



WILLAMETTE
MASTER
CHORUS

presents

CHRISTMAS
in the
BRITISH ISLES

A SEASONAL CELEBRATION FEATURING THE MUSIC OF ENGLISH COMPOSERS WITH DR. WALLACE H. LONG JR., CONDUCTING

Saturday, December 14, 1996
7:30 p.m.
Church of St. Mary
Mt. Angel, Ore.

Sunday, December 15, 1996
3:00 p.m.
Smith Auditorium
Willamette University

CHRISTMAS *in the* BRITISH ISLES

presented by

Willamette Master Chorus

and featuring the

St. Paul's Ringers

Conducted by

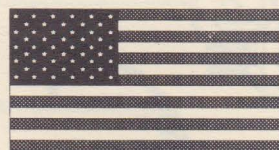
Dr. Wallace H. Long, Jr.

accompanied by

David Ingram

Willamette Master Chorus Board of Directors

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Greetings from the Conductor

Dear Friends in Music:

Welcome to the thirteenth season of artistic choral music offered by the Willamette Master Chorus. We are in the second year of our fully-auditioned 60-voice format and loving every minute of it. Our reduced size demands a superior commitment from each member which yields a more musically satisfying product.

We are particularly excited to be able to offer our holiday concert at Church of St. Mary in Mt. Angel as well as Smith Auditorium on the Willamette University campus. We were honored last spring to be the first concert group to perform in the newly-remodeled Church of St. Mary after the earthquake of 1993 and are pleased to have been invited back for a return engagement. As always, we owe a tremendous debt of thanks to Willamette University for sponsorship and the use of Smith Auditorium.

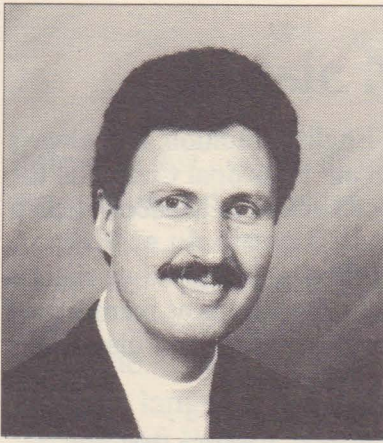
The idea for creating a concert around the holiday music of the British Isles came from two well-known pieces of historical detail. The tradition of superior choral singing in the British Isles stretches back for centuries and some of our most beautiful choral music was penned by the hands of composers from the British Isles. With this in mind, we present a concert in which the music is unified by holiday theme and nationality of composer. It is loosely organized around the Christmas story and will be narrated by Dennis Carnaby, a native of Great Britain.

Some of England's greatest composers will be represented in today's program. From the Renaissance masters Purcell, Gibbons and Morley, to the contemporary work of Britten and Vaughan Williams, to the popular compositions of Willcocks and Rutter, we welcome you to the lilting melodies and warm harmonies of Christmas in the British Isles.,

Most cordially,

Wallace H. Long, Jr., Musical Director
Willamette Master Chorus





Dr. Wallace H. Long, Jr.

Dr. Long has been Director of Choral Activities at Willamette University since 1983. In addition to conducting three of the university's choral ensembles, he is Department Chair, he has numerous teaching responsibilities, and he is involved in community and professional groups, most notably, Male Ensemble Northwest.

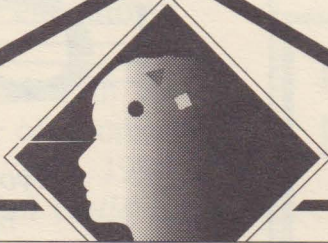
Wallace received his Master of Music degree and doctorate in choral conducting from the university of Arizona at Tucson, where he studied with Maurice Skones, Jean Berger and David Wilson. A frequent vocal/choral adjudicator and clinician, Wallace is an active supporter of public school music in the Northwest. Groups under his direction have performed for State Conferences of the Oregon Music Educators Association, a National Convention of the Music

Educators National Conference, Northwestern Regional Conventions for the American Choral Directors Association, and International Conventions of the International Association of Jazz Educators in New Orleans and Boston.

