circus clown.  
We'll have lots of fun with Mr. Snowman, Until the other kiddies knock him down!  
When it snows, ain't it thrilling though your nose gets a chilling.  
We'll frolic and play the Eskimo way, walking in a winter wonderland. Walking in a winter wonderland!

## Program Notes

**Betelehemu** is a Nigerian carol with the translation: *We are glad that we have a Father to trust. We are glad that we have a Father to rely upon. Where was Jesus born? Where was He born? Bethlehem, the city of wonder. That is where the Father was born for sure. Praise, praise, praise be to Him. We thank thee, we thank Thee, we thank Thee for this day, Gracious Father. Praise, praise, praise be to Thee, Merciful Father.* With both words and music by contemporary choral composer PINKZEBRA, **Winter Lullaby** is a poetic illustration of a winter's night as a loved one drifts off to sleep. **Ma Navu** is a joyous and dancelike Hebrew song, with text from Isaiah Chapter 52, line 7: *How pleasant on the mountains are the feet of the messenger of good tidings, proclaiming peace, proclaiming good, proclaiming salvation; saying to Zion, your God reigns.* **White Winter Hymnal** is the first single from Fleet Foxes' debut 2008 self-titled album. It became a hit sensation with the Pentatonix video release in 2014, which featured complex and compelling body percussion. The text is vivid, stark, and colorful but with little depth or meaning. **Red Boots On** is based on a poem by Kit Wright and set to music by British composer Bob Chilcott. It tells of a winter's eve when Wright's girlfriend was running down the street, and kicking up the snow wearing new red boots of which she was very proud. The song **Fruitcake** has delighted audiences for over 50 years! We are taken through the entire recipe, with each ingredient representing a new musical section, eventually leading to a 5-part quodlibet of delicious harmonies and humor! **Blustery Day** With soaring vocal lines and wonderfully unpredictable melodic themes, the singers share this impassioned tale of a child bravely battling wintry elements, to avoid losing their hat and umbrella. **Stars that Twinkle and Shine** uses, as a countermelody, the hymn tune *Gloria or Les Anges dans nos campagnes*, which you may recognize from *Angels We Have Heard on High*. **The Moon** tells of whimsical evening delights, featuring lyrical unisons, echo singing, & sparkling duet harmonies. **Dodi Li** is a compelling Israeli folk song that highlights text from the Song of Songs 2:16, 3:6, 4:9, 4:16. *My beloved is mine and I am his, The shepherd [grazing his flock] among the lilies. 1. Who is this, rising up from the desert Who is she, rising up? Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense Myrrh and frankincense. 2. You have captured my heart, my sister, my bride. You have captured my heart, my bride. 3. Awaken, north wind, and come, south wind.* **Elf** is a musical based on the motion picture of the same name, with a score by Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin. In **Sparklejollytwinklejingly**, the elves are busy getting ready for Christmas! **The Little Birch Tree** is a Russian folk song. Birch tree, or "bereza," is an important symbol in Russian culture. It means Spring, light and beauty. Ancient Russians (Slavs) believed that birch trees had special "spirits" that would protect them so they planted them around their villages. **Jamaican Noel** features the Caribbean folk song, *Mango Walk*, here with new lyrics and holiday cheer added to the Calypso rhythms, which are fun to clap and sing! **Everybody Say Peace**, written in a rousing gospel style, teaches us how to say & sing *peace* in many languages. **Minka** is a Ukrainian carol which depicts a sleigh ride in winter time. **Here in My House** Written by Aline Shader, this is a multi-cultural celebration that includes both Hanukkah and Christmas together in one song, presented as a partner song, or quodlibet. **Lights of Hanukkah** demonstrates highly rhythmic musical ideas, and the minor scale. Listen for the original Israeli folk song, *S'vivon*, as it partners with another melody to create some two-part fun! **Chrissimas Day** is a whimsical folk song hailing from Southern Appalachia. With its bright and dance-like quality, it portrays the sounds and moods of an eclectic collection of animals who go out on Christmas Day to partake in their various activities. **Cool Yule** is a 1953 Jazz Christmas standard written by Steve Allen and introduced by Louis Armstrong. **Last Christmas** is a song by British pop duo Wham!, originally released in December 1984 internationally on CBS Records and as a double A-side on Epic Records with "Everything She Wants" in the UK. **Night of Silence** is a haunting and beautiful contemporary Christmas carol written in 1981 by American Composer, Daniel Kantor. The carol is a *quodlibet*, the musical term used for a partner song, or a song that can be sung simultaneously with another song (Silent Night). **Winter Wonderland** is a song written in 1934 by Felix Bernard and lyricist Richard B. Smith. The song's lyrics are about a couple enjoying a picturesque winter landscape. They build a snowman, whom they agree to pretend is Parson Brown. They imagine the snowman asking if the couple is married, to which they tell him that they are not, and tell the snowman that he can marry them.

