The Sixty-third Season of
The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin
Concerts
National Gallery of Art
2,516th Concert

The Washington Men's Camerata
Frank Albiner, music director
Michael Patterson, associate conductor and pianist

19 December 2004
Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free
For the convenience of concertgoers
the Garden Café remains open until 6:00 pm.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that concerts now begin at 6:30 pm. Late entry or reentry after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

2,516th Concert
19 December 2004, 6:30 pm

Anonymous 14th-century Spanish Hymn
O Virgo splendens

From “Piae cantiones” (1582)
Personent hodie
Arr. Paul Stuart

Denis Bédard (b. 1950)
Ave Maria

Joel Phillips (b. 1958)
Little Lamb

Healy Willan (1880–1968)
Magnificat

Traditional Carol (sung by the choir and the audience)
The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
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.
Noel, Noel....
Orlando di Lasso (c. 1532–1594)
Hodie apparuit

14th-century German Melody, arr. David Dickau
In dulci jubilo

Intermission

David Kraehenbuehl (1923–1997)
Welcome, Yule

Sussex Carol, arr. Walter L. Pelz
On Christmas Night

Traditional Carol (sung by the choir and the audience)
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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.”

Hail the heav’n-born prince of peace! Hail the son 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 new-born king.”

Steven Sametz (b. 1954)
Noel!

Traditional Carol (sung by the choir and the audience)
Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
‘Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav’nly hosts sing: “Alleluia!”
Christ the savior is born,
Christ the savior is born.

Franz Gruber, arr. Miles Ramsay
Silent Night

Alun Hoddinott (b. 1929)
Two Carols for Christmas

In a Manger
The Weary Travellers

Gustav Holst, arr. Leslie Woodgate
In the Bleak Mid-winter

Alfred Burt (1929–1954)
The Star Carol
Transcribed by Hawley Ades

John H. Hopkins Jr., arr. Timothy C. Takach
We Three Kings

Mark Riese (1953–1989)
A Choral Fantasy on “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”
The Musicians

The Washington Men’s Camerata was founded by its members in 1984 to perform, promote, and preserve the rich legacy of men’s choral music. In addition to its subscription series, which includes regular performances at the Kennedy Center, the Camerata has performed with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center and Wolf Trap, the National Gallery Orchestra, and the Mark Morris Dance Group. In addition to six concerts at the National Gallery, the Camerata has performed at the Smithsonian Institution and the White House. It has been a featured ensemble at the national conventions of the Intercollegiate Men’s Choruses (2003), Chorus America (2002), and the eastern division of the American Choral Director’s Association (1998). Listeners nationwide have heard the Camerata on National Public Radio’s All Things Considered and Performance Today, Minnesota Public Radio’s Pipe Dreams, and Public Radio International’s Millennium of Music. To its list of critically acclaimed CDs on the Gothic label the ensemble has recently added Sing We Noel, Christmas music for men’s chorus and the Washington Symphonic Brass. The Washington Men’s Camerata looks forward to celebrating its twenty-first anniversary on June 4, 2005, in a Kennedy Center concert that will feature folk music from around the world. More information about the ensemble is available at www.camerata.com.

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 the group’s associate conductor and sang with the ensemble. Other performance credits include the Boston Camerata, the Robert Shaw Festival Singers, the Washington Bach Consort, and the Concord Ensemble. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in vocal performance from Pomona College and master of music degrees in choral conducting and vocal performance from the New England Conservatory of Music. Between 1984 and 1988, Albinder was director of choral activities at Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina. He is the national repertoire and standards chair for male choruses for the American Choral Director’s Association, vice chair of the board of the Intercollegiate Male Choruses, and a board member of ChoralNet, the principal portal on the Internet for information and resources relating to the choral field. He is also the music director of the Woodley Ensemble, a twenty-voice professional chamber choir based in Washington, D.C., and conductor of the Virginia Glee Club, the men’s chorus at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Michael Patterson, pianist and associate conductor of the Washington Men’s Camerata, received the doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance from The Catholic University of America. He has performed as soloist, accompanist, and chamber musician throughout the United States. His Washington, D.C., performances include recitals at the Kennedy Center, the Phillips Collection, the National Gallery, the Corcoran Gallery, the Organization of American States, and the German and French Embassies. He is the conductor of the Congressional Chorus and has led performances for the inaugurations of presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton as well as the nationally televised programs, Christmas in Washington and In Concert at the White House.