



ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR

creating • exploring • celebrating

Chez Nous

Christmas with Elektra

with special guest jazz vocalist **Dee Daniels**

bassist **Jodi Proznick**

Burnaby Central Secondary Women's Choir, director **Carrie Taylor**

Saturday, November 28, 2015

2pm New Westminster Christian Reformed Church

7:30pm Ryerson United Church

949 West 49th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 2T1

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email: manager@elektra.ca
www.elektra.ca

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ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR

Morna Edmundson,
Artistic Director

November 28, 2015

**New Westminster Christian Reformed Church, Burnaby
Ryerson United Church, Vancouver**

Chez Nous: Christmas with Elektra

**Elektra Women's Choir
Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director
Stephen Smith, piano and organ**

with special guests

**Dee Daniels, jazz vocalist
Jodi Proznick, acoustic bass**

**Burnaby Central Women's Choir
Carrie Taylor, director
Jackie Lu, piano**

**Elektra Women's Choir
is a proud member of**



Choral Canada
Association of Canadian
Choral Communities





Welcome to “Our House”...!

Here we are together *chez nous* (“at our house”) to share the music and meaning of this Christmas season together. We are thrilled that you’ve chosen to make Elektra part of your day and hope you experience something meaningful and memorable in your time with us. At its core, choir is about community – and as listeners you are warmly welcomed into the Elektra community.

Today’s program has been on my wish list for years, and after many times reaching out to invite jazz singer Dee Daniels to perform as our guest artist, 2015 is the year! Dee is a captivating and multi-talented performer and songwriter and it’s a treat to bring her together with Elektra. Dee’s presence also gave me the fabulous excuse to invite back one of Vancouver’s best jazz bassists, the incomparable Jodi Proznick. Thank you to both of these fine musicians for joining us today.

Choral conductor Carrie Taylor is a leader among Metro Vancouver high school directors and a longstanding contributor of wonderful students to our Mira Youth Mentorship Program. Now that she has a women’s choir at Burnaby Central, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome Carrie and the more than 40 accomplished singers in her choir to Chez Nous.

Coming “to Elektra’s house” for Christmas means many things – interesting music reaching back to the past and forward into the present day. A cappella pieces that hang in the air of these beautiful acoustics and lighter moments of audience participation where I will invite you to sing along “with heart and soul and voice”. Of note this year are *Veni, Veni* by American composer David Moore, which departs from the familiar melody of *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* into an entirely new composition for a cappella choir, and no fewer than three world premieres. In our opening set, Vancouver composer Sarah Jaysmith’s *Gartan Mother’s Lullaby* and *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella!* are delightful additions to the repertoire. Don Macdonald’s jazzy *Christmas Reverie* is set right here at “41st and Vine” where a busker singing Christmas carols takes us back to special memories of Christmases past. We’re very proud to perform the Canadian premieres of two stunning arrangements by young Berlin-based singer and composer Winnie Brückner, too. Look for them in the second half.

Again, thank you for joining us today and best of the season,

Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director
Elektra Women’s Choir

*Please turn off your cell phones.
Please note that photography and videography
are not permitted during the performance.*

Programme

Huron Carol.....traditional Canadian carol, arr. Paul Halley
handbells: Beth Busby, Catherine Haebler, Kate McColl, Susan Ohannesian

Veni, Veni.....J. David Moore
soloist: Stephanie Schollen

Veni, veni O Oriens	<i>Come, O dawning of the day</i>
Solare nos ad veniens	<i>Blessed morning, hallowed light</i>
Noctis depelle nebulas	<i>Illuminate the rocky way</i>
Dirasque noctis tenebras	<i>Dispel the shadows of the night</i>

Veni, O Sapientia	<i>Come, O Wisdom, in whose cause</i>
Quae hic disponis omnia	<i>The hopeful gather here to sing</i>
Veni, viam prudentiae	<i>Teach us the glory of your laws</i>
Ut doceas et gloriae	<i>Bring order to our wandering</i>

From composer J. David Moore:

Veni, Veni is a fantasy on two verses of the medieval Advent Hymn “Veni, Veni Emmanuel,” one of the oldest such hymns still in regular use. The luminous original is a French processional of obscure origin, and the text is based on the ninth-century “O” Antiphons; seven chants sung one per night in the week preceding Christmas.