**CANTANDO** Madeline Blair, Aurora Buenviaje, Camden Carlstedt, Brianna Charpentier, Cerys Cherny, Amanda Ching, Hannah Chung, Tabitha Davis, Siena de la Jara-Burke, Peyton Death, Claire Downey-Chiko, Renee Fenner, Lilet Gustavson, Kieran Healy, Ava Jalali, Esther Morrison, Alan Pappas, Ada Psaros, Kai Psaros, Amelia Rahmani, Evelina Rahmani, Emma Sheets, Emily Shispinski, Sadie Shispinski, P.J. Strauss, Charlie Wadley, Lone Young

**ALLEGRO** Aniya Akhund, Sarah Andrews-Cordes, Charlie Au Yeung, Reid Banerji, Anya Biswas, Josephine Blair, Stella Bordoli-Brown, Camila Casal, Sunny Chambliss, Sabina Cherny, Audrey Chu, Coco Conroy, Madeline Dai, Saoirse Delaney, Suray Djoraeva, Mia Felson, Emily Freschl, Charlotte Gaertner, Olivia Garcia, Gabby Guan, Kalin Houghton, Audrey Kitses, Ashlynn Lee, Adele Makaranka, Luciana Mendiara, Ella Newby, Sophie Ng, Elle O'Leary, Isabella Phan, Angel Qui, Prajna Robinett, Hanna Sasaki, Yael Schindler, Lilavati Shah, Adeline Spooner, Lily Tihon, Hazel Turnbaugh, Scarlett Vena, Sofia Won

**SONATA** Emma Anglim, J.B. Bartenwerfer, Nikhil Biswas, Tai Blatman, Eve Carter, Shannon Charpentier, Julianna Dombrique, Kairav Donde, Shailen Donde, Andrew Ge, Asha Gokhale, Emma Guan, Jeevan Guha, Jackson Harwood, Rania Ishaque-Tanvir, Aiden LaMontague, Tyler Lee, Melody Leung, Paulina Makaranka, Kassy Mei, Allegra Miscia, Sophia Pappas, Radha Parikh-Rayman, Reina Pelin, Della Senechko, Corinna Tamres, Emma Tihon, Padmakshi Upadhya, Kalyani Varma, Zoya Walsh, Chelsea Yang, Alisa Zhang Lesley Zhang, Lydia Zhang

**SCHERZO** Neal Arul, Chanya Blatman, Madeline Bleiman, Flora Brinkmann, Aureleo Buenviaje, Marcus Chan, Stella Del Monte, Madeline Elkins, Joslyn Harwood, Helen Heilig, Kai Hiller, Sophie Holder, Saira Jha, Naomi Kawaichi, Jayce LaMontagne, Vivian Lee, Khai Limburg, Jaelyn Mui, Kailani Niwa, Alice Paulson, Colin Qui, Margot Reed, Thalia Ross Krah, Francis Roy, Shoshana Schindler, Mohandas Shah, Ashley Shi, Boone Stafford, Naia Tihon, Rumi True, Imogen Turnbaugh, Marc Varshavsky, Netra Venkat Jolie Yip, Riley Yip

**Many thanks to our Choir Parents and Student Assistants:** Katie Wadley, Renee Fenner, Cerys Cherny, and Brianna Charpentier.

**Many thanks to our Office Administrator:** Dorothy Nugent

**Many thanks to our Board of Directors:** Justin Marsh and Madison Smith



- **Registration for Spring 2023 is open!**
- **Sign up online: [www.sanfranciscoyouthchorus.org/signup](http://www.sanfranciscoyouthchorus.org/signup)**
- **Email: [katie@sfyouthchorus.org](mailto:katie@sfyouthchorus.org) Phone: 415-629-8540**

### **Sign up for SummerGATE 2023!**

Offering challenging summer classes and hands-on curriculum for Grades K-8 in the Sunset District. Registration opens Feb 1st for Priority Registration Families, and February 10th for the General Public. Register at **[summergate.org](http://summergate.org)**.

