

# CHEZ NOUS

## CHRISTMAS WITH ELEKTRA



ELEKTRA  
WOMEN'S CHOIR

creating • exploring • celebrating

**Morna Edmundson** ⇨ Artistic Director

**Stephen Smith** ⇨ Piano and Organ

with guest artists **Joan Blackman**, violin and **Rebecca Wenham**, cello  
and the **Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus**

**November 23, 2019** ⇨ **7:30 pm**

Pacific Spirit United Church, 2205 West 45th Avenue, Vancouver

**November 24, 2019** ⇨ **3:00 pm**

Good Shepherd Church, 2250 150th Street, Surrey

# Evening with Elektra



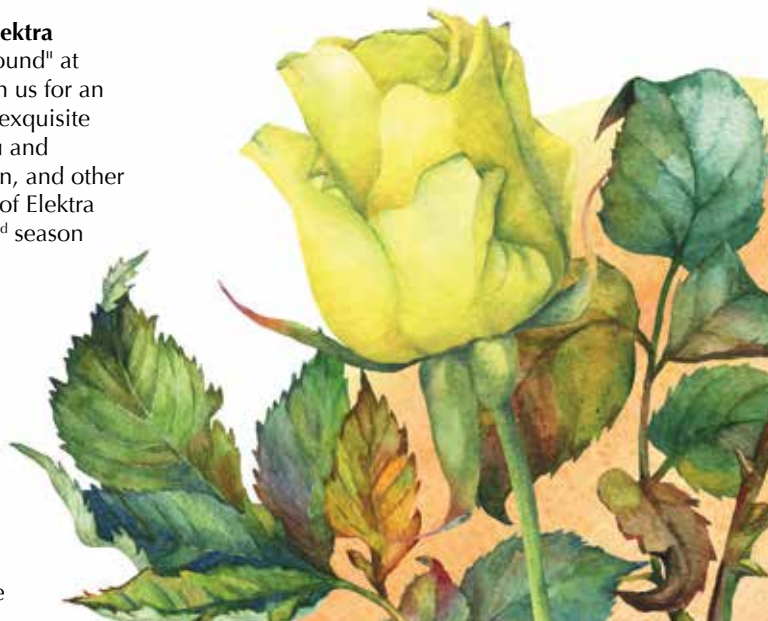
**ELEKTRA**  
WOMEN'S CHOIR  
creating • exploring • celebrating

Come celebrate the magic of **Elektra Women's Choir** and be "spellbound" at our fundraising gala. Please join us for an evening of warm camaraderie, exquisite music, sumptuous dinner menu and refreshments, a fabulous auction, and other tantalizing surprises in support of Elektra Women's Choir, now in our 33<sup>rd</sup> season of excellence.

**Save the date!**  
**April 18, 2020**

**Terminal City Club**  
**Vancouver, BC**

Visit the **Concert and Events** page at [elektra.ca](http://elektra.ca) for more information and ticket purchase



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## Welcome!

Welcome to Elektra's celebration of the Christmas season! We are so glad you have chosen to spend this time with us and we hope you will leave refreshed and uplifted.

Choirs have a special place keeping melodies alive and, indeed, the tunes we present for you today are something of a "road trip" across Europe. Each of the traditional songs on the program has been sung continuously year after year for hundreds of Christmases. From a busker in a subway station to a church service, to a home singalong or a huge concert with choir and symphony orchestra, this is music that says "Christmas" in many cultures.

As much as we treasure the old melodies, we are also interested in brand new music, and embark on its discovery with great excitement. Those of you who have been following Elektra for some time will know that an important part of our mandate is to create and share new music that will be of interest to other women's choirs. To that end, we bring you four original compositions today that each evoke the stillness and magic of Christmas night. **So Hallowed is That Time** by our own **Stephen Smith** uses the actual melodies of the meadowlark, robin, mourning dove, wood thrush, red-winged blackbird, rufous-sided towhee, and white-throated sparrow and the musical pitches contained in them to set **Shakespeare's** scene from **Act 1, scene 1 of Hamlet**. Two settings of **O Magnum Mysterium**, one from Switzerland and one from Argentina, are very different from one another but equally evocative, and **Little Tree** by **Mark Sirett** reflects the childlike charm of **E. E. Cummings'** poem. To close the concert, a new arrangement by our own **Susan Edwards** of **O Little Town of Bethlehem**.

We welcome our guests, violinist **Joan Blackman**, cellist, **Rebecca Wenham**, and the **Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus** under music director **Marisa Gaetanne**. My thanks to all for bringing their talents to these concerts.