Songs for midwinter in all traditions use the idea of light in literal and metaphorical ways. Most are filled with hope for the renewal of the world from the apparent death of a physical or spiritual winter. I chose to set two verses of the original chant: invocations of light (“O Oriens”) and wisdom (“O Sapientia”). The piece invokes the light by which we recognize the divinity in all things and the wisdom to live according to the knowledge of that divinity. The soloist’s closing phrase, “the light in me greets the light in you” (translated from the Indian greeting namaste) is for me the fulfillment of the desire infusing the verses.

Mark Dietrich’s new translation of these verses invites a fresh hearing of this beautiful text.

Gartan Mother’s Lullaby arr. Sarah Jaysmith
(world premiere)

First published in 1904, this beautiful lullaby from Gartan in County Donegal was collected by Herbert Hughes. Seosamh MacCathmhaoil added the lyrics. It refers to a number of figures in Irish mythology, places in Ireland and words in the Irish language, including *Aoibheall*, (pronounced like “evil”) the beautiful queen of the Northern Fairies and *Leanbhan*, an old Irish word for *little child*.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep SilencePicardy, French carol, 17th century, arr. Doug Claybrook
soloists: Danica Kell, Kirsten Hain, Stephanie Schollen

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella! traditional French carol, arr. Sarah Jaysmith
(world premiere)
soloists: Holly Kennedy and Shelley Koke

Burnaby Central Women's Choir

Selections from:

Hallelu!.....Stephen Paulus

Amazing Grace traditional words, John Newton (1725-1827); music, Stephen Hatfield
flautist: Audrina Lee

Le Sommeil de l'Enfant Jésus.....Ron Jeffers
trio: Karis Ducharme, Rebecca Unger, Celine Zheng

The Christmas WaltzJ. Styne, arr. P. Schmutte

Please join us for...

Ding, Dong Sing-a-long..... a medley of traditional carols, arr. Tim Corlis

Morna will show you where to sing!

First audience segment
(after "We're gliding along with a song")

**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.**

Second audience segment
(after "...and on ev'ry street corner you hear...")

**Silver bells, silver bells. It's Christmas time in the city.
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring. Soon it will be Christmas day.**

**Strings of street lights, even stop lights blink a bright red and green,
as the shoppers rush home with their treasures.
Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch, this is Santa's big scene,
and above all this bustle you hear...**

**Silver bells, silver bells. It's Christmas time in the city.
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring. Soon it will be Christmas day.**

❖ ***Intermission*** ❖

Christmas Reverie words and music, Don Macdonald
(world premiere)
duet: Denise O'Brien, Stephanie Ching
quartet: Holly Kennedy, Ann Busay, Shelley Koke, Stephanie Loo

O Jesus, Sweet Child traditional 17th century (*O Jesulein Süß*), arr. Winnie Brückner

Featuring our guests

O Holy Night..... Adolphe Charles Adams / Placide Cappeau, arr. Dee Daniels

Healed..... Dee Daniels

I'm Going on Home..... Dee Daniels

My Prayer Dee Daniels

There is No Rose traditional 14th century carol, original music by Don Macdonald
soloist: Jasmine Campbell (afternoon performance);
Jenna Potter (evening performance)

Silent Night..... Franz Grüber, arr. Winnie Brückner



**Your One
and Only Life**

The Choral Music of Stephen Smith

March 5, 2016 at 7:30 pm
March 6, 2016 at 3 pm

Ryerson United Church
2195 West 45th Avenue, Vancouver

Elektra Women's Choir and the *Vancouver Men's Chorus* celebrate the choral music of one of Vancouver's best-loved pianists and composers, **Dr. Stephen Smith**. Familiar songs, stunning compositions, and a world premiere are on the program as both choirs celebrate the arrangements and original compositions of our treasured colleague.

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ELEKTRA WOMEN'S CHOIR

Morna Edmundson,
Artistic Director

Elektra Women's Choir

from Vancouver, Canada has been a leader among women's choirs since 1987. Under the direction of Artistic Director Morna Edmundson the 48-voice adult choir is known for its adventurous programming, seeking out music written specifically for women and frequently commissioning new works. The choir is honoured to work with an outstanding accompanist, Dr. Stephen Smith.



photo: David Cooper

Elektra delivers its mandate to “inspire and lead” through an annual concert series including new and commissioned works and featuring outstanding guest artists. In addition to performing worthy repertoire from the past, Elektra has commissioned over 70 compositions and arrangements. The choir's recordings on iTunes and CD Baby extend the reach of its repertoire internationally. Elektra's 13th CD *Still* was released in October 2015 – a collection of 14 Christmas tracks including many world premiere recordings of Canadian and international works for women's voices. Elektra's website offers a permanent repertoire resource featuring all works programmed by the choir to date. Elektra's celebrated outreach programs encourage, train, and mentor the next generation of youth and adults: singers, conductors, and composers.

