THE CHORISTERS

LOWER SCHOOL
Robert Blumenstein
Keith Bonn
Robinson Bordley
Thomas Bourke
William Bouic
Alan Brinkley
Joseph Craig
Sheldon Crosby
Armand de Largentaye
Douglas Donald
David Douglas
John Dunlop
Roger Echols
Christopher Eger
Warren Eisinger
Alvin Ehrlich
Bruce Funkhouser
Josef Gardiner
Willis Georgia
Philip Halle
Charles Hawley
Welsh Hayes
Frederick Hunt
Gray Hurd
Coulter Huyler
James Ingham
Burton Johnson
Christian Kauffmann
Thomas Kauffmann
Stephen Kerkam
Thomas Kleh
Lane Langford
Eugene Legg
Rufus Lusk
Michael Marshall
Harry Martens
Scott MacPherson
Mark Miller
Andrew Mills
Dwight Morris
William Moses
Sherwood Monson
John Nicholson
James Oakes
Randall Osgood
Howard Perkins
Donald Porter
Robert Pumphrey
William Pumphrey
Turner Reuter
Peter Schmoonck
Robert Shelton

Michael Spire
Peter Spivey
Peter Steele
Christopher Stifel
John Walsh
Ian Weinschel
James White
Walter White
Patrick Woodward
Timothy Woolsey
Terry Wright

MIDDLE SCHOOL
Clark Adams
Frank Ashburn
Gregory Burlow
Peter Brand
Wiley Buchanan
James Davis
Richard Dell
Charles Dent
Roger Eisinger
John Hanks
Wallace Holladay
Stafford Hutchinson
John Hurds
John Jacobson
David Jacobson
James Kerkam
John Krampfl
Robert Laughlin
John Leigh
Robin Mason
Jeffrey McGuiness
John Murdock
Robert Myrtt
James Nicholson
William Prindle
Francis Sargent
Brooke Seawell
Nicholas Shea
Paul Slemen
John Stann
John Stann
Douglas Ruggles
George Wenckel
Lawrence White
Joseph Whitebread
Charles Woodward

UPPER SCHOOL
Philip Anderson
William Avery

George Barbee
Samuel Bogley
Harrison Brand
Robert Buchanan
Arthur Burdett
Henry Cochrane
Clement Connors
Cordon Currey
William DuRoss
Peter Farris
Robert Foley
Joseph Ford
Jack Francis
Miles Franklin
Peter Gibb
Richard Grant
Daniel Gowan
Michael Heid
Richard Hennessey
Lawrence Hubert
Burton Kerkm
Andrew Kilpatrick
Bufus King
Bruce Kirkham
Verne MacDonald
David Madison
Charles Mascott
Robert McConnaughey
John Ordman
Douglas Pincock
Ira Plotkin
Gram Poole
John Porter
Henry Putzel
Roger Pusateri
Stephen Rideout
William Ruddiman
Edward Sears
Richard Shaw
Charles Stevens
Anthony Sweet
Thomas Taylor
James Veal
Charles Whitebread

GUEST COUNTERTENORS
Stephen Bloom
Colby Currier
Stephen Miles
Richard Mott

THE A. W. MELLON CONCERTS
781st Concert
National Gallery of Art
WASHINGTON, D.C.

A Program of Christmas Music

THE LANDON SCHOOL CHORUS
Under the Direction of Wilfred Briggs

SUNDAY EVENING
DECEMBER 20, 1959
AT EIGHT O'CLOCK
IN THE EAST GARDEN COURT
I. FIVE EARLY CAROLS
(Saint Nicolas Carol Book, Royal School of Church Music)

GABRIEL’S MESSAGE (Basque Carol)
The Angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
“All hail” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary,  
Most highly favored lady,” Gloria.  
“For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honour thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
Most highly favored lady,” Gloria.  
Then gentle Mary meekly bow her head,  
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,  
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name.”  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria.