**Chez Nous: Christmas with Elektra** is presented with the generous support of:

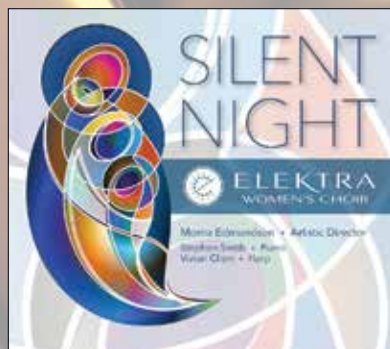


We acknowledge that these concerts are taking place on the traditional and unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples. In Vancouver, these are the territories of the **Musqueam, Squamish, and Tseil-Waututh** nations and, in South Surrey, the **Semiahmoo** nation.



## Announcing Elektra's 16<sup>th</sup> CD

**On Christmas Night** is here and just in time for your evening of Christmas decorating or gift-giving! Elektra's newest CD offers first recordings of beautiful original works plus arrangements of well-loved carols. Also available is our 2018 CD release, **Silent Night**.



**Purchase today only! CD, dropcard, and chocolate for \$15.**  
**Dropcard only for \$10.**

## Chez Nous: Christmas with Elektra

Saturday, November 23, 2019, 7:30pm | Pacific Spirit United Church, Vancouver

Sunday, November 24, 2019, 3:00pm | Good Shepherd Church, South Surrey

Elektra Women's Choir, Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director

Stephen Smith, Piano and Organ

with Joan Blackman (Violin) and Rebecca Wenham (Cello) of Vetta Chamber Players  
and the Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus, Marisa Gaetanne, Music Director

Please turn off your cell phones. Please note that photography and videography (other than by Elektra's official photographers) are not permitted during the performance.

At intermission and following the concert,  
we encourage you to tweet about your experience: @ElektraYVR!

### Programme

#### Elektra Women's Choir

Veni, Emmanuel ..... ancient carol, arr. Ulrika Emanuelsson

Still, Still, Still ..... traditional Austrian carol, arr. Ken Berg  
*Soloist: Amy Dawson*

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella! ..... traditional French carol, arr. Sarah Jaysmith 🍁

O Magnum Mysterium ..... Ivo Antognini

Maria durch ein' Dornwald ging ..... traditional German, arr. Gunnar Eriksson  
*Soloist: Amanda Randt*

I Saw Three Ships ..... traditional English, arr. Edward Henderson 🍁

#### Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus

Laudate Dominum..... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
*Soloists: Andreas Dala (Saturday), Sara Hadjuk (Sunday)*

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen ..... Praetorius arr. Derek Holman, text altered by Marisa Gaetanne 🍁

The Nutcracker...In About Three Minutes..... Tchaikovsky arr. Mark Weston

#### Please sing with us! (lyrics on opposite page)

Silver Bells..... Jay Livingston and Ray Evans

#### Combined Choirs

Los Peces en el Río ..... traditional Spanish, arr. Hilario Duran 🍁  
*Soloists: Denise O'Brien, Maureen Ciarniello, and Alessia Todde*

#### ❖ Intermission ❖

Joan Blackman (Violin) and Rebecca Wenham (Cello)

Selections from Eight Duets, Op. 39 for violin and cello .....Reinhold Glière  
Gavotte • Canzonetta • Intermezzo • Scherzo

#### Elektra Women's Choir

So Hallowed is That Time ..... text: William Shakespeare, music: Stephen Smith 🍁

O Magnum Mysterium ..... Santiago Veros

Little Tree ..... poem: E. E. Cummings, music: Mark Sirett 🍁

Deck The Hall ..... traditional Welsh, arr. John Rutter

#### Finale

Carol of the Bells .....traditional Ukrainian, arr. M. Leontovych

O Little Town of Bethlehem .....Phillip Brooks and Lewis Redner, arr. Susan Edwards 🍁  
*World premiere*

🍁 denotes Canadian composer

### Silver Bells

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

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks  
Dressed in holiday style.  
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas.  
Children laughing, people passing,  
Meeting smile after smile,  
And on every street corner you hear:

Silver bells...

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'll hear:

Silver bells...

## Selected Texts, Translations, and Notes

### Veni, Emmanuel

Veni, veni Emmanuel!  
Captivum solve Israel!  
Qui gemit in exilio,  
Privatus Dei Filio,  
Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel  
nascetur pro te, Israel.