His work with high school students has been recognized by the Kansas Music Educators Association with an invitation to direct the Kansas All-State Choir in 1993. In the summer of 1993, Dr. Long was invited to become a member of the Festival Singers of The Robert Shaw Choral Institute. As a member of the Festival Singers, he performed Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem* at Carnegie Hall in January of 1994 and during the summer of 1994 he traveled to Souillac, France to record two compact discs of contemporary choral literature for Robert Shaw. In the spring of 1996 he once again joined the Festival Singers for performances of the Verdi *Requiem* at Carnegie, and the Rachmaninoff *Vespers* at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He directed the 1994 High School Men's Honor Choir at the Northwest Regional Convention of the American Choral Directors Association in Tacoma, WA., and the Montana High School Festival Choir. In March of 1995 he performed with Male Ensemble Northwest at the Kennedy Center and Constitution Hall for the American Choral Directors Association National Convention in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Long is a past president of the Oregon chapter of the American Choral Directors Association and is an active member of the Oregon Music Educators Association and the National Association of Jazz Educators.

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St. Paul's Ringers

Joining us in our journey are the St. Paul's Ringers. The bell choir is rooted in English tradition, and always a holiday delight. We have performed with Dick Coulter and his musicians from St. Paul Episcopal Church in the past, and are delighted to share our program with them. The St. Paul's Ringers have been active in handbell ringing for more than 20 years. They perform on a 4 octave set of Schulmerich handbells and a 3 octave set of Malmark chimes. Each ringer is assigned at least two notes, along with their respective sharps and flats- although some ringers have as many as ten bells in their care. They have attended local, regional, and national conventions as members of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. They rehearse weekly, perform in services, and also enjoy community performances.

Richard Coulter, Director

Gail Boesch, Frances Coulter, Susan Epley, Janell Koch, Ann Laurie, Karen McCarty, Eleanor Parker,
Mary Parkinson, Grant Thomas, Karen Thorsatt

Denis Carnaby, Master of Ceremonies

Adding to the distinctly British flavour of the programme will be Denis Carnaby, a native of Northumbria, a county in Northern England, who is now living in Salem. Denis is an Englishman with a strong sense of "Britishness," a term he uses to express his personal identification with the Celtic folk of the British Isles.

Prior to his moving to Salem in 1987, Denis worked for many years with the YMCA in England and Scotland. He is now a consultant with the Oregon Hospice Association. Denis spends much of his free time and Saturdays coaching local soccer. He also has great fun announcing ball by ball play for the Cascade Surge, Salem's professional soccer team. Denis and his wife, Gretchen, return to Britain on a regular basis, leading several small group tours of England and Scotland each year.



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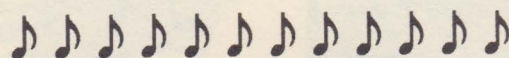
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Music Notes

After the last couple of seasons, during which we performed in Scandinavian and Germanic languages, Latin and its several derivatives, and even African dialects, we thought it was time to devote some time to something closer to home. We are very proud to offer you English language (mostly) works, by a wide variety of British composers and arrangers. The music you will hear today spans 400 years of British contributions to holiday celebrations. We hope you enjoy our journey from baroque to contemporary styles, with poetry from the 14th century to present day.

With exceptions made for staging logistics, this program is intended to be somewhat chronological, describing the arrival of Christ. *Hymn to the Virgin* and *My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord* refers to Mary and her blessed conception and the impending birth. As we proceed to *Hosanna to the Son of David* and *Sir Christemas* we are clearly hearing voices rejoicing the arrival of Jesus. Many other works follow after intermission, some light and merry, some reflective, and some celebratory.

This half of the program is varied in its offerings. From the madrigal style of Thomas Morley in *Lirum, Lirum* to the 1990 composition of Mark Riese's, *What Child is This*, you will hear a wonderful array of Christmas poetry and melodies. The performance peaks with a majestic movement of John Rutter's *Gloria* (commissioned by an American choir in 1974). To wish you all a sincere, safe, and joyful Holiday, we send you off with a beautiful John Rutter arrangement of the German favorite, *Silent Night*.

Enjoy!



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CHRISTMAS *in the*

Hymn to the Virgin

Benjamin Britten

*Velut maris stella, Parens et puella.
Tampia, Maria!
Eva peccatrice, De te genetrix.
Salutis, Virtutis.
Rosa sine spina, Gratia divina:
Electa, Effecta.*

*Even as the stars, Parent and yet maiden.
Such grace, Maria.
Wandering and sinning, of you mother,
Health to you, Virgin,
Rose without thorns, divine gratitude.
The selected one, and the chosen one.*

My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord

Henry Purcell

Edited and arranged by Gerald Knight

Soprano	Dorothy Stewart, Michelle Wardrip, Ellen Rankin, Dana Wolf
Alto	Marilyn Crawford,
Tenor	Merlin Aeschliman, Mike Whalen
Bass	Dick Dalzell, Bruce McDonald

