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YURI KLAZ ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

2015-2016 SEASON



The Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir, Western Canada's longest-established adult choral group, has a well-earned reputation for excellence. A choral trademark for the City of Winnipeg, the Phil's repertoire covers a broad range of music including oratorios, masses, songs, and choral symphonies with a focus on major choral works with orchestral accompaniment. Priding itself on premiering original music, the Phil has commissioned works by composers from both Manitoba and across Canada. The choir has also captivated audiences in Toronto, Vancouver and New York's storied Carnegie Hall.

Major choral works, performed with either the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (WSO) or the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra (MCO) include: Beethoven's Missa Solemnis and his 9th Symphony; Britten's War Requiem; Bach's Mass in B minor; Andrew Lloyd Webber's Requiem; Sir Edward Elgar's Dream of Gerontius; Mozart's Mass in C minor; Fauré's Requiem; Verdi's Stabat Mater and his Requiem; Bach's Cantata No. 4 (Christ lag in Todesbanden); Mahler's Symphony No. 2 and Mendelssohn's Elijah.

Each season, under the direction of Maestro Yuri Klaz, the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir provides music lovers of all ages a subscription series of three concerts that bring to life some of the world's finest choral works. Now in its 93rd season, the Phil continues its tradition of performing works that are dramatic, profoundly moving and always entertainingly full of heart.

Pleased to support the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir for over 10 years!

Holiday Memories

However you spend the Holiday Season, we hope it's filled with joy and celebration!

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CHRISTMAS WITH THE PHIL

Peter Warlock was the pseudonym of Philip Arnold Heseltine (October 30, 1894 – December 17, 1930), an Anglo-Welsh composer and music critic. His principal legacy was an important body of solo song. *Bethlehem Down*, with its gentle lilt and tenderness riven with sadness, is a brilliant marriage of music and words that was created in a mood of flippancy due to the impecunious state of Warlock and his poet friend Bruce Blunt. As Blunt recalled: "In December 1927, we were both extremely hard up, and, in the hope of being able to get suitably drunk at Christmas, conceived the idea of collaborating on another carol which should be published [for money] in a daily paper. So, walking on a moonlit night [between two pubs], The Plough at Bishop's Sutton and The Anchor at Ropley, I thought of the words of *Bethlehem Down*. I sent them off to Philip in London, the carol was completed in a few days and published (words and music) in *The Daily Telegraph* on Christmas Eve." (Source: Hyperion Records)

While Christina Rossetti wrote the poignant words for *In the Bleak Mid-winter* in 1872 in response to a request for a Christmas poem by the American magazine *Scribner's Monthly*, the poem was not published until after her death in 1904. The



tune Gustav Holst wrote for these words was called "Cranham", named after the Gloucestershire village where he was living at that time. The house he resided in is now called "Midwinter Cottage". (Source: British Classical Music: The Land of Lost Content).

Quelle est cette odeur agréable? is a 17th-century French carol that was also set to music in 1728 by John Gay for *The Beggar's Opera*. The Phil is performing the version arranged by Sir David Willcocks, the British conductor, organist and composer particularly renowned as director the Choir of King's College Cambridge from 1957 to 1974. Born in 1919, Sir David passed away September 17, 2015.

Fum, Fum, Fum is thought to have originated in the 16th or 17th century. "Fum" in Catalan means "smoke" and may simply refer to the smoke rising from a chimney as seen from afar, or, as indicated in the New Oxford Book of Carols, "may imitate the sound of a drum (or perhaps the strumming of a guitar)". Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary (1913) defines "fum" as "to play upon a fiddle", quoting Ben Jonson, "Follow me, and fum as you go". According to The Musical Heritage Society (Christmas Songs From Around the World) "fum, fum, fum" is an onomatopoeia imitating the noise of a rocking cradle, and that the rhythms come from the Sardana, a courtly dance originating in Catalonia and the Provence.