Veni, veni o oriens!  
Solare nos adveniens,  
Noctis depelle nebulas,  
Dirasque noctis tenebras.  
Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel  
nascetur pro te, Israel.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

## O Magnum Mysterium

O magnum mysterium,  
et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,  
jacentem in praesepe!  
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera  
meruerunt portare  
Dominum Christum.  
Alleluia.

## Maria durch ein' Dornwald ging

Maria durch ein Dornwald ging,  
Kyrie eleison.  
Maria durch ein Dornwald ging,  
der hat in sieben Jahrn kein Laub getragen.  
Jesus und Maria.

Was trug Maria unter ihrem Herzen?  
Kyrie eleison.  
Ein kleines Kindlein ohne Schmerzen,  
das trug Maria unter ihrem Herzen.  
Jesus und Maria.

Da haben die Dornen Rosen getragen,  
Kyrie eleison.  
Als das Kindlein durch den Wald getragen,  
da haben die Dornen Rosen getragen.  
Jesus und Maria.

## Laudate Dominum (from Psalm 117)

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes;  
Laudate eum, omnes populi.  
Quoniam confirmata est  
Super nos misericordia eius,  
Et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.  
Gloria Patri et Filio  
Et Spiritui Sancto  
Sicut erat in principio  
Et nunc, et semper  
Et in saecula saeculorum.  
Amen.

O great mystery,  
and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the newborn Lord,  
lying in a manger!  
Blessed Virgin, whose womb  
was worthy to bear  
the Lord, Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

Mary wandered through a wood of thorns  
Lord, have mercy.  
Mary wandered through a wood of thorns,  
Which was leafless for seven years.  
Jesus and Mary.

Who did Mary bear beneath her bosom?  
Lord, have mercy.  
A little babe without pain,  
Whom Mary bore beneath her bosom.  
Jesus and Mary.

The thorns had roses there,  
Lord, have mercy.  
As the babe was carried through the woods,  
There were roses with thorns on them.  
Jesus and Mary.

O praise the Lord, all ye nations;  
praise him, all ye people.  
For his merciful kindness  
is great toward us:  
and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever.  
Praise to the Father and to the Son  
And to the Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now, and ever shall be  
Forever and ever.  
Amen.

## Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
As men of old have sung.  
It came a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen  
Aus einer Wurzel zart,  
Wie uns die Alten sungen,  
Von Jesse kam die Art,  
Und hat ein Blümlein bracht  
Mitten im kalten Winter,  
Wohl zu der halben nacht.

## Los Peces en el Río

La Virgen se está peinando  
entre cortina y cortina.  
Los cabellos son de oro  
y el peine de plata fina.

Pero mira cómo beben los peces en el río.  
Pero mira cómo beben por ver a Dios nacido.  
Beben y beben y vuelven a beber.  
Los peces en el río por ver a Dios nacer.

La Virgen lleva una rosa  
en su divina pechera  
che se la Dios San Jose  
antes che niño naciera.

Pero mira cómo beben...

La Virgen va caminando,  
va caminando solita.  
Y no lleva más compañía  
Que el niño de su manita.

Pero mira cómo beben...

## So Hallowed is that Time (Act 1, Scene 1, Hamlet)

(Marcellus to Horatio and Bernardo, after seeing the Ghost)

Some say that ever 'gainst that season comes  
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,  
This bird of dawning singeth all night long;  
And then, they say, no spirit dare stir abroad,  
The nights are wholesome, then no planets strike,  
No fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm,  
So hallow'd and so gracious is that time.

This Flower whose fragrance tender,  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor  
The darkness everywhere;  
To Bethlehem they sped  
And in the manger found Him,  
As Angel heralds said.

The Virgin is combing her hair  
Between curtains  
Her hair is of gold  
The comb of fine silver.

But look how they drink, the fish in the river.  
But look how they drink, to see God born.  
They drink and they drink and they drink again,  
The fish in the river, to see God born.

The Virgin wears a flower  
on her holy heart  
which St. Joseph gave her  
before the child was born.

But look how they drink...

The Virgin is walking,  
She's walking alone,  
She has no other company  
But the Child holding her hand.

But look how they drink...

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 45-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.

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 90 compositions and arrangements. The choir's recordings on iTunes and CD Baby extend the reach of its repertoire internationally. Elektra's 16<sup>th</sup> CD, *On Christmas Night*, was released in October 2019, and features music from Canada and around the world. 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, festivals, and concert series. In July 2017, Elektra was one of two choirs representing Canada at the World Symposium on Choral Music, in Barcelona, Spain.

