A Cup of Good Cheer

MADRIGALIA
Cary Ratcliff, executive director

December 13, 2023
12:10PM

LIVE from HOCHESTEIN

50 N. Plymouth Ave. • Rochester, NY • www.hochstein.org • 585.454.4596
PROGRAM

Madrigalia, with Cary Ratcliff, artistic director and pianist,
Featuring Daniel McInerney, tenor; Joe Finetti, baritone; and Joanna Bassett, flute

O Tannenbaum
Melchior Franck
transc. Jim Clements

Winter Sun
Don Macdonald

Three Pieces for Chanukah
I. Oh, Chanukah (Y’mei Chanukah)
Robert Applebaum

Come All Ye Children
Traditional
transc. Cary Ratcliff

Amuworo ayi out nwa (For unto us a child is born)
Christian Onyeji

Two Basque Carols
Gida nazu Gau ona
Gabon izar
Javier Busto

Noel: Verbum caro factum est
Tamsin Jones

Sussex Carol
Traditional
transc. Cary Ratcliff

Hacia Belen Va un Borrico
Traditional
transc. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

Cool Yule
Steve Allen

Bashana Habah
Nurit Hirsch, Ehud Manor
transc. John Leavitt

AUDIENCE SING-ALONG
Sleigh Ride
Leroy Anderson

Today’s Live from Hochstein performance is broadcast live and in stereo on FM, 91.5 with host Mona Seghatoleslami.
PERFORMERS

Madrigalia delights audiences with its beauty of sound and artistic excellence. The ensemble of highly skilled vocalists presents unique and challenging programs of choral music built around illuminating themes. Their music is drawn from all times and places, spanning the riches of classic choral styles, the vast range of compelling music being written in our time, and the intriguing musical expressions of cultures throughout the world. Madrigalia promotes the appreciation of choral singing to diverse audiences through performances, recordings, broadcasts, outreach, and the commissioning of new music.

Artistic Director Cary Ratcliff is now in his eleventh season with Madrigalia. Under his direction, the chorus has released two CD recordings: For Better, For Worse: Music About Marriage, and On This Day Earth Shall Ring. The chorus also contributed to the recording of Ratcliff’s large-scale opera Eleni. Known as a composer of choral, orchestral, chamber music, art song, and opera, Ratcliff also is keyboardist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Recordings include a Harmonia Mundi 2015 release of his oratorio Ode to Common Things on poems of Pablo Neruda, by Conspirare under Craig Hella Johnson, which was nominated for Best Choral Performance for the 2016 Grammys; and Kathryn Lewek sings Cary Ratcliff on Albany Records. His compositions can be explored on youtube.com/@caryratcliff1738.

Joanna Bassett is associate dean at the Hochstein School, and a flutist and teacher in Rochester, New York. Her orchestral career has included positions as 2nd flute/piccolo in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and principal piccolo in the Hong Kong Philharmonic. She has performed with the Skaneateles Festival, the Tanglewood Festival Orchestra, Society for Chamber Music in Rochester, and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. Ms. Bassett has held numerous leadership positions with the National Flute Association and is currently board president of the Rochester Flute Association, on the board of the Cordancia Chamber Orchestra. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Eastman School of Music.

Soprano
Glenda Brayman*
Jacqueline Castiglia
Juli Elliot
Karen Hospers
Katherine Jefferis
Amanda von Rathonyi
Heather Watras

Alto
Sarah Engel
Brenda Nitsch
Megan Ormsbee
Tara Switzer
Brenda Tremblay

Tenor
Justin Doyle
Daniel McInerney
Donald Reaves

Bass
Joe Borrelli
Joe Finetti
Jim Jefferis
Craig Knight*

* on leave
LYRICS AND TRANSLATIONS

OH TANNENBAUM/OH CHRISTMAS TREE
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree,
You embody our Christmas dream
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree,
How faithful are your branches!
You’re not just green during summertime.
But also in wintertime when it snows,
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree,
How faithful are your branches!
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree,
You can please me very much!
How often has, not just at Christmas time,
A tree like you delighted me!
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree,
You can please me very much!
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree,
I could learn something from your dress:
The hope and durability
Give trust and strength at any time
Oh fir tree, Oh fir tree!
That’s what your dress should teach me.

WINTER SUN
To light, to water, and the flow of birds
through ancient stars.
To the wild sun of winter startling the dark
green trees:
Giants of majestic silence
To snow on roofs and the peace of Sunday.
To quiet and to certitude, to breathing, to air.
To acceptance, to dreams.
To disclosures of the sleeping heart, for air,
for light.

OH Chanukah
Chanukah, oh Chanukah, come light the
chanukiah,
Retelling the victory of Judas Maccabeus.
And so we gather ’round the table to share a
treat,
Spinning tops to play with, levivot to eat.
And while we play, the candles are burning
low.
One for each night, they shed a sweet light
To remind us of days long ago.
These are the days of Chanukah:
We recall that our altar was rededicated.
Joy and happiness fill our hearts.
Night and day our dreidels twirl:
There are jelly doughnuts, just for us.
Lighting, igniting the Chanukah candles all in
a row.
For the wonderous acts and for the miracles
that you wrought through the Maccabees.

OH COME ALL YE CHILDREN
Come, all ye children your gentle voices unite,
welcome this hour with your gladdest carols
tonight. O rejoice!
Sing ye well-pleased that your accents of love,
sweetly ascend to the Savior above,
sing for his birth bringeth peace to those up-
on earth.