THE INFANT KING (Basque Carol)
Sing Lullaby, Lullaby baby, now reclining,  
Sing Lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Angels are watching, stars are shining  
Over the place where he is lying: Sing Lullaby.  
Sing Lullaby, Lullaby baby, now asleeping,  
Sing Lullaby, Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,  
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping: Sing Lullaby.  
Sing Lullaby, Lullaby, is the baby awaking?  
Sing Lullaby, Hush, do not stir the Infant King.  
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,  
Conquering death, its bondage breaking: Sing Lullaby.

BLESSED BE THAT MAID MARIE (English)
Blessed be that Maid Marie,  
Born he was of her body,  
Very God ere time began,  
Born in time the Son of Man.  
Sweet and blissful was the song  
Chanted of the angel throng:  
“Peace on earth, Alleluia,”  
“In excelsis gloria.”  
Make we merry on this fest,  
In quo Christus natus est;  
On this Child I pray you call,  
To absolve and save us all.  
Refrain — Alleluia, hodie Natus est de Virgine.

II. FIVE CHRISTMAS SONGS
(Twentieth Century British Composers)

THE SHEPHERD’S CRADLE SONG (Weigenlied)
O sleep, thou heaven-born treasure, thou,  
Sleep sound, thou dearest Child;  
White angel wings shall fan thy brow  
With breezes soft and mild.  
We shepherds poor are here to sing  
A simple lullay to our King.  
Lullaby, lullaby, sleep softly, lullaby.  
See, Mary has with mother’s love  
A bed for thee outspread,  
While Joseph stoops and watches at thy head.  
The lambkins in the stall so nigh,  
That thou mayst sleep, have hushed their cry,  
Lullaby, lullaby, sleep, sleep softly lullaby.  
And when thou’rt big and art a man  
Full woe’s in store for thee,  
For cruel men thy death will plan,  
And nail thee on a tree.  
So sleep, my baby, whilst thou may,  
’Twill give thee rest against that day.  
Lullaby, lullaby, sleep, sleep softly, lullaby.

O LEAVE YOUR SHEEP (Quittes, Pasteurs)
O leave your sheep, your lambs that follow after,  
O leave the brook, the pasture, and the crook,  
No longer weep, turn weeping into laughter,  
O shepherds, seek your goal,  
Your Lord, your Lord, who cometh to console,  
Your Lord, your Lord, who cometh to console.  
You’ll find him laid within a simple stable,  
A Baby newborn, in poverty forlorn,  
In love arrayed, a love so deep,  
’Tis able to search the night for you,  
’Tis He, ’Tis He, the Shepherd true,  
’Tis He, ’Tis He, the Shepherd true.  
O Kings, so great, a light is streaming o’er you,  
More radiant far than diadem or star,  
Forego your state, a baby lies before you;  
Whose wonder shall be told.  
Bring myrrh, bring myrrh,  
Bring frankincense and gold.

GUSTAV HOLST (1874-1934)
In Bethlehem, that noble place,  
As by prophecy said it was,  
Of Virgin Mary, full of grace,  
Salvator mundi natus est.  
On Christmas night an angel told  
To shepherds watching o’er their fold,  
“In Bethlehem with beasties wold,  
Salvator mundi natus est.”
Then compassed were the shepherds quite,  
Around them shone a great light,  
"Dread ye naught," said the angel bright,  
"Salvator mundi natus est."  
Behold to you we bring great joy,  
For why, Jesus is born today,  
To us of Mary that holy May,  
Salvator mundi natus est.  
Refrain: Be ye merry in this fest,  
In quo Salvator mundi natus est.

GEOFFREY SHAW (1879-1943)
What sweeter music can we bring  
Than a carol for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice, awake the string,  
Heart, ear, and eye, and everything!  
Come let us bring Him, and bequeath  
This holly and this ivy wreath,  
To do Him honour who's our King,  
And Lord of all our revelling.

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS (1872-1958)
O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.  
How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of Heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming:  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him,  
Still the dear Christ enters in.  
O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
Their great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

GUY ELDREDGE (Contemporary)
Run, run, run, run,  
Run with torches,  
All the way to Bethlehem!  
Christ is born and now lies sleeping:  
Come and sing your song to Him!

Sing my friends, and make you merry,  
Joy and mirth, and joy again!  
Lo, He lives, the King of Heaven,  
Now and evermore! Amen.