#### Soprano 1

Julie Edmundson, Danica Kell, Holly Kennedy\*, Cassie Luftspring, Ashley McConnell, Janine Magaw, Stephanie Mayer, Rachel Nelson, Alessia Todde, Jillian Schina

#### Soprano 2

Bonnie Borin, Ann Busay, Catherine Cheneval, Sophia Fan, Katrin Lohuaru, Karina Pelayo, Amanda Randt, Kathryn Slemko\*, Kim Taylor, Allison Tremblay, Maggie Van Seters, Christine Wang

#### Alto 1

Amy Dawson\*, Irene Duthion, Susan Edwards, Grace Groot, Kirstin Hain, Shelley Koke, Simone Lemieux, Sheila Little, Stephanie Loo, Alison Stillwell, Patty Wagner, Brenda Wilson

#### Alto 2

Stephanie Browning, Beth Busby, Maureen Ciarniello, Elisabeth Finch, Corinne Norbraten, Denise O'Brien, Caitlin Robinson\*, Deirdre Rogers, Stephanie Schollen, Rosemary Speakman

\* Section Leaders

## MORNA EDMUNDSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



**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.

In addition to her work with Elektra, Morna is the Artistic Director of EnChor, a Vancouver-based auditioned choir for mature voices. 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, PIANIST



**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.

### Are you a budding musician?



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### YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME \$500.00

This annual scholarship will support a young developing musician in their music education experience. The scholarship may be used for travel to a music program, participation in music festivals, private instruction, tuition or any other music education activity. The recipient may or may not be planning to pursue a career in music.

Applications are open now. **Deadline March 1, 2020.**

For more information, eligibility criteria, and to apply, visit

[elektra.ca/outreach/youth-scholarship](http://elektra.ca/outreach/youth-scholarship)

## MARISA GAETANNE



**Marisa Gaetanne** is the Music Director of the **Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus and Youth Choirs**. Having worked with the VBCC since 1988 under the mentorship of **Bruce Pullan**, Ms. Gaetanne took over as Music Director of the Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus family of choirs in 2009. With over 20 years of experience working with the younger levels, Ms. Gaetanne is committed to bringing the discipline, art and joy of singing and musicianship to the children she works with. Her "beautiful lyric coloratura voice" and vivacious personality have shaped her career to include an artistic blend of international solo appearances, chamber music and choral conducting. Winner of the **Metropolitan Opera Auditions** (Northwest)

and prizewinner in the prestigious **Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition**, Ms Gaetanne has sung as a soloist in opera, oratorio and recital in Europe, Canada and the U.S.A. Her vocal studies have taken her to New York, London, and Florence where she also completed a Degree in Italian literature and history. She completed a M.Mus. in Voice from the **UBC School of Music**, where she has been a member of the Voice Faculty since 1989. Her students perform in opera houses and choirs around the globe. Ms Gaetanne studied Orff & Kodaly pedagogies and Early Childhood Music Education at **York University** and the **Royal Conservatory of Music** in Toronto. She was the youngest ever member of the **Vancouver Chamber Choir**. Ms. Gaetanne also runs the popular summer music theatre program, **ChoralStage**, annually in July. 'Ms. G' has a profound respect for childrens' talent and diverse natures, and loves to craft curriculum that furthers the musical and vocal development of these fine young singers. She also works to foster the personal and social growth of her students by creating a rehearsal atmosphere that promotes self-esteem, discipline, and a sense of accomplishment and pride. She is known throughout the community for her enlightened enthusiasm in her work with children and her love for both the music and the children is infectious.



## VANCOUVER BACH CHILDREN'S CHORUS

The **Vancouver Bach Children's Chorus** is an ambitious choir for unchanged voices. The Chorus is the pinnacle of the organization's younger choirs. In addition to their performances in the VBCC annual **Christmas Concert** (Orpheum Theatre), **Spring Concert** (Pacific Spirit United Church) and **Summer Concert** (Chan Centre, UBC), the Chorus accepts invitations to perform at civic and corporate events throughout the year, as well as special performances with the **Vancouver Symphony Orchestra**. Now singing in full harmony, the Chorus studies music which is both vocally and musically challenging, in 5 languages, from all genres. Chorus members attend a fall retreat and have undertaken many tours in previous years. Rehearsing for 1.5 hours weekly, this first class ensemble is comprised of gifted young singers and musicians.