AMUWORO AYI OTU NWA
For unto us now a child is born,
unto us a Son is given.
The mighty God, Prince of Peace,
Father everlasting.

TWO BASQUE CAROLS
Gida nazu Gau ona
Give me this Christmas night a light to guide
my way,
to see the Child of beauty there where he lay.
I cannot fear the cold or the journey through
the wild.
My heart so warm will lead me to meet the
newborn Child.
LYRICS AND TRANSLATIONS (cont.)

TWO BASQUE CAROLS (cont.)

Gabon izar
O lovely Christmas star with your light you fill the sky.
To the gentle sounds of music raise your voices high. Alleluia.
The sound of flute and drum, and the instruments we find,
will bring their joy and gladness here to all mankind. Alleluia.

NOEL: VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST

This night there is a child y-born, that sprang out of Jesse’s thorn, we must sing and say there-forn: word was made flesh

Jesu is the child’s name, and Mary mild is his dame, all sorrow is turned to game: word was made flesh

It fell upon the high midnight, the stars they shone both fair and bright, the angels sang with all their might: word was made flesh

Now kneel we down upon our knee and pray we to the Trinity, our help, our succor for to be: word was made flesh

SUSSEX CAROL

On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring. News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King’s birth.

Then why should folk on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad, when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come in its place. Heaven and earth with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night: “Glory to God and peace to all, now and forevermore, amen!”

HACIA BELEN VA UN BORRICO

Towards Bethlehem goes a donkey, I remember, laden with chocolate.
It carries its chocolate pot, I remember, yet I forget, its chocolate mill and its stove.
Mary, Mary, come here running, because they are eating up all the chocolate.

Inside the gate of Bethlehem, I remember, gypsies have entered; and from the child which is in the cradle the swaddling clothes they have taken.
Mary, Mary, come here running, because they are seizing the swaddling clothes.
Mary, Mary come here flying, because they are carrying off the swaddling clothes.

With a hat of straw at the gate arrives a Galician; while he was worshipping the Child, a calf ate his sombrero.
Mary, Mary, come here running, because the calf is eating his hat. Mary, Mary, come here flying, to comfort the Galician who is here crying.
LYRICS AND TRANSLATIONS (cont.)

COOL YULE
From Coney Island to The Sunset Strip, Somebody’s gonna make a happy trip tonight, while the moon is bright!
He’s gonna have a bag of crazy toys, To give the grown-ups and the girls and boys, so dig! Santa comes on big!
He’ll come a callin’ when the snow’s the most, When all you cats are sleepin’ warm as toast. And you’re gonna flip when Old Saint Nick plays a lick on the peppermint stick!
He’ll come a flyin’ from a higher place, And fill the stockin’s by the fireplace so you’ll have a yule that’s cool! You’ll have a yule that’s cool!

BASHANA HABA‘AH
Next year, when peace will come, we shall return to the simple pleasures of life so long denied us.
You will see, you will see, oh how good it will be, next year!

AUDIENCE SING ALONG
SLEIGH RIDE
Just hear those sleigh bells jingling Ring ting tingling too, Come on, it’s lovely weather For a sleigh ride together with you,
Outside the snow is falling And friends are calling “yoo hoo” Come on, it’s lovely weather For a sleigh ride together with you.
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, Let’s go, let’s look at the show, We’re riding in a wonderland of snow. Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap, It’s grand, just holding your hand, We’re gliding along with a song Of a wintery fairy land
Our cheeks are nice and rosy And comfy cozy are we. We’re snuggled up together Like two birds of a feather would be.
Let’s take that road before us And sing a chorus or two. Come on, it’s lovely weather For a sleigh ride together with you. 
Just hear those sleigh bells jingling...
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We’re pleased to announce our lineup for the Spring 2024 Live from Hochstein series.

March 20, 2024 - Lars Kirvan, cello, and Ed Castilano, double bass

March 27, 2024 - Women in Music Festival, with faculty from Nazareth University’s College of Music

April 3, 2024 - No Live Broadcast

April 10, 2024 - The Salaff String Quartet

April 17, 2024 - Hochstein Merit Scholarship Winners

April 24, 2024 - Cordancia Chamber Orchestra, with Evan Meccarello, conductor

May 1, 2024 - Vertex Saxophone Quartet

May 8, 2024 - Koki Tanaka, violin, and E-Na Song, piano

May 15, 2024 - Antara Winds
The Hochstein School is grateful to Sidney & Barbara Sobel for generously providing continuous underwriting support for Live from Hochstein since 1993.

Hochstein would like to thank its donors and patrons for their support of our mission to provide people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities with access to excellent music and dance education in a community that nurtures and encourages personal achievement.

For more information on how to support Hochstein, please visit our website at www.hochstein.org.

ENJOY THESE PERFORMANCES?
If you wish to support future Live from Hochstein performances for the Rochester community, please consider making a donation in the baskets provided at the exits or at https://hochstein.org/Support. Any checks can be made out to The Hochstein School with Live from Hochstein in the memo. THANK YOU!

AUDIENCE REMINDERS

- Please enter and exit the hall only during applause.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in the Performance Hall.
- Please turn off cell phones and other devices that may sound or light up during the performance. The use of cameras/recording devices is strictly prohibited.
- Restrooms are located downstairs and can be accessed from the back of the Performance Hall. Wheelchair accessible/gender neutral restrooms are in the School; please ask an usher for directions.
- Fire exits are located along the sides and rear of the Performance Hall.

Hochstein programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. Hochstein programs are also made possible by the Monroe County Legislature.