

CAROL CONCERT

with the
Sac State Choral Ensembles

Dr. Brett Alan Judson, conductor
Dr. John Cozza, piano

SUNDAY, 7:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 7, 2025
PIONEER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PROGRAM

Choral Union

Glow	Eric Whitacre
The Winter's Night	Nicholas Myers
The Rose	Ola Gjeilo
Tundra	Ola Gjeilo
Malia Durling & Rebecca Kong, soloists	

University Chorale

Still, still, still	trad. 19th century, Austrian
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	trad. 16th century, German
Good King Wenceslas	trad. 19th century, English
A Hymn to the Virgin	Benjamin Britten
The Heart's Reflection	Daniel Elder
Ngana	Stephen Leek
Noel	traditional
arr. by Brad Holmes	
Jesse Barba & Evan Jones, percussion	

Combined Choirs & Audience

Ding Dong! Merrily on High!	trad. 16th century, French
1. Ding dong! Merrily on high In heav'n the bells are ringing. Ding dong! Verily the sky Is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!	

PERSONNEL

University Chorale

Sopranos/Altos

Hosna Alacozy
Leah Anonuevo
Rachel Ashlin
Emi Bravo
Sariah Bryce
Lillian Crain
Ellie D'Elia
Valerie Dickinson
Manqi Lang ^
Kate Lim ^
Ella Muraff

Tenors

Jake Michael ^
Ster Montes

Basses

Brandon Bagley
Rhodes Bautista
Robert Camilo
Jacob Farr
Ryan Kuo Fong
Colin Regan
Phoenix Ray
Kyle Saly
Morgan Shadle
Aryan Singh

^ Graduate/Post-Grad Student

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Choral Union**Sopranos**

Sky Carlos
 Susan Davis *
 Malia Durling
 Allisen Fong
 Rebecca Kong
 Susan O'Connell *
 Jules Spector
 Saxon Webster
 Yiyuan (Annie) Wu

Altos

Jasmine Castillo
 Diana Chaidez
 Cecilia Contreras
 Thea de Sá Campos
 Deidre Sessoms +
 Anke Mueller-Solger *
 Angelica Pascual
 Maya Quintana
 Rin Lee
 Cassandra Lane
 Julie Torres *
 Andrea Terry +
 Pia Wong +

Tenors

Jorge Carlos Felix
 Tavohn Parkman
 Tyler Simmons
 Daniel Thomason
 Robert Ursua *

Basses

Brandon Alyx Correa
 Anthony De Lise
 Tim Erdenesaikhan
 Eren Felix
 Colbe Hunter
 Sebastian Ibanez-Garcia
 Amari Kiburi
 Sky Manzanetti
 Daniel Murray
 Kaung (Kevin) Naung
 David Pshichenko *
 Max Sakin
 Jacob Smith
 Marcus Teixeira
 Quinn Vance
 Parker Weis
 Stephen Whelan
 Koua Xiong

** Community Member
 + Faculty Member*

2. E'en so here below, below,
 Let steep bless be swungen.
 And io, io, io
 By priest and people sungen.
 Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!
 Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!
3. Pray ye dutifully prime
 Your matin chime, ye ringers;
 May ye beautifully rhyme
 Your evetime song, ye singers.
 Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!
 Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Deck the Hallstrad. 16th century, Welsh

3. Deck the halls with boughs of holly, fa la la la la la la la.
 Tis the season to be jolly, fa la la la la la la la.
 Don we now our gay apparel, fa la la la la la la la.
 Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, fa la la la la la la la.
2. See the blazing Yule before us, fa la la la la la la la.
 Strike the harp and join the chorus, fa la la la la la la la.
 Follow me in merry measure, fa la la la la la la la.
 While I tell of Yuletide treasure, fa la la la la la la la.
3. Fast away the old year passes, fa la la la la la la la.
 Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, fa la la la la la la la.
 Sing we joyous all together, fa la la la la la la la.
 Heedless of the wind and weather, fa la la la la la la la.

Hark! The Herald Angels Singtrad. 18th century, English

3. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn 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 newborn King.

PROGRAM

2. Christ, by highest heav'n 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 newborn King.
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.

Combined Choirs

The Road Home Stephen Paulus (1949-2014)
Valerie Dickinson, soloist

TEXTS

Glow – Eric Whitacre

Softly falls the winter snow
Whispers to the sleeping world below:
"Wintertide awakes,"
Morning breaks and sets the earth aglow

In gentle tones of warmest white
Proclaim the glory of Auroroa's light
Sparrow wings in a clear clean voice
A sweet, silver carol for the season born
Radiant wings as the skies rejoice
Arise and illuminate the morn

Softly falls the winter snow
Whispers to the sleeping world below:
"Glow, like the softly falling snow."

3.

Currently, he serves as a Lecturer at California State University, Sacramento, conducting choirs and teaching music theory. As Director of Music at Trinity Church, Folsom, Brett passionately directs choirs and founded the Folsom Academy of Music in 2019. Brett's accomplishments in organ artistry include the Barnes Award for Excellence in Pipe Organ at Eastman. His leadership roles in musical organizations reflect his commitment to excellence. Beyond music, Brett enjoys weightlifting and tennis. Explore more at www.brettjudson.com.

