

**Harmonia
Choir
of
Ottawa**



**OTTAWA
WIND ENSEMBLE**

Winter Winds ...and Voices



Programme

Texts for Audience Carols on insert

Audience Carol: O Come All Ye Faithful.....John Francis Wade

Harmonia Upper Voices

Hodie.....Jacob Narverud

Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind..... Sarah Quartel *

Alle, Alleluia.....Bruce Tippette

Audience Carol: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing...Felix Mendelssohn

Ottawa Wind Ensemble

Rejoice the Season.....Rob Romeyn

Christmas Overture.....Michel Rondeau *

Audience Carol: Les anges dans nos campagnes.....Wilfrid Moreau

Ottawa Boys Choir

With Songs of Rejoicing.....J. S. Bach, arr. Hal Hopson

Have a Holly Jolly Christmas.....Johnny Marks, arr. Greg Gilpin

Lower Voices from Ottawa Boys Choir & Harmonia

We Three Kings.....arr. Russell Robinson

Treble Voices from Ottawa Boys Choir with Ottawa Wind Ensemble

Silent Night.....Josef Mohr & Franz Gruber, arr Michel Rodeau *

Ottawa Wind Ensemble

Christmas Pipe.....Brendan Graham, arr. Michael Brown

Celtic Carol.....arr. Robert W Smith

And the Mountains Echoed: Gloria!.....Robert Longfield

Audience Carol: Deck the Hall.....trad. Welsh

Harmonia Choir

Who Has Seen the Wind:....text Christina Rossetti, music Bruce Tippette

Cherry Tree Carol...(Ottawa premiere).....Mark Sirett *

I Just Heard Some Good News.....Jay Althouse

Gloria (from Mariazeller Messe).....Joseph Haydn *, ed. Ryan Kelly

Harmonia & Ottawa Boys Choir with Ottawa Wind Ensemble

Jingle All the Ways!.arr. Adam & Matt Podd, band arr Michel Rondeau *

Audience Carol: Joy to the World.....George Frideric Handel

* Canadian Composer



The **Ottawa Wind Ensemble** was formed in 2005, drawing together current and former Canadian Forces musicians, music teachers, and other professional musicians, in a professional calibre group.

Under the direction of founding conductor, Mark Rocheleau, this 35 member ensemble performs the symphonic wind ensemble repertoire made famous by the E

astman Wind Ensemble, the rich concert band repertoire from North America and Europe, and the orchestral transcriptions of the famous composers. While the OWE is technically a community band, most of the members are fully involved in a life of music, whether it be as freelance musicians, music educators, or full time professionals. The raison d'être of the OWE is to perform at the highest calibre of musicianship possible, and anyone who attends a concert will appreciate this for themselves.

www.OttawaWindEnsemble.ca



Mark Rocheleau, Conductor, was born and raised in Amherstburg Ontario, began his formal studies in 1979 at the University of Windsor, majoring on clarinet, and graduating with a Bachelor of Music, and Bachelor of Education. His private clarinet teachers were Dr. Imre Rozsnyai of the University of Windsor and Paul Schaller of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. After four seasons with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra, he acquired a direct entry into the Canadian Forces Vimy Band in Kingston in 1985,

where he broadened his musical experience playing both clarinet and saxophone. In August of 1994, he was posted to the Central Band of the Canadian Forces here in Ottawa and was eventually selected for a yearlong assistant conductor's course, which he completed in 1999. In October of 2005, Mark had completed 20 years of service with the Canadian Forces and elected to retire. His project since then has been to form The Ottawa Wind Ensemble, which was founded in September of 2005.



Harmonia Choir of Ottawa was formed in 2003 to provide an opportunity to perform choral music from Canada and around the world. While the choir has performed music from the choral canon, they also perform a broad range of repertoire with a focus on promoting local, and Canadian composers and

compositions. The choir has performed in concert with various musicians over the years, including Julie Nesrallah, Kenny Rogers, the Maple Leaf Brass, Divertimento Orchestra, Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, Regimental Band of the Governor General's Foot Guards, the Ottawa Wind Ensemble, and was invited to sing Brahms's German Requiem in Carnegie Hall with John Rutter directing, and at Lincoln Centre with composer Ola Gjeilo. This year the choir returns to Carnegie Hall, with an invitation from Alberta conductor Laurier Fagnan, to join his and other choirs in a performance of the Levin edition of the Mozart Requiem. In addition to regularly premiering new works, and arrangements, including commissions from Canadian composers Mark Sirett, Stephen Hatfield and Matthew Emery, the choir has taken on various projects including Harmonia's MosaiK Choral Festival, bringing top-notch Canadian choral conductors and composers together with local choirs to celebrate Canada's mosaic through music.

www.HarmoniaChoir.com



Kurt Ala-Kantti, Artistic Director and founder of Harmonia Choir of Ottawa and the new Ottawa Boys Choir has been directing community adult and children's choirs for over twenty years. He is presently also Director of Music for St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church, Music Director for the Cumberland Community Singers, as well as conductor of the Ottawa Children's Choir "Viva Choir" Orleans, having served as Concert Choir and Boys Choir director there previously.