**Session I: June 12 - June 30 | Session II: July 3 - July 21 | Session III: July 24 - August 4**

**Email: [infosummergate@gmail.com](mailto:infosummergate@gmail.com)**

**Phone: 415-629-8540**

**Katie Gerber Founder & Artistic Director** Katie attended IU Jacobs School of Music, where she received a BM in Vocal Performance and Music Education with a Choral Music emphasis. She resided in Sydney, Australia, where she was head of Vocal Department at Stella Maris College, created curriculum, and directed several of the school's internationally award-winning choruses. She completed her MM in Voice at San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where she sang the role of Pamina, in *The Magic Flute*, Clori in *L'Egisto*, and Armida in "*Rinaldo*" with Conservatory Baroque. She was awarded the Dean's Award in Excellence for Opera Performance, and Performance in Baroque Vocal Music. Katie has since sung professionally with the contemporary choral ensemble *Volti*, and has performed oratorios with Golden Gate Symphony, Livermore Valley Philharmonic and Santa Maria Philharmonic. Katie has worked as a choral director in several schools and choruses, including Piedmont East Bay Children's Chorus, Cantabile Youth Singers in Los Altos, and the Nueva School for Gifted Learning, where she directed the school choirs and was Head of LS Music. Katie has also directed music at several prominent Bay area churches, while maintaining a busy private voice studio at home. Katie is the Director of SummerGATE, where she coordinates the classes and faculty, and directs musical performances and teaches various music classes. She is based in the Sunset district, where she lives with her husband, her two children, and her cat, Chicken Nugget.

**Christopher Rhodes, Associate Conductor** Christopher Rhodes is a classical singer, music educator, and pianist from the Bay Area. He is a classically trained bass-baritone and a graduate of McGill University in Montreal, Canada where he pursued studies in Voice and Music Education. Christopher is an avid polyglot and lifelong language learner, and believes that languages are the key to broadening one's perspectives and understanding the world. He currently works as a music educator in the East Bay and as a voice teacher in San Francisco. In his free time, Christopher likes to travel, meditate, cook, and learn about Eastern philosophy.

**Jihye Kim, Pianist** Korean pianist Jihye Kim began studying piano at the age of five. She attended Yewon School and Seoul Arts High School and continued undergraduate musical studies at Ewha Womans University where she was awarded the Challenge Semester Scholarship. Jihye attended the San Francisco Conservatory of Music for her graduate and post-graduate studies, receiving the Master of Music in Piano Performance in 2021 and the Professional Studies Certificate in 2022. Some performance highlights in her native Korea include concerto soloist with the Ewha Womans University Orchestra in Kimyoungui Hall in Seoul and an engagement at the prestigious ACE Sponsored Recital in Seoul. Other performances at KBS Hall, the Korean Rising Star concert, the Buam Young Artists' concert, and also an Outdoor Concert Event for the city of Gimpo. Jihye has had numerous competition successes including first prize in the 2015 Sejong Orchestra Concours in Seoul, first prize in the 2017 Jeonju International Competition and second prize in 2017 Korean Young Artists competition. In addition to solo performances, Jihye enjoyed accompanying ensembles such as the Sinchon Church choir, and Ewha and Yonsei University joint choir. In 2018, she worked with Soprano Yeki Son to release an album. She currently volunteers as the main accompanist at the Full Gospel San Francisco Church.

**Charlie Wadley, Pianist** Charlie, age 13, is currently in 8th grade. He has studied piano since he was 6 and has sung with SFYC since its inception in 2015. He has played clarinet since age 9, and he plays piano in the school jazz band. Outside of school, he especially enjoys math, learning languages, playing tennis, working on the modeling, design, and coding of model Mars rovers, and playing with his three backyard chickens.

**Mark Abbott, Percussion** Bay area native has been performing professionally since his teens. Cutting his teeth with popular San Francisco band Box Set he has shared stages and studios with some of the bay's biggest artists and producers. Among many current projects he is the co-creator, Drummer and production director for 'Stroll Down Penny Lane', a multimedia celebration of the life and music of Paul McCartney. This is his third performance with San Francisco Youth Chorus and he is proud and excited to be a part of it.

**Andrea Gutierrez, Flute** Andrea is a Colombian-American Composer and Flutist from Fairfield, California. As a freelancer, she has performed as a soloist with Napa Valley's Bel Canto Choir, Solano College, and Napa Valley College. She has also composed works for several student films, musicians and chamber ensembles throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

This year, Andrea has been featured as a cohort member for Quinteto Latino's 2022 Seminario - a biennial conference involving several Latino musicians from around the United States, which explores the intersections of identity, artistry, and racial equity in the classical music field. She is also a new Emerging Artist Fellow for Chamber Music Silicon Valley in San Jose, California.

### **Night of Silence Sing-Along**

Silent Night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child, Holy Infant, so tender and mild  
Sleep in Heavenly peace, sleep in Heavenly peace.

***Please join us for cookies in the courtyard directly after the concert!***