John Cozza is in demand throughout California as teacher, coach/accompanist, chamber musician, adjudicator, and clinician. He has been the Staff Accompanist at Sacramento State University since 2004 and took over as Music Director and Pianist/Organist at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Carmichael in January of 2018. He taught Accompanying and Secondary Piano in the Conservatory of Music at the University of the Pacific in Stockton from 2004-2018.

Collaborating with singers and instrumentalists throughout the United States, Dr. Cozza's international engagements have included performances as soloist, accompanist, and chamber musician in such European cities as Vienna, Bologna, Milan, Cologne, and Budapest.

Dr. Cozza holds a DM degree in piano performance, vocal accompanying, and chamber music from Northwestern University. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at USC, where he was named Valedictorian of the School of Music. He originally attended Vienna's prestigious Hochschule für Musik as a Rotary Foundation Scholar in 1986-87, then returned for further study from 1988-1991 when he received the coveted Diplom in both Piano Performance and Chamber Music.

8.

All these years I have wandered,
 Oh when will I know
 There's a way, there's a road
 That will lead me home?

After wind, after rain,
 When the dark is done,
 As I wake from a dream
 In the gold of day,
 Through the air there's a calling
 From far away,
 There's a voice I can hear
 That will lead me home.
 Rise up, follow me,
 Come away is the call,
 With the love in your heart
 As the only song;
 There is no such beauty
 As where you belong,
 Rise up, follow me,
 I will lead you home.

Dr. Brett Alan Judson, a California native, holds degrees from esteemed institutions like the Yale School of Music and the Eastman School of Music. His doctoral degree from The Hartt School reflects his passion for conducting, honed through private studies with renowned mentors, such as Donald Neuen. As Assistant Director of the New Haven Chorale, Brett contributed to captivating performances of choral masterworks. He also taught at The Hartt School and toured internationally with the Connecticut Choral Union Touring Choir. Brett's innovation is evident in his collaboration with composer Scott Perkins, leading to the premiere recording of A New England Requiem.

The Winter's Night – Nicholas Myers

Deep in the night,
 Quiet and still
 While all the world's asleep
 Dreaming of what they will
 Out from the warmth
 Out in the cold
 Snowflakes are falling
 Cov'ring the earth
 Telling the world
 Winter has come
 Making the earth turn to new
 Tapping the window
 Brushing the ground
 Soft as a dream
 Sweet as a dream
 Dreams pure as white
 White as the snow

The Rose – Ola Gjeilo

The lily has a smooth stalk
 Will never hurt your hand
 But the rose upon her briar
 Is lady of the land

When with moss and honey
 She tips her bending briar
 And half unfolds her glowing heart

There's sweetness in an apple tree
 And profit in the corn
 But lady of all beauty
 Is a rose upon a thorn

When with moss and honey
 She tips her bending briar
 And half unfolds her glowing heart
 She sets the world on fire

When with moss and honey
 She tips her bending briar
 And half unfolds her glowing heart
 She sets the world on fire

Tundra – Ola Gjeilo

Wide, worn and weathered,
 Sacred expanse
 Of green and white and granite grey;
 Snowy patches strewn,
 Anchored to the craggy earth,
 Unmoving;
 While clouds dance
 Across the vast, eternal sky.

A Hymn to the Virgin – Benjamin Britten

Of one that is so fair and bright
 Velut maris stella
 Brighter than the day is light
 Parens et puella
 I cry to thee, thou see to me
 Lady, pray thy Son for me
 Tam pia
 That I may come to thee
 Maria!

All this world was forlorn
 Eva peccatrice
 Till our Lord was y-born
 De te genetrix
 With ave it went away
 Darkest night, and comes the day
 Salutis
 The well springeth out of thee
 Virtutis.

Lady, flow'r of everything
 Rosa sine spina
 Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King
 Gratia divina
 Of all thou bear'st the prize
 Lady, queen of paradise
 Electa
 Maid mild, mother
 Es Effecta.

The Heart's Reflection – Daniel Elder

Sicut faciem aquis resplendent,
 Ita cor humanum aliam reflectit
 -- Cordis speculum

Ngana – Stephen Leek

"Ngana" is an indigenous Australian word
 meaning shark. "Lina" is a word for water,
 "Mangana" is a word for fish and "Yah"
 is a welcome greeting.

Noel – Traditional, arr. Brad Holmes

Noel! Noel! Jesu me kwisa ku zinga ti beto
 Kana nge zola ku zaba mwana
 Nge fwiti kwisa ku fuka ma -- Kituba dialect

Translation

Noel! Noel! Jesus has come to live with us.
 If you want to know the Child,
 You have to come kneel.

The Road Home - Stephen Paulus

Tell me where is the road
 I can call my own,
 That I left, that I lost,
 So long ago?