Ralph Vaughan-Williams, the son of an Anglican vicar, was a declared agnostic who nevertheless composed a multitude of hymn tunes and carols. As he said, "There is no reason why an atheist could not write a good Mass." The first part of his Fantasia on Christmas Carols is based on two variants of the same carol melody collected in Herefordshire. Recounting the story of Adam's fall and the coming of Christ the Redeemer, the tone is one of solemnity as the solo baritone intones The truth sent from above accompanied by a wordless chorus, evocative perhaps of a wintry rural English landscape. The more jovial Somerset Carol (Come all you worthy gentlemen) is a variant on God rest you merry gentlemen. Its climax is marked by the brief but telling citation of The First Nowell, before leading into a third section based on another of his collected carols, the Sussex Carol (On Christmas Night, all Christians sing). This subsequently combines with quotations from other carols including Wassail Song and A Virgin most pure. At the very end, he removes us from the high spirits of merrymaking in a poignant blessing by unaccompanied chorus. (Sources: Jeremy Dibble, Gramophone, and the RVWilliams Society, www.rvwsociety.com)

Like Vaughan-Williams, John Rutter is also an avowed agnostic renowned for his prolific output of church music. What sweeter music? (with words by the 17th century poet Robert Herrick) represented, says Rutter, "... the first opportunity I had to put pen to paper for the choir in my long and friendly association with King's College. I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to write for the slot in the service immediately after the reading about the journey of the Wise Men—the chance to highlight in the text the idea of the gifts that we can bring." (Source: Hyperion Records)



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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR



YURI KLAZ

Born in Petrozavodsk, Russia, Yuri Klaz graduated from his hometown's Music College and Conservatory before finishing his Masters degree in conducting at the St. Petersburg State Conservatory. In 1982, he was appointed an Associate Professor of choral and orchestral conducting at the Petrozavodsk Conservatory and, in 1987, became the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Chamber Choir of Petrozavodsk's Karelian Art Centre. Under his guidance,

the choir earned numerous awards performing in concert tours and music festivals in Russia, Germany, Finland, Estonia, Ireland and Norway.

In 1995, by decree of President Boris Yeltzin, Mr. Klaz was awarded the prestigious title, "Honoured Artist of Russia," investing him with a silver medal for exceptional success in the development of art in Russia.

In 2000, the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir recruited Yuri Klaz as its Artistic Director and Conductor. Quickly becoming a leader in Winnipeg's choral community, in 2003 he was appointed Artistic Director and Conductor of The Winnipeg Singers. Mr. Klaz also directs the First Mennonite Church Choir and the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue Choir.

In 2005, Mr. Klaz made a critically acclaimed debut as a conductor with the WSO in a choral series including Fauré's *Requiem*, Verdi's *Stabat Mater* and J. S. Bach's *Cantata No. 4*. In 2006 Mr. Klaz made his first appearance with the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra conducting Mozart's *Great Mass in C minor* with the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir and The Winnipeg Singers. He has also led The Winnipeg Singers in several performances at the WSO's New Music Festival.

Mr. Klaz has conducted around the world, including performances in the United States, Japan, Taiwan, Germany and Russia. In June 2010, Yuri Klaz was honored with the Winnipeg Arts Council's "Making a Mark" award in recognition of his contribution to choral music performance.

GUEST ARTISTS

Howard Rempel, baritone

Howard has appeared regularly with other Winnipeg groups such as The Winnipeg Singers, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and Canzona and performed numerous roles with Winnipeg companies such as Manitoba Opera, the Little Opera Company, and the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. He is pleased to be making



his return to the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir. His previous performances were as the baritone soloist in Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* (2011/12) and Vaughan-Williams' *Serenade to Music* (2008/09).

Wes Elias, organist

Wes Elias is an active Winnipeg musician who works as a private music teacher, performer, RCM examiner and church musician. He has served as organist at St. Andrew's River Heights United Church since 2009. Prior to this he was Music Director at Broadway-First Baptist Church for 17 years. Primary organ studies were with Douglas Bodle at the University of Toronto.



Other organ teachers have included Winnifred Sim, Peter Letkemann and Lawrence Ritchey. He appeared previously with the Phil in a performance of Bruckner's *Requiem* and in Holiday Memories.

Donna Laube, piano

A native of Saskatchewan, Ms. Laube received a B. Mus. from Brandon University as a student of Dr. Joan Miller and subsequently her M. Music in Piano accompaniment from McGill University under the tutelage of Dale Bartlett. Ms. Laube is also an alumnus of the Franz-Schubert-Institute in Austria (with a focus on German Lieder and poetry), and of Opera Nuova in



Edmonton. She has been active for the past decade as a pianist for singers, instrumentalists and choirs performing at international competitions as well as for CBC Radio Two. Ms. Laube is currently Principal Pianist with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School and is performing as orchestral pianist with the WSO this season.