A multiple national prize-winning ensemble, Elektra has been honoured to perform at conferences of Choral Canada, the American Choral Directors Association, Chorus America, the International Society for Music Education, and the International Federation for Choral Music. Elektra participates enthusiastically in shared projects with other arts organizations such as the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and Chor Leoni Men's Choir, and in festivals and concert series.

Soprano 1

Ann Busay, Susanna Henderson, Malaika Horswill, Danica Kell, Holly Kennedy*, Shannon Lythgoe, Ashley McConnell, Janine Magaw, Christy Mahlberg, Rachel Nelson, Taryn Plater, Jillian Schina, Alessia Todde

Soprano 2

Tanya Battaglia, Sophia Fan, Catherine Haebler, Shelley Koke, Catherine Lee, Oksana Legebokoff, Simone Lemieux, Katrin Lohuaru, Susan Ohannesian, Sandra Phillips, Sharon Schermbrucker, Kathryn Slemko*, Kim Taylor, Allison Tremblay, Moyra Van Nus, Patty Wagner

Alto 1

Joanna Bevaart, Beth Busby, Amy Dawson, Karen Dionne, Grace Groot, Kirsten Hain, Sheila Little, Stephanie Loo*, Kate MacColl, Rosemary Speakman, Alison Stillwell

Alto 2

Stephanie Ching, Elisabeth Finch, Sharla Marr, Corinne Norbraten*, Denise O'Brien, Caitlin Robinson, Deirdre Rogers, Stephanie Schollen, Bernice Slemko

* Section Leaders



Morna Edmundson is one of Canada’s best-known choral conductors with a strong reputation for excellence. Passionate since childhood about choral singing, she obtained degrees and diplomas in vocal music in Vancouver, Bellingham, and Stockholm, Sweden where her teachers included Eric Ericson. In 1987, she co-founded Elektra Women’s Choir with Diane Loomer, a treasured partnership that lasted 22 years. In 2009, Morna became Elektra’s sole Artistic Director, continuing the choir’s strong leadership role in concert presentation, commissioning, recording, and mentorship.

For 14 years Morna shared her love of quality repertoire with a new generation of singers in her role as Associate Artistic Director of Coastal Sound Music Academy, where she was Music Director of the mixed-voice Youth Chamber Choir. Morna has adjudicated in North America and Asia, conducted honour choirs in several states, co-directed the American Choral Directors Association National Women’s Honour Choir, and gives frequent workshops with choirs of all ages.

In 2000, she was presented with the Healey Willan Award for outstanding service to the BC Choral Federation, an organization she serves as a member of the President’s Advisory Council. In 2009, Morna was a recipient of the BC Community Achievement Award, which recognized her gifted organizational talent, leadership by example, and her encouragement of others to pursue their musical and choral goals. In 2011, Morna received a YWCA Woman of Distinction award in recognition of her work with Elektra. Since 2013, Morna has served on the board of Chorus America, the advocacy, research, and leadership development organization that gives voice to the choral field.



Stephen Smith grew up in rural Nova Scotia, where he sang and played the piano from an early age. After initial studies in his home province in both piano and organ, he attended the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, England. While there, he participated in national and international competitions and won numerous awards and distinctions.

Since 1990, Stephen has lived in Vancouver, obtaining his doctoral degree in piano performance from the University of British Columbia, and contributing to the musical life of the city as a performer, teacher, conductor, composer and arranger. Central to Stephen’s career is his long-standing relationship with some of Vancouver’s finest choral groups. In addition to his work with Elektra (which he has accompanied since 2001), he is also resident accompanist of the Vancouver Men’s Chorus, pianist for the Vancouver Bach Choir, and a frequent collaborator with Chor Leoni Men’s Choir, the Vancouver Chamber Choir, and many other ensembles.