## VBCC Choristers

Sebastian Blomerus, Spencer Blomerus, Pamela Boudjok, Nina Liv Burton, Maclean Carlson, Ellie Chambers, Amanda Chen, Snoo Choi, Kyan Chow, Thalia Conway, Andreas Dala, Magdalen Eaton, Audrey Forbes, Audrey Gao, Mingyang (Emily) Gao, Charlie Gatley, Emery Gatley, Divya Gill, Anna Gordon, Sara Hajduk, Ava Hall, Wren Hawkey, Ivy Hawkey, Isabel Hebert, Skye Higgins, Isaac Ho, Reese Ingledew, Isabella Jimenez, Portia Kessner, Johanna Kim, Samantha Kim, Maeve Konnert, Kayla Kwok, Vanessa Lau, Kristina Le, Sruthy Loganathan, Michaela Lowy, Rita Lu, Sarah Ma, Paulina Makarova, Alan McPherson, Madison Meadows, Anna Merritt, Christopher Orban, Cynthia Pei, Natalie Roche, Michelle Roche, Anna Sadarangani, Teodora Savic, Kate Scamvougeras, Danica Selder, Linnea Stevens, Avan Stewart, Alicia Tao, Anderson Tseng, Elizabeth Tsong, William Wei, Jade Winks Leong, Isaac Wong, Christopher Xie, Eric Yang, Aarani Yogeshwaran, Adriana Zaharijevic

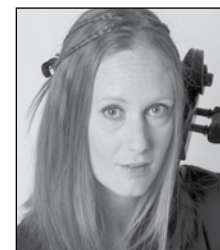


## JOAN BLACKMAN

**Joan Blackman** is the Artistic Director of Vancouver's **Vetta Chamber Music Society** and former Associate Concertmaster of the **Vancouver Symphony**. She has performed and recorded as soloist with the **Vancouver Symphony, Victoria Symphony, CBC Radio Orchestra, Turning Point Ensemble** and the **Banff Festival Orchestra**, and will perform the *Beethoven Concerto* this coming April with the **Lion's Gate Sinfonia**.

Ms. Blackman is known throughout Canada and the US as a fine chamber musician and is a member of the **Sea and Sky Collective** which recently released two CDs. Joan has performed on numerous series including **Music in the Morning, Music Fest Vancouver, the Pender Harbour Music Society Concert Series, the Jeffrey Concerts**, and the **American String Project**. She has also appeared at the **Hornby Island Festival, the Pender Harbour Chamber Music Festival**, and the **Victoria Summer Music Festival**.

"Your heart would need to be made of stone not to have loved Joan Blackman's splendid solo", "Shapelier phrases and sweeter tone would be hard to imagine", "a ravishing tone", "first rate soloist", "exchanged lines meltingly in a flawless performance" "playing with lyricism, precision, and evident joy"; are some of the accolades that have graced Joan's reviews. She performs on a **Carlo Ferdinando Landolfi** violin made in Milan in 1761.



## REBECCA WENHAM

Cellist **Rebecca Wenham's** performances have been described as "silken, highly refined" (the *Globe and Mail*) as well as having "extraordinary commitment and maturity" (*La Gazette*). Her animated playing style is often surprising, dramatic and impulsive, leaving a breathless audience on the edge of their seats. She has performed across North America, Mexico, Europe, Japan and Australia. Formerly a member of the **Cecilia String Quartet**, she won prizes in the **Osaka, Rutenberg, Bordeaux** and **Banff International String Quartet Competitions**, and was a **CBC Galaxie**

**Rising Star** in 2007. Highlights of the 2015 season included performances of the **Elgar Cello Concerto** with the **Vancouver Philharmonic**, the **Brahms Double Concerto** with the **Lion's Gate Sinfonia**, and the **Schumann Cello Concerto** with **West Coast Symphony Orchestra**. This past May, **Music on Main** presented Rebecca in a program of solo cello exploring works that highlight divergent musical styles (all composed in the 21st century), from classical to music by jazz cellist **Peggy Lee** and rock violinist **Sarah Neufeld**.

A member of **Microcosmos Quartet** since 2011, an ensemble committed to performing music of the last 100 years (or so), she presents programs in intimate settings such as private homes, art galleries, clubs and small halls. Microcosmos Quartet held its inaugural string orchestra mentorship program, the **Kessler Academy**, in September 2015. Rebecca is Principal Cello of the **Vancouver Opera Orchestra**. Her projects have been generously funded by the **Canada Council**, the **BC Arts Council** and **ProQuartet**. She holds degrees from the **HARID Conservatory of Music**, and from **Rice, San Diego State** and **McGill Universities**.