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Harp - Julie Trott

English traditional carol
arranged by John Rutter

Hodie, Christus natus est

from a Christmas antiphon
Healey Willan

*Today Christ is born:
Today Salvation has appeared:
Today on earth, angels and archangels rejoice,
The just are exultant, saying:
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to all people,
Today Christ is born!*

Hosanna to the Son of David

Orlando Gibbons
Edited by E.H. Fellowes

Sir Christemas

William Mathias

St. Paul's Ringers

Procession of the Bells Christmas Jubilee

Barbara Kinyon

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn
arr. Sherman

Coventry Carol

Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

In The Bleak Midwinter

Holst
arr. Buckwalter

Sussex Carol

Arr. Kevin McChesney

INTERMISSION

BRITISH ISLES

I Saw Three Ships

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Lirum, Lirum

Thomas Morley

Madrigal groups:

Soprano I

Soprano II

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Connie Bresee, Mary Guillen, Jacqueline Sparks

Rachel Babbs, Molly Christensen, Andrea Schemann

Cynthia Helmke, Jan Taylor, Kathy Widmer

Mick Bryson, David Hite, Ron Peters

Russ Christensen, Bob Siebert, Don Taylor

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

John Rutter

A Spotless Rose

Jonathan Willcocks

quoting "Cradle Song" by W.J. Kirkpatrick

What Sweeter Music Can We Bring

John Rutter

What Child is This?

Mark Riese

This Little Babe

Harp - Julie Trott

Benjamin Britten

Gloria: Movement 1

John Rutter

*Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace to all those of good will
We praise thee. We bless thee.
We worship thee. We glorify thee.
We give thanks to thee
according to the great glory.*

Silent Night

Harp - Julie Trott

Franz Gruber
arr. John Rutter



Due to the recording of this concert, we request that you suppress all personal electronic alarms, such as cell phones, and alarm watches, and remove noisy children to the lobby. Thank you for your cooperation.

Willamette Master Chorus

Dr. Wallace H. Long Jr., Conductor

David Ingram, Accompanist

Soprano I

Connie Bresee
 Joyce Elder
 Mary Guillen
 Lynette Lang
 Ann Papworth
 Andrea Schemann
 Jacqueline Sparks
 Dorothy Stewart
 Michelle Wardrip

Alto I

Marilyn Crawford
 Rebecca Gahlsdorf
 Mary Ann Gerson
 Cynthia Helmke
 Sally Miller
 Judith Schaub
 Judith Spragg
 Kathy Widmer

Tenor I

Mick Bryson
 David Hite
 Ron Peters
 Ron Phair
 Mike Whalen
 Erik Wood

Bass I

Bob Bain
 Rick Hartwig
 Alan Hay
 Peter Klammer
 Bruce McDonald

Soprano II

Rachel Babbs
 Molly Christensen
 Sue Dalzell
 Dee Iltis
 Ellen Rankin
 Dana Wolf

Alto II

Carol Ann Armstrong
 Glenda Betts
 Victoria Roberts
 Timothe Seelbach
 Roberta Stark
 Jan Taylor
 Sharon Young

Tenor II

Merlin Aeschliman
 David Call
 David Clark
 Brent DeHart
 Joe Kuehn, Jr.
 Dennis Leffler
 Scott Reichlin
 Richard Sutliff
 Mike Whitty

Bass II

Russ Christensen
 Dick Dalzell
 Jay Kennedy
 Jim McDonald
 Keith Sandberg
 Bob Siebert
 Andrew Simila
 Don Taylor
 Layne Westover

David Ingram

David Ingram began studying piano in 1966, having his first public premier of original compositions in 1971 at age 12. In 1992, Mr. Ingram moved to McMinnville where he and his wife currently reside. He is on the faculty of Willamette University, Salem, as Staff Accompanist, maintains a large private studio of piano and composition students and accompanies Salem's Willamette Master Chorus and ballet classes at the Marchant Dance Academy in McMinnville. He also accompanies church services at the McMinnville Salvation Army and Kehilat HaMashiah in Portland. Mr. Ingram's 1992 recording of original compositions, *Etchings*, is available at McMinnville's Unionblock Coffee shop.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Willamette Master Chorus Mission Statement

The Willamette Master Chorus exists to promote excellence in choral music through participation, education, and appreciation for the highest levels of performance of significant choral literature; through the training and encouragement of choral musicians; and by representing the Northwest in the national and international music communities.