Text from the Oxford Book of Carols

RICHARD TERRY (1865-1938)
Refrain: Good day, my lord, Sir Christemas, Good day.  
Good day, my lord, Sir Christemas, Good day.  
Good day, good day, Sir Christmas our king,  
For ev’ry man, both old and young,  
Is glad and blythe of your coming.  
Refrain
The Son of God, so much of might,  
From heav’n to earth adown is light,  
And born is he of maid so bright,  
Good day, good day.  
Refrain
Heaven and earth, and also hell,  
And all that ever in them dwell,  
Of your coming they beth full snell,  
Good day, good day.  
Refrain
All manner of merthes we will make,  
And solace to our hertes take.  
My seelie lord for your sake,  
Good day, good day.

— Text from a Selden Ms. Circa 1450

III. FIVE CHRISTMAS SONGS

Twentieth Century American Composers

HAROLD FRIEDELL (1903-1957)
When Christ was born of Mary free,  
In Bethlehem that fair citie,  
Angels sang there with mirth and glee,  
"In excelsis gloria, In excelsis gloria."  
Herdsmen beheld these angels bright,  
To them appeared with great delight,  
And said, "God's Son is born this night,  
In excelsis gloria, in excelsis gloria."  
The King is come to save mankind,  
As in the scripture truth we find,  
Therefore this song we have in mind:  
"In excelsis gloria, in excelsis gloria."  
And then, dear Lord, for thy great grace,  
Grant us in bliss to see thy Face,  
That we may sing to thy solace,  
"In excelsis gloria, in excelsis gloria."
HAROLD FRIEDELL

Bring not a crown to wear upon His head so fair,
He needs no gold upon His shining hair.
Place not a sceptre in His hands,
For this my Babe no glory understands,
Nor shall He reign o'er earthly lands.

Bring not your incense sweet, to lay before his feet,
For thrones shall pass and kingly joys are fleet:
Greet not my Babe in homage deep,
Let no praise break upon his sleep,
Like guarding angels, silence keep.

Bring Him your hearts alone,
To God such gifts are known:
The poor and meek, the Father calls His own,
Only your love and service bring!

At gifts so sweet the Heavens sing:
O enter now and greet your King!

LEO SOWERBY (Contemporary)

The snow lay on the ground,
The stars shone bright,
When Christ the Lord was born
On Christmas night.
'Twas Mary, virgin pure,
of holy Anne,
That brought into this world
The God made man.
She laid him in a stall
At Bethlehem;
The ass and oxen shared the roof with them.
And thus a manger poor
Became a throne,
For he whom Mary bore
Was God the Son.

O come, then, let us join
The heavenly host,
To praise the Father, Son,
And Holy Ghost.

Refrain: Venite adoremus Dominum;
Venite adoremus Dominum.

EVERETT TITCOMB (Contemporary)

Jesus, Name of wondrous love!
Name all other names above!
Unto which must every knee
Bow in deep humility.
Jesus, Name decreed of old,
To the Maiden Mother told,
Kneeling in her lowly cell,
By the Angel Gabriel.
Jesus! Name of priceless worth
To the fallen sons of earth,
For the promise that it gave:
"Jesus shall his people save."
Jesus! Name of wondrous love!

EVERETT TITCOMB

Nowell! Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Good news I tell!
Nowell, Nowell, good news I tell,
And eke a wonder story.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
A virgin mild has born a child,
Jesus, the King of glory.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!

Ave Maria, O well is thee,
Thou daughter dear of Anna,
Before thy Son, that Holy One,
Archangels sing Hosanna,
Archangels sing Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna.

Then bells be run,
And carols sung,
To greet this kingly stranger.
The Ancient of Days, mankind to raise,
Abhorreth not the manger.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell.
Then bells be run, Nowell, Nowell!
Nowell, Nowell! Nowell, Nowell!

IV. THREE TRADITIONAL CAROLS

THE FIRST NOWELL

ADESTE FIDELES

STILLE NACHT

Mr. Louis A. Potter, Accompanist

Program Broadcast by Radio Station WGMS

Program to be Re-Broadcast by the Voice of America on January 6, 1960.