## Elektra would like to acknowledge the support of the following generous donors.

*This list is complete as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. If there are any errors or omissions, please contact manager@elektra.ca*

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Lucy Ching  
Maribeth Ching  
Patrick Ching  
Stephanie Ching  
Jonathan Choy  
Barbara Ciarniello  
Jane Cochrane  
Sue Contant  
Sydney Currenti  
Dagmar Dlab  
Amy Dawson  
Clive Dawson  
Elaine Dawson  
Naomi Dawson  
Erin Deighton  
Renzo Del Negro  
Jack Deragopian  
Gordon DeVito  
Redenta DiTomaso  
Jane Donaldson  
Susan Edwards  
Glen Embree  
Dora Eng

Winnie Ens  
Ivan Filippov  
Judith & Graham Forst  
Lauren Fougner  
Karen Frazer  
Suan Fung  
Ena Groot  
Heather Groot  
Jocelyn Groot  
Michael Groot  
Kirstin Hain  
Cricket Handler  
-Canzona Women's Ensemble  
Evelyn & Edgar Harden  
Heather Hesson  
Wendy Hiebert  
Jackie Hofstede  
Sarah Huang  
Heather Ireland  
Andrew Jang  
Steven Jin  
Kristen Jones  
Bruce Jung  
Danica Kell  
Holly Kennedy  
Jan Kidnie  
Shelley Koke  
Sarah Kramer  
Paula Kremer  
Tanya Kupferschmid  
Janice Kwon  
Simone Lemieux  
Suzanne Lemieux  
Linda Leonard  
Lulu Lim  
Samantha Ling  
Ruth Logan  
Katrin Lohuaru  
Stephanie Loo  
Andrew Lowe  
Janine & Mike Magaw  
Arwina Manalo  
Trevor Marsh  
Greg Martin  
Meghan Mason  
Alida May  
Jessica May  
Lois May  
Stephanie Mayer  
Ashley McConnell  
Melody McLennan  
Manel McNeill  
Caitriona McParland  
Genevieve Melito  
Carolyn Millard

Margaret Mortifee  
Francis Mwimanzi  
Lisa Nasu  
Bobby Ning  
Alicia O'Brien  
Denise O'Brien & Jim Logan  
Martin O'Brien  
Mark Pan  
Ann & Ray Parsons  
Cheri Peters  
Helen Prince  
Janet Prichard  
Jennifer Pritchard  
Kevin Rey  
Danice Rigets  
Deirdre Rogers  
Grant Rowledge  
Erika Salas  
Gail Sapp  
Vina Sayson  
Jillian Schina

Stephanie Schollen  
Graham Shaw  
Kristen Shon  
Kathryn Slemko  
Bob & Gwen Smith  
Elson So  
Rosemary Speakman  
Hanwei Sudderuddin  
Kayleigh Suggett  
Noreen Szabo  
Amanda Taylor  
Kim Taylor  
Russell Taylor  
Jill Tipping  
Evaline Todd  
Alessia Todde  
Charles Tsai  
Olivia Tsai  
Jo & Bob Twaites  
Margarethe & Steve Uyesugi

Moyra Van Nus  
Peter Van Ooyen  
Anieta Van Seters and Tink T  
in honour of Peter Van Seters  
Nathan & Kelly Van Seters  
in honour of Peter Van Seters  
Robert & Jolene Van Seters  
in honour of Peter Van Seters  
Astrid Van Wieren  
William Van Wieren  
Jason Versluis  
Alexandra Volkoff  
Dewey Wagenaar  
Patty Wagner  
Christine Wang  
Linda Weinkam  
Tabitha Woodworth  
Lorna Yeates  
Jeremy Yeo  
Wang Yi

**Volunteers play a vital role in the Elektra experience and we are grateful for each and every one of them:** Christina Ledenko and Jessica May, Bill Busay, Jan Janovik, Genevieve Miedema, Sharon Schermbrucker, Ron Slemko, Greg Wirch, Sophie Wirch, and others.

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**Sign up to receive the latest news about Elektra. Visit [elektra.ca](http://elektra.ca) – it only takes a minute!**



**Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director | Stephen Smith, Accompanist**

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Elektra Women's Choir is a proud member of



*We make a living by what we get,  
We make a life by what we give.*

*Winston Churchill*

**CONSIDER DONATING TO  
ELEKTRA IN OUR 33<sup>RD</sup> SEASON OF EXCELLENCE!**

By donating on a monthly or quarterly basis, you can make a significant contribution without feeling the pinch of a large gift given at one time. And in the process, you will empower Elektra to continue to share beautiful music and support their outreach programs for artists of all ages. It's easy to do and only takes a few minutes. Simply visit [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org) to sign up today, and along with your pledge you will receive a copy of *Your One and Only Life*, one of our favorite CDs, as a gift for joining.