Kurt served as Artistic Director for the national choral festival "Unison Festival Unison" in 2014. With a keen interest in choral performance and excellence, Kurt is a frequent paid chorister in local choirs, and has been a member of several local choirs, including being a founding member of the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir, singing professionally with the Juno Award winning Ottawa Bach Choir, and the Dicken's Carollers of Ottawa, and currently singing with the Ewashko Singers.



Tom Sear, Collaborative Accompanist, is also the Accompanist for Musica Viva Singers, Cumberland Community Singers, Choir of St Thomas the Apostle, the Ottawa Boys Choir and the Orleans Viva Choir of the Ottawa Children's Choir. In addition to working with choirs, he

also accompanies instrumental and vocal soloists and students, and enjoys teaching piano and music theory privately from his studio in Orleans. He studied at the University of Ottawa under Andrew Tunis and Jean Paul Sevilla. In 2007 he completed his studies and earned a Masters degree in music with a focus in piano performance. He also has some background as a percussionist.

Harmonia Choir of Ottawa

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Director, Tom Sear, Collaborative Accompanist

Soprano

Natasha Beedie	Jimena Bordes	Allison Cassie
Carmen Chase	Bonnie Chatelain	Janet Davies
Robin Dunbar	Carol Fairbrother	Maureen Favretto
Sarah Gauld	Megan Jesmer	Linda Last
Rita Lemgruber	Joy Overtveld	Aurelia Overtveld
Cristella Pari	Danielle Presentey	Aideen Reynolds

Alto

Ilona Bain	Jennifer Duguid	Theresa Fournier
Alison Harding-Hlady	Alison Kennedy	Sharon Kuder
Teresa MacArthur	Aven McMaster	Elizabeth Moore
Molly Olshefsky	Helen Pace	Vanessa Petersen
Jeanette Rive	Amy Tarnowski	

Tenor

George Marshall	Mark Sundaram	Harold Swaffield
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Bass

Alexandre Charest	Michael Parkes	David Salisbury
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Ottawa Boys Choir is directed by Kurt Ala-Kantti with Tom Sear as collaborative accompanist. While they sang in the official City of Ottawa Remembrance Day service in Orleans in November, today marks their first concert appearance. The Boys Choir aims

to fill a gap in options for boys wanting to sing in the National Capital Region. Open to boys and those who self-identify as boys in grade 4-12, with or without previous musical training, who wish to sing in a boys community choir.

The singers are trained in choral vocal techniques, with an emphasis on the voice transitioning. Using diverse repertoire, often drawn from the diversity within the group itself, they learn how to sing in various languages and styles, to navigate a choral score, particularly various clefs which is necessary as they change from upper voices to lower voices, as well as general music theory.

They are exposed to music history, being made familiar with the composers and stylistic approach to the music of the era that they are performing. In addition, emphasis is given to living composers whenever possible, with collaborations with composers in the Ottawa area and beyond, through live workshops or via Zoom.

The Ottawa Boys Choir curriculum and approach encourages not just musical instruction and excellence, but also play time in which boys are encouraged to have fun and bond, while building connections and friendships.

Our approach is based on the values of mutual respect and acceptance among the choristers. www.OttawaBoysChoir.ca

Ottawa Boys Choir

Kurt Ala-Kantti, Artistic Director, Tom Sear, Collaborative Accompanist

Trebles

Benjamin Baker
Tristan Dos Santos
Oneth Kulatilaka

Errol Chase
Noah Dupont-Matheiu
Riveth Kulatilaka

Felix Dos Santos
Matthew Jaekl

Lower Voices

Ewan Chase
Edmund Sundaram

Liam Menzies

Iain Ogilvie-Warnock



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Hodie

We open our programme with three pieces for upper voices. **Hodie** sets the traditional Latin text from the vespers service on Christmas Day in a joyous and exciting setting by American composer Jacob Narverud.