River East-Transcona School Division Middle Years Choir (RETSD Middle Years Choir) Directors: Kristina Procyk and Ben Campbell Pianist: Katie Erickson

The RETSD Middle Years choir exists to fill a need for students looking for a place to sing in their middle years school experience. They



rehearse weekly at Chief Peguis Junior High, and perform three to four concerts per year, often collaborating with other choral groups in the division. Students are encouraged and expected to perform at a high level. This is the third year that Ben Campbell and Kristina Procyk are co-directors of the ensemble.

Miles Macdonell Collegiate Choir Director: Zane Zalis

Miles Mac's choir has been performing for over 30 years. Singers are provided the opportunity to develop technique and understanding in a host of musical styles ranging from oratorio to gospel. The MMC choir has performed in



Austria, Germany, Mexico, United States, Scotland, and Canada. Additionally, as part of a larger chorus, they have performed with Sarah Brightman, Lord of the Rings Symphony (North American premiere), various WSO shows, and *i believe* (world premiere). Their recordings have been aired on radio in Canada and internationally.

PHILHARMONIC CHORISTERS

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Glynis Corkal	Lucy Adamson	Keith Black	Ron Chapman
Linda Feasby	Gwen Allison	Josiah Brubacher	Robert Giesbrecht
Eileen Funk	Diane Bilyj	Jeff Carter	Bruno Klassen
Patricia Jordan	Helcn Black	Brian Fristensky	Peter Loewen
Caroline Klassen	Vida Chan	Vern Klassen Wiebe	Brian Marchylo
Jessica Kowall	Marjory Kerr	David Koetke	Peter Marrier
Anastasia Lambert	Margruite Krahn	Leonard LaRue	Dennis Penner
Betty Loewen	Veronica Larmour	James Magnus-Johnston	Howard Rempel
Judy Low	Vivien Laurie	Clem Toner	Bruce Thompson
Janet Marchylo	Brenda Marinelli		Paul Wiebe
Cheryl McNabb Davis	Sandi Mielitz		
Carolyn Penner	Mary Neufeld		
Heidi Spletzer	Gail Singer		
Pearl Stelmack	Nicola Spasoff		
Christine Sveinson	Dorothy Stephens		
Ingrid Thompson	Pamela Tetlock		
	Adrienne Wiebe		
	Deanna Wiens		

THANKS

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Juliana Fast of Redhouse Design, Esdale Printing Company,

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Thanks are also extended to Reg and Judy Low for their ongoing support,

Dennis Penner of American Hi-Fi for recording all of our concerts,

as well as Kelvin High School for rehearsal space.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE PHIL: FANTASIA ON CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Sunday, December 13, 2015 Westminster United Church

Yuri Klaz, conductor Wes Elias, organist Donna Laube, pianist

Benedicamus Domino Peter Warlock

Bethlehem Down Peter Warlock

In the Bleak Mid-winter Gustav Holst, Words by Christina Rossetti

Quelle est cette odeur agréable? arr. David Willcocks

Soloist, Howard Rempel

Past three a clock Words by G.R. Woodward, harmonized by Charles Wood

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

Angels We Have Heard On High Traditional French Carol, trans. James Chadwick, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, alt

RIVER EAST TRANSCONA MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR - 3PM

Eatnemen Vuelie Frode Fjellheim arr. Emily Crocker

Roar Katy Perry arr. Deke Sharon

Like the beat of a drum

Jay Althouse

MILES MAC COLLEGIATE SENIOR CHOIR – 7PM

What Child Is This?

Traditional adapted by Zane Zalis

A Prayer for All Zane Zalis

White Christmas Irving Berlin, arr. Roy Wingwald

Go Tell It On A Mountain Traditional arr. Pietro Mussino,

adapted by Zane Zalis

INTERMISSION

Noël Nouvelet (afternoon only)

arr. John Floyd Campbell

Sang Ah Park – Flute

Leonard LaRue – Tambourine

In dulci jubilo (evening only)

Quem pastores laudavere

R.L. Pearsall Imogen Holst, arr. John Rutter

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

Away in a Manger

Melody: W.J. Kirkpatrick, arr. David Willcocks

Fantasia on Christmas Carols

Ralph Vaughan-Williams

Soloist, Howard Rempel
Lo How a Rose/The Rose

Craig Hella Johnson

What Sweeter Music?