Please visit [elektra.ca](http://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.

[canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org)

**UBC OPERA 2019/20 SEASON**



**Pasazierka** (The Passenger)

**No matter how far you travel  
the past is always present.**

**Mieczysław Weinberg** | Composer  
**David Agler** | Conductor  
**Nancy Hermiston** | Director  
Members of the **Vancouver Opera Orchestra**

January 30, 31, February 1 — 7:30 p.m.  
February 2 — 2:00 p.m.  
The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Tickets  
[www.ubcoperatickets.com](http://www.ubcoperatickets.com)  
604.822.6725

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



LIONS GATE  
SINFONIA

2019  
2020

concert season

**Sinfonia Family  
Christmas  
Songs and Serenades**

Lions Gate Sinfonia with Maestro Clyde Mitchell  
with Vocalist Ingrid Mapson



Season sponsor  
**parc**  
retirement  
living

**Saturday, December 7, 2019 (7:30pm)**

Pre-concert chat with Maestro Clyde Mitchell at 6:30pm

**Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver**

Tickets: [Centennialtheatre.com](http://Centennialtheatre.com) or 604-984-4484



**ELEKTRA**  
WOMEN'S CHOIR  
creating • exploring • celebrating

Elektra plays a major role in the development and dissemination of quality repertoire. We invite you to explore the Repertoire section of our website. It's a go-to place for women's choir conductors from around the world.

[elektra.ca/repertoire](http://elektra.ca/repertoire)





**ELEKTRA'S CHORAL LEADERSHIP FOR YOUNG WOMEN WORKSHOP**

**January 27, 2020**

A night of sharing and learning for youth and adult choirs.

Visit **Elektra.ca** to learn more.

Questions? **manager@elektra.ca**



**HELP US SECURE OUR FUTURE!**

Did you know? An innovative way to support Elektra through the **CanadaHelps** website is to donate tax receiptable **Securities** and **Mutual funds**—just visit **canadahelps.org**. Search or browse for **Elektra Women's Choir** and select the **Donate Securities** tab.

**IT'S THAT EASY!**

Vox Pacifica Presents

# Winter Song

*Including Britten's 'Ceremony of Carols' with Alishia Joubert, harp*

Sat. December 7, 2019 @ 7:30pm  
Sun. December 8, 2019 @ 4:00pm

First Congregational Church  
2401 Cornwall Avenue • Bellingham, WA

Tickets \$15, online or at the door  
**voxpacifica.org/events**

*Very best wishes to Elektra for another wonderful season from your sisters in song, Vox Pacifica!*  
**voxpacifica.org**

# UNITED VOICES IN CONCERT VIVALDI POULENC HAYDN

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019, 7pm**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2019, 2pm**

PRESENTED BY UNITED VOICES, SOLOISTS & CHAMBER ORCHESTRA,  
GREG CAISLEY, DIRECTOR  
PACIFIC SPIRIT UNITED CHURCH, 2205 WEST 45TH AVE, VANCOUVER, BC  
Tickets (\$20) Available at the door or at **www.voiceschoir.ca**

## MIRA YOUTH MENTORSHIP 2020



Established to encourage students to develop their love of choral singing, build their choral skills, and to provide an opportunity for young women to sing with renowned women's choir, Elektra. Mira will rehearse with Elektra in January and February, and will perform with the choir at its concerts on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2020.

Application deadline:  
December 10, 2019

To apply, visit **elektra.ca/outreach/mira-youth-mentorship**

musica intima  
VOCAL ENSEMBLE

# SING LULLABY

*A choral Christmas rooted in the English tradition, with music of Howells, Leighton, and Dove.*

FIVE PERFORMANCES  
**DECEMBER 13, 15, 17, 20, 21**

**MUSICAINTIMA.ORG | 604 731 6618**

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BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL  
CITY OF VANCOUVER  
The Martha Lou Henry Charitable Foundation  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
**straight**



Vancouver Bach Choir performs

**VANCOUVER BACH FAMILY OF CHOIRS**

# HANDEL'S MESSIAH

December 14 | 7:30pm  
Orpheum Theatre

Featuring  
**Leslie Dala** | Conductor  
**Eve-Lyn de la Haye** | Soprano  
**Stephanie Tritchew** | Mezzo soprano  
**John Tessier** | Tenor  
**Neil Craighead** | Bass-baritone  
 With members of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION VISIT:  
[VANCOUVERBACHCHOIR.COM](http://VANCOUVERBACHCHOIR.COM)