Hodie Christus natus est	Today Christ is born
Hodie Salvator apparuit	Today the Saviour appeared
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli	Today on Earth the Angels sing
laetantur Archangeli	Archangels rejoice
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes	Today the righteous rejoice, saying
Gloria in excelsis Deo	Glory to God in the highest
Alleluia	Alleluia

Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind

William Shakespeare (1564-1616) is considered one of the greatest writers in English who ever lived. He wrote 38 plays and countless poems and sonnets, and his writing shaped much of the English language as we now know it. This famous passage comes from Act 2, Scene 7 of the play As You Like It, written around 1599. Having been cast out from court and come to live in the forest, the speaker is saying that the physical discomfort brought by being exposed to nature’s elements is not so hard as the emotional pain of being betrayed by friends and lovers. The text has been set to music many times, Harmonia is singing a setting by Canadian composer and music educator Sarah Quartel.

Blow, blow, thou winter wind	Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky
Blow, thou winter wind	Freeze, thou bitter sky
Thou art not so unkind	That dost not bite so nigh
As man’s ingratitude	As benefits forgot
Thy tooth is not so keen	Though thou the waters warp
Because thou art not seen	Thy sting is not so sharp
Although thy breath be rude	As friend remembered not
Hey ho! Sing hey ho!	Hey ho! Sing hey ho!
Unto the green holly	Unto the green holly
Most friendship is feigning	Most friendship is feigning
Most loving mere folly	Most loving mere folly
Then hey ho, the holly	Then hey ho, the holly
This life is most jolly	This life is most jolly

Alle, Alleluia

This exciting and energetic piece is by Bruce W. Tippette, an American composer based in North Carolina. The word “Alleluia” is used in Christian liturgy to express joy and praise God.

With Songs of Rejoicing

In their premiere concert, the Ottawa Boys Choir performs this lively piece from the larger work, Denn Du Wist, by J. S. Bach, arranged by Hal Hopson.

Have A Holly Jolly Christmas

This holiday classic was made famous by Burl Ives as the title track from his 1965 Christmas album. An Elvis-style arrangement filled with fun and surprises.

We Three Kings

The Lower voices of both Harmonia and the Boys Choir combine for this Christmas carol that tells the story of the three wise men, or kings, who visited Jesus shortly after his birth bringing expensive and luxurious gifts, **We Three Kings** is widely considered the first popular Christmas carol written in the United States. It was composed by John Henry Hopkins, Jr., in 1857. Hopkins was a rector and music teacher in Pennsylvania and New York City, and wrote the carol for a Christmas pageant. This arrangement, in a jazzy 5/4 time signature instead of the usual 4/4, We Three Kings meets Dave Brubeck, is by Russell Robinson, a Florida-based music educator, composer, and clinician.

<p>We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, Moor and mountain, Following yonder Star.</p> <p>O Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright, Westward leading, Still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.</p> <p>Born a King on Bethlehem plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again, King for ever, Ceasing never Over us all to reign.</p>	<p>Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh: Prayer and praising All men raising, Worship Him God on High.</p> <p>Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;— Sorrowing, sighing, Bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.</p> <p>Glorious now behold Him arise, King, and God, and Sacrifice; Alleluia, alleluia Earth to the Heaven replies.</p>
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Who Has Seen the Wind?

American composer Bruce W. Tippet created this haunting, exciting piece using the text of a poem by English writer Christina Rossetti, who was considered one of the leading poets of the 19th century and whose poems have inspired many musical and literary works of the 20th century.

Who has seen the wind?
Neither I nor you
But when the leaves hang trembling
The wind is passing through

Who has seen the wind?
Neither you nor I
But when the trees bow down their heads
The wind is passing by

Cherry Tree Carol

The Cherry Tree Carol has reportedly been sung in some form since the 15th century and has been recorded by singers such as Joan Baez, Sting, Peter, Paul and Mary, Emmylou Harris, and many others. Mary and Joseph, on their way to Bethlehem for the census, stop in a cherry orchard. Mary asks Joseph to fetch her some cherries, but he spitefully tells her to let the father of her child fetch the cherries. In response, the tree itself offers her the cherries, presumably guided by the hand of God. This arrangement was written for Harmonia by Kingston, Ontario based composer, conductor and clinician, Mark Sirett, a long time friend of the choir.

<p>Then Joseph took Mary Upon his right knee Saying “Mary, won’t you tell me When the birth day shall be?”</p> <p>“The birth day shall be on That old Christmas night, When the angels in the glory Rejoice at the sight”</p> <p>Mary walked in the garden Just like a little child Saying “Give me some cherries For I am beguiled”</p>	<p>Old Joseph said to Mary “I’ll give you no cherries, “Let the man give you cherries Who did you beguile”</p> <p>Then the tree spoke unto her And it began to bow Saying “Mary gather cherries From the uppermost limb”</p>
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I Just Heard some Good News

Drawing on traditional folk songs, this is an exciting celebration of the birth of