Stephen is also a published composer and arranger of choral music, with a long and growing list of commissions from individual choirs across North America, and from such entities as the British Columbia Choral Federation, the Women’s Commissioning Consortium of the ACDA, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Stephen’s work as both composer and pianist can be heard on dozens of CDs in commercial release, including a solo recording of classical piano miniatures entitled “Kaleidoscope,” which is available on iTunes.



Dee Daniels' musical career is as varied as her four-octave vocal range is thrilling. She is a unique talent who transcends musical borders when she brings her jazz styling, infused with gospel and blues flavoring, to the stage. Her vocal style was born in her stepfather's church choir in California, refined through the R&B era, and polished during a five-year stay in Europe in the late 1980s. She has performed and recorded with many of the greatest legends of Jazz, as well as with numerous big bands and symphony orchestras at home and abroad.

Dee's international career includes performances in twelve African countries, Australia, South America, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Japan, India, throughout Europe, Russia, and across Canada and the United States. Career highlights include being named Artistic Director of the DeMiero Jazz Festival (WA) in 2011; 2009 recipient of an Honourary Doctorate Degree of Fine Arts from Capilano University; starring on the theatre stage in the 2009 premiere of New York choreographer, Twyla Tharp's musical, *Come Fly Away*; 2003 recipient of the prestigious Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; induction into the University of Montana's School of Fine Arts Hall of Honor as well as receipt of the 1997 University of Montana Distinguished Alumni Award; and, 2002 inductee into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame with plaque installed on Vancouver's Granville Street Walk of Fame.

For further information about Dee's latest CDs, performances, gallery, and more, visit www.deedaniels.com



Jodi Proznick was Bassist of the Year at the 2007 and 2008 National Jazz Awards. Her group, the Jodi Proznick Quartet, won the Acoustic Group of the Year and their album *Foundations* (Cellarlive) won for Album of the Year. In the fall of 2007 the group completed a 20 date Canadian tour that took them from Whitehorse to Montreal. She was also nominated for a Juno Award in 2008.

In 1998, Jodi won the IAJE "Sisters in Jazz" competition. In 2004, The Jodi Proznick Quartet was awarded the Galaxie Rising Star of the Vancouver International Jazz Festival. Jodi was awarded a Canada Council for the Arts Specialized Music Sound Recording Grant for her debut release.

She has played and/or recorded with international stars such as Michael Buble, David "Fathead" Newman, Ed Thigpen, Jeff Hamilton, Sheila Jordan, George Coleman and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Jodi has her BMus from McGill University and her MEd from SFU. She is on faculty at the VSO School of Music, Capilano University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Burnaby Central Women's Choir

Burnaby Central is a secondary school of 1300 students located in the heart of Burnaby. The key part of our choral department is the Concert Choir, which rehearses at 7:20 every other morning and includes all singers in the school, grades 8 through 12. Drawn from this group are 2 chamber choirs, the Women's Choir and the Men's Choir. The Women's Choir rehearses for 30 minutes per week during lunch break. In preparation for this concert, we did have to have a few extra rehearsals this term! Singing with Elektra has introduced us to repertoire that is more challenging and intricate, and given us an opportunity to work and perform with a group of superb mentors, helping us understand the beauty of more mature voices and experienced musicianship. This opportunity has been invaluable for our group. Thank you Elektra!

Soprano 1: Amber Chan, Audrem Galura, Dale Hudson, Jenna Potter, Rebecca Unger, Olivia Yeung, Charlotte Young, Celin Zheng

Soprano 2: Mili Andjelkovic, Anne Baquero, Paige Bell, Karis Ducharme, Grace Fang, Jeanine Friesen, Erika-Shaye Gair, Serena Galali, Rita Lin, Mackayla Olvina, Shayla Ruault, Anna Schillaci-Ventura, Stella Song, Isabella Troche, Crystal Wong, Avery Wood

Alto: Nicole Bodnar, Jay Bulalakaw, Jazzy Campbell, Joey Chan, Brenny Chao, Olivia Chao, Moriah Jacaruso, Wendy Jiang, Emily Kozak, Kimberly Lam, Chantelle Lam, Audrina Lee, Shela Lupso, Niniane Magno, Eve Meyer, Eleanor Payumo, Julia Schillaci-Ventura, Tiffany Thom, Lana Whyte