MEDIA SPONSOR **straight**

**THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY TRADITION**



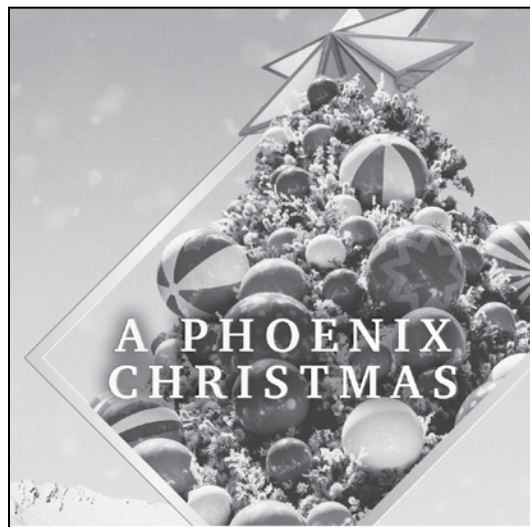
**emv: 50 years**

# FESTIVE CANTATAS: CHRISTMAS IN GABRIELI'S VENICE

**Bruce Dickey** director & cornetto  
with vocal soloists

DECEMBER 22, 2019 at 3:00pm  
THE CHAN CENTRE

Tickets from \$36 | [earlymusic.bc.ca](http://earlymusic.bc.ca) | 604.822.2697



# A PHOENIX CHRISTMAS


DECEMBER 14, 2019, 4:00pm  
Shaughnessy Heights United Church

DECEMBER 15, 2019, 7:30pm  
West Vancouver United Church

[phoenixchoir.com](http://phoenixchoir.com)  
Buy your tickets online to save!

Vancouver Chamber Choir  
KARI TURUNEN, CONDUCTOR

# CHRISTMAS ORATORIO



OWEN MCCAUSLAND  
EVANGELIST

7:30PM | FRIDAY, DEC 6, 2019  
THE ORPHEUM, 601 SMITHE ST AT SEYMOUR ST

WITH OWEN MCCAUSLAND, EVANGELIST  
PACIFIC BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Three festive cantatas from Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* (I, III and VI) with the Pacific Baroque Orchestra on period instruments – what could be a better way to open the festive season? With soloists predominantly from within the choir and the softer tone of the period instruments, this aims to be a leaner and lighter reading of this great classic.

1.855.985.ARTS (2787) [ticketmaster.ca](http://ticketmaster.ca)  
[vancouverchamberchoir.com](http://vancouverchamberchoir.com)

# elektra un.corked

Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
From 6 pm to late

Oscar's Pub  
3684 East Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC

Tickets \$15 | 604.739.1255



**ELEKTRA**  
WOMEN'S CHOIR  
creating • exploring • celebrating

Karaoke | Games | Delicious food | Raffle draws | Good company all on the menu!

# Women of the Italian Baroque



**ELEKTRA**  
WOMEN'S CHOIR

creating • exploring • celebrating

**Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director**  
with guest conductor, **Alexander Weimann**

*Exquisite music from 17<sup>th</sup> century Italy,  
featuring seven women composers from  
the Baroque era.*

**March 7, 2020 • 7:30 pm**

Pacific Spirit United Church,  
2205 West 45th Avenue, Vancouver

For more information and to purchase tickets visit

**[elektra.ca/concerts-events](http://elektra.ca/concerts-events)**



**ELEKTRA**  
WOMEN'S CHOIR

## Raffle!

Win a trip of a lifetime for two, to one of the  
world's top tourist destinations—**Haida Gwaii!**

Prize includes:

Return airfare with Pacific Coastal Airlines from Vancouver  
to Masset (some blackout dates/ no travel on holidays).  
Flights valued at \$1700 including taxes.

2 nights stay at the Alaska View Lodge valued at \$700.00.

**TOTAL PRIZE VALUED AT \$2400.00**

600 tickets available at \$25 each. Online sales close December  
9<sup>th</sup>. Winner's name will be drawn at Elektra's office, 949 West  
49th Avenue in Vancouver, on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at  
6:30 pm.

Visit **[support.elektra.ca](http://support.elektra.ca)** to purchase  
tickets or speak with an Elektra singer!

Chances are 1 in 600 (total tickets for sale) to win a grand prize

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