John Rutter

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG

Joy to the World

Words: Isaac Watts, Melody: attrib.G.F. Handel (1685-1759),

arr. Lowell Mason

Fum, Fum, Fum

Traditional Catalonian, arr. Edward Henderson

Glory to God in the Highest

Randall Thompson

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CONCERT III

Earth, Sea, Sky: Music of the Elements Sunday, April 10, 2016, 7 pm Crescent Fort Rouge United Church

We join forces with GroundSwell for a unique look into music of the elements, featuring the Manitoba premiere of a new work by Sid Robinovitch, *Of Heart and Tide: The Living Sea*, and Diana McIntosh's performance of her new sound piece, *O*.

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CAMERATANOVA E-Carols 1.0

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SING-ALONG CAROLS

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains

Refrain: Glor-ia-a in excelsis Deo Glor-ia-a in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song.

Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, No crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus Laid down His sweet head; The stars in the sky Looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus, Asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, The Baby awakes But little Lord Jesus, No crying He makes; I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, And stay by my cradle Till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever And love me I pray. Bless all the dear children In Thy tender care, Prepare us for heaven, To live with Thee there.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Saviour reigns; Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders, of His love.

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Benedicamus Domino

Procedenti puero Eya, nobis annus est! Virginis ex utero Gloria! Laudes! Deus homo factus est et immortalis.

Sine viri semine Eya, nobis annus est! Natus est de virgine Gloria...

Sine viri copia Eya, nobis annus est! Natus est ex Maria Gloria...

In hoc festo determino Eya, nobis annus est! Benedicamus Domino! Gloria... A boy comes forth, Eya, this is our time, From the womb of a virgin. Glory! Praise! God is made man and immortal.

Without the seed of a man Eya, this is our time, He is born of a virgin. Glory!...

Without the means of a man, Eya, this is our time, He is born of Mary Glory!...

On this appointed feast, Eya, this is our time, Let us bless the Lord. Glory!...



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Quelle est cette odeur agréable?

Quelle est cette odeur agréable, Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens? S'exhale-t-il rien de semblable Au milieu des fleurs du printemps? Quelle est cette odeur agréable Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens?

Mais quelle éclatante lumière Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux L'astre de jour, dans sa carrière, Fut-il jamais si radieux! Mais quelle éclatante lumière Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux.

A Bethléem, dans une crèche Il vient de vous naître un Sauveur Allons, que rien ne vous empêche D'adorer votre rédempteur A Bethléem, dans une crèche, Il vient de vous naître un Sauveur.

Dieu tout puissant, gloire éternelle Vous soit rendue jusqu'aux cieux. Que la paix soit universelle Que la grâce a bonde en tous lieux. Dieu tout puissant, gloire éternelle Vous soit rendue jusqu'aux cieux Where is that goodly fragrance flowing to steal the senses all away? Adorns the air, and nothing like it the shepherds sensed in fields in May? Where is that goodly fragrance flowing to steal the senses all away?

A light so bright, a beam so piercing it turns our darkness into day. The light of Christ, it is so radiant, the beam it casts to be our way. A light so bright, a beam so piercing it turns our darkness into day.

Shepherds to Bethlehem, go hasten! And in a manger see him lay. Adore your God and your redeemer; Saviour of all to win the day Shepherds to Bethlehem, go hasten! And in a manger see him lay.

All pow'rful God, and King eternal, the heavens praise with one accord. Grace, peace and truth give to all nations; Spring forth from Jesus Christ our Lord. All pow'rful God, and King eternal, the heavens praise with one accord.

Noël Nouvelet

Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici, Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci!

Chorus:

Chantons Noël pour le Roi nouvelet! Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici!

L'ange disait! pasteurs partez d'ici! En Bethléem trouverez l'angelet.

En Bethléem, étant tous réunis, Trouvèrent l'enfant, Joseph, Marie aussi. New Christmas, Christmas we sing here, Devout people, let us shout our thanks to God!

