

The Fifty-eighth Season of

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and
F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art



2328th Concert

WASHINGTON MEN'S CAMERATA

FRANK ALBINDER, *conductor*

MICHAEL PATTERSON, *pianist*

Sunday Evening, 19 December 1999
Seven O'clock
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

PROGRAM

I

Fifteenth-century French (Arr. James Engel) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Fourteenth-century Spanish *O virgo splendens*

Traditional *A Virgin Most Pure—A Virgin Unspotted*

II

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611) *Ave Maria*

Cristóbal de Morales (c. 1500–1553) *O magnum mysterium*

Traditional *The First Noel*

(Sung by the Camerata and the audience)

*The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

*Refrain: Noel, noel, noel, noel,
Born is the King of Israel!*

*They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.*

(Refrain)

III

Franz Biebl
(b. 1906)

*Pater noster
Ave Maria*

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809–1847)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

(Sung by the Camerata and the audience)

*Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born 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 new-born King!*

*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 man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing....*

*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.
Ris'n with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! The herald angels sing....*

IV

Giovanni Gabrieli
(c. 1555–1620)

Jubilate Deo

Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams
and Herbert W. Pierce

Wassail Song

Arr. Norman Gilbert

Coventry Carol

Arr. James McKelvy and David Dohn

Deck the Halls

George Frideric Handel
(1685–1759)

Joy to the World

INTERMISSION

V

Arr. Wendell Whalum

Betelehemu

(Sung by the Camerata and the audience)

VI

Arr. Ken Rubin
Traditional

Good King Wenceslas
Angels We Have Heard on High

(Sung by the Camerata and the audience)

*Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains, in reply,
Echoing their joyful strains.
Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyful strains prolong?
What the gladsome 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)*

*Joy to the World! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her king!
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! The savior 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.*

Arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

March of the Kings

VII

Alfred S. Burt

(Transcribed by Hawley Ades)

All on a Christmas Morning

Star Carol

What Are the Signs?

Some Children See Him

O Hearken Ye

A Christmas Garland

The Washington Men's Camerata was founded in 1984 to perform, promote, and preserve the rich legacy of men's choral music. In addition to its well-received concerts at the National Gallery, the ensemble has sung at the Smithsonian Institution, the Embassy of the Russian Federation, the National Building Museum, Harvard and Princeton Universities, and the White House. Since 1994 the Camerata's regular subscription series has included annual performances at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Internationally known soloists who have appeared with the Camerata include soprano Phyllis Bryn-Julson and baritone John Shirley-Quirk, and the choir has performed with the National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Christopher Hogwood and the National Gallery Orchestra under George Manos. The Camerata has been featured on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*, *Performance Today*, and *Pipe Dreams*, and on WETA-FM's *Music from Washington*. In 1998, with the cooperation of Yale and Georgetown Universities, the Camerata established a national repository library of men's choral music in Washington. Through the Repository Library, the Camerata intends to play a leading role in preserving the tradition of men's choruses, and plans to work with the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress to ensure that the library will serve as a resource for music scholars as well. The Washington Camerata has recorded three critically acclaimed CDs: *Masters in This Hall: Christmas Music for Men's Chorus* (1993), *O'er the Sea to Skye* (1997), and most recently *The Spirit of Freedom: Patriotic Songs & Service Hymns* (1999), all on the Gothic label.

Frank Albinder joined the Washington Men's Camerata as music director in September 1999. He came to the Camerata from the internationally renowned male vocal ensemble Chanticleer, where he most recently served as associate conductor. Over the course of his eleven-year tenure with Chanticleer, Albinder served as tour manager, librarian, recording sales manager, and stage manager. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in vocal performance from Pomona College in California and master of music degrees in choral conducting and vocal performance from the New England Conservatory of Music.

Pianist and conductor Michael Patterson received the doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance from The Catholic University of America. His principal mentor was Béla Nagy. He has performed as soloist, accompanist, and chamber musician throughout the United States and appears frequently in Washington at the Kennedy Center, the Phillips Collection, the Corcoran Gallery, the Organization of American States, the German and French Embassies, and the National Gallery. As conductor of the United States Congressional Chorus, Patterson has led performances for the inauguration of presidents Bush and Clinton, the bicentennial celebration of the United States Congress, the nationally televised *Christmas in Washington* program, and *In Concert at the White House*.

Program notes by Elmer Booze

*For the convenience of concertgoers
the Garden Café remains open until 6:30 p.m.*

*The use of cameras or recording equipment
during the performance is not allowed.*