Carrie Taylor

Carrie studied music at the University of Mary in Bismark, North Dakota and at the University of Victoria in Victoria, BC, obtaining her Bachelor of Music and Professional Teaching Certificate. She has also studied at the Banff School of the Fine Arts. Carrie began her teaching career in Coquitlam, teaching grade 8-10 band and choir, and is currently teaching in Burnaby, where she enjoys teaching both band and choir to students from grade 8 to 12. Along with the 5 choirs at Burnaby Central Secondary, Carrie is also one of the My Voice directors, which is a choir for young men and a project of Chor Leoni Men's Choir. In addition, Carrie is a co-conductor for Vivo Children's Choir, and has also been the coordinator for the B.C. Provincial Honour Choir for the past several years. Carrie, her husband Brent, and their three boys Evan, Aksel, and Grayson live in New Westminster.



ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR

Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director

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This list is complete as of November 1, 2015. If there are any errors or omissions, please contact manager@elektra.ca

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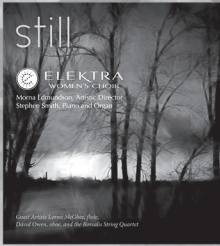
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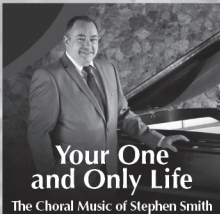


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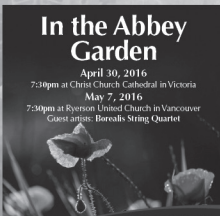
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Elektra's mandate is to *inspire and lead in the choral art from through excellence in performance and the creation, exploration and celebration of women's repertoire.*

Donors play a crucial role in the life of the choir and Elektra's brilliant performances and extensive outreach programs only exist because of their steadfast and ongoing support. Our supporters inspire our singers and give Elektra and other local, national and international choirs an opportunity to create, explore, and celebrate new compositions while also treasuring the classics of the past.

Your gift to Elektra recognizes the importance of choral music in our lives. Please visit elektra.ca to learn more about our choir, the Diane Loomer Commissioning Fund for Elektra Women's Choir and our outreach programs. Your support and encouragement are very much appreciated.

Donations can be made through CanadaHelps at canadahelps.org or by contacting the Elektra office at 604.739.1255 or manager@elektra.ca

If you wish to commit tonight to a year of monthly donations of \$25 or more, please see our Front of House volunteers. You will take home a CD of your choice as our thank you gift!

(Elektra Women's Choir is a charitable organization. Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$25 or more).

VANCOUVER CHAMBER CHOIR

JON WASHBURN, CONDUCTOR
45TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Christmas in the Orpheum **GLORIOUS** Choirs with Brass and Harp

8pm | Friday, December 4, 2015 Orpheum Theatre

Vancouver Chamber Choir / Pacifica Singers
Vancouver Youth Choir / Vivian Chen, Harp
Brass Ensemble / Jon Washburn, Conductor

Nothing says Christmas more than choirs, and this concert brings you the city's finest, singing the glorious voice-and-brass music of Gabrieli and Pinkham, intimate moods of Derek Healey's new set of carols with harp, and a grand sing-along of traditional favourites, as the audience joins in with the choirs and brass ensemble. *Venite! Venite!*

ticketmaster.ca 1-855-985-ARTS (2787)
vancouverchamberchoir.com



Conseil des Arts du Canada



BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL



Cultural Services

Chantez Noël

The Choir of Ryerson United Church
Carols & Music for Christmas

Sunday
December 13
2:30pm

TICKETS ONLINE:
chanteznoel15.bpt.me
AND AT THE DOOR

General Admission: \$20
Students & Children Free

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
ryersonunited.ca

Ryerson United Church
2195 West 45th Avenue, Vancouver, BC

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85 YEARS

CHRISTMAS WITH THE BACH CHOIR

DEC 6, 2015 AT 2PM | ORPHEUM THEATRE

MUSIC DIRECTORS: LESLIE DALA AND MARISA GAETANNE
FEATURING: THE VANCOUVER BACH CHILDREN'S CHORUS, YOUTH CHOIR & SARABANDE I ORGANIST ELLEN AY-LAUNG WANG, AND A TOUCH OF BRASS

TICKETS FROM \$29 | VANCOUVERBACHCHOIR.COM | 604 696 4290





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musica intima
VOCAL ENSEMBLE

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Journey into the warm seasonal sounds of musica intima, including in-house arrangements
with Shane Raman

Dec. 15 @ 7:30
Knox Presbyterian Church,
New Westminster

Dec. 18 @ 7:30
St. Philip's Anglican Church,
Vancouver

Dec. 19 @ 7:30
Christ Church Cathedral,
Vancouver

"A polished, well-balanced ensemble of real distinction."
— KALANA LITTLE | TORONTO STAR

TICKETS | musicaintima.org | 604.731.6618





Upcoming Outreach Projects:
visit elektra.ca for details

Mira Youth Mentorship – Spring 2016
(Deadline for applications:
December 10, 2015)

Choral Leadership Workshop
– new format for full choirs –
Monday evening, January 25
Contact the Elektra office

Sign up to receive the latest news about Elektra.
Visit elektra.ca –
it only takes a minute!



CHOR LEONI
Erick Lichte Artistic Director

ENCORE PRESENTATION

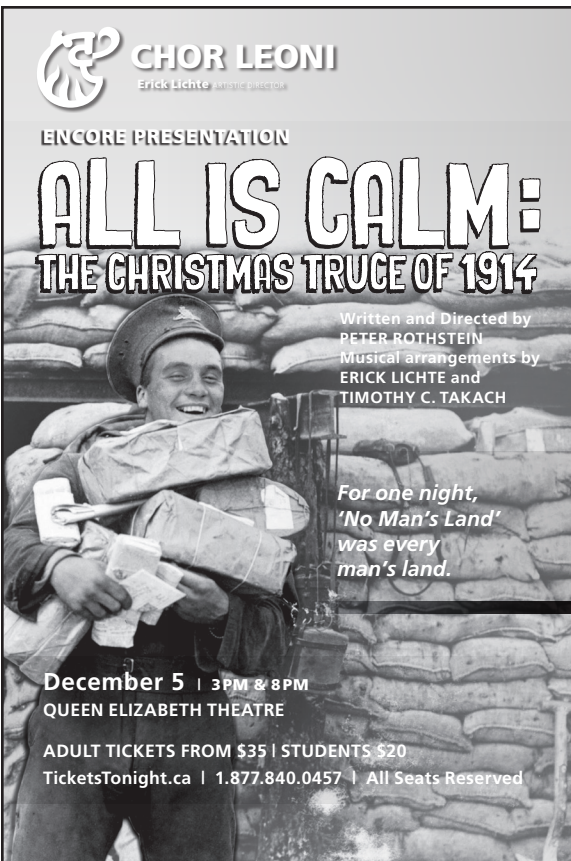
**ALL IS CALM:
THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914**

Written and Directed by
PETER ROTHSTEIN
Musical arrangements by
ERICK LICHTÉ and
TIMOTHY C. TAKACH

*For one night,
'No Man's Land'
was every
man's land.*

December 5 | 3PM & 8PM
QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

ADULT TICKETS FROM \$35 | STUDENTS \$20
TicketsTonight.ca | 1.877.840.0457 | All Seats Reserved



ALL THE JOY AND BEAUTY OF THE FESTIVE SEASON


**CHRISTMAS
WITH CHOR LEONI**

December 18
ST. ANDREW'S-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH | 4:30PM & 8PM
1022 Nelson St at Burrard, Vancouver

December 19
WEST VANCOUVER UNITED CHURCH | 2PM
2062 Esquimalt Ave, West Vancouver

ADULT TICKETS FROM \$30 | STUDENTS \$10
TicketsTonight.ca | 1.877.840.0457 | All Seats Reserved

GOVERNMENT



still



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WOMEN'S CHOIR

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Stephen Smith, Piano and Organ

Guest Artists Lorna McGhee, flute,
David Owen, oboe, and the Borealis String Quartet

*Elektra's stunning
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available today
in the lobby—
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for the music
lover on your list!*

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elektra.ca/recordings

Wall Centre Spring Gala

featuring soprano Erin Wall and Elektra Women's Choir

MARCH 23, 2016

\$250/person (\$165 tax receipt)

All monies raised from tickets
sold by Elektra Women's Choir
will support Elektra's inspiring
music-making and youth
outreach programs

For tickets contact the Elektra
office at 604.739.1255 or
email gala@elektra.ca

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ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR

creating • exploring • celebrating