Chorus:

Let us sing Christmas for the new King! New Christmas, Christmas we sing here.

The angel said! Shepherds leave this place! In Bethlehem you'll find the little angel.

In Bethlehem, all united, Were found the child, Joseph, and Mary too.

In dulci jubilo

In dulci jubilo [In quiet joy]
Now sing with hearts aglow!
Our delight and pleasure lies
in praesepio; [in a manger]
Like sunshine is our treasure
matris in gremio. [in the mother's lap]
Alpha es et O [Thou art Alpha and Omega]

O Jesu parvule [O tiny Jesus]
For thee I long alway;
Comfort my heart's blindness,
O puer optima [O best of boys]
With all Thy loving kindness,
O princeps gloriae, [O Prince of glory]
Trahe me post te. [draw me unto thee]

O patris caritas [O love of the Father]
O nati lenitas [O gentleness of the Son]
Deeply were we stainèd
Per nostra crimina [through our sins]
But Thou for us hast gainèd
Coelorum gaudia [the joy of heaven]
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia [where are joys]
In any place but there?
There are angels singing
Nova cantica [new songs]
And there the bells are ringing
In regis curia [in the king's court]
O that we were there!

Quem pastores laudavere

Quem pastores laudavere, Quibus angeli dixere, Absit vobis iam timere, Narus est rex gloriae.

Ad quem magi ambulabant, Aurum, thus, myrrham portabant, Immolabant haec sincere, Narus est rex gloriae.

Christo regi, Deo nato, Per Mariam nobis dato, Merito resonet vere Laus, honor, et gloria. The one praised by the shepherds, to whom the angels said, "Now lay aside your fears," has been born the king of glory.

To whom the wise men made their way, bringing gold, frankincense, and myrrh, which they offered with open hearts. Glory to the newborn king.

To Christ the king, born God, given to us through Mary, let there resound as is truly fitting praise, honour, and glory.

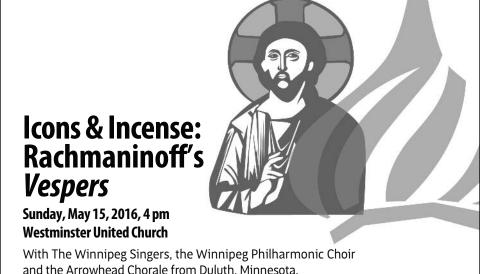
Fum, Fum, Fum

On December twenty-fifth sing, Fum, fum, fum!
He is born of God's pure love, The Son of God, the Son of God; He is born of Virgin Mary
On this night so cold and dreary.
Fum, fum, fum!

Estrellitas de los cielos, Fum, fum, fum, Que a Jesús miráis llorar Fum, fum, fum, Y no lloráis, no lloráis, Alumbrad la noche obscura Con vuestra luz clara y pura Fum, fum, fum! Shining stars from heav'n above sing Fum, fum, fum, Looking down where Jesus cries, sing Fum, fum, fum.
Oh, come rejoice, rejoice;
Come and light the night's obscureness With your light and dazzling pureness. Fum, fum, fum.







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Auditioning for the Phil

- Come prepared to sing music of your choice.
 This could be a short aria, an art song, a folk song, a song from musical theatre, or a melody or section line from a choral piece you are familiar with.
- We will supply an accompanist, so please bring along a copy of your music for them.



- You may also be asked to explore your vocal range through a brief series of vocal
 exercises, sing a brief succession of intervals after hearing them played on the
 piano, and sight-sing a relatively simple passage in a comfortable vocal range.
- The entire audition will take about ten minutes.



Our choristers come from all walks of life: lawyers, teachers, students, accountants, the military, stay-at-home-moms-and-dads and more! What we share is our love of singing wonderful music with wonderful people.

To arrange your audition, please call 204-896-7445 or email info@winnipegphilharmonicchoir.ca

We hope to see—and listen—to you soon!

WINNIPEG PHILHARMONIC CHOIR 2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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www.musicnet.mb.ca

WINNIPEG PHILHARMONIC CHOIR ENDOWMENT FUND

Your gift to our Endowment Fund helps ensure we continue to sing in perfect harmony. Please give today!

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(Founding Members made contributions in the first year of the establishment of the endowment fund—to September 30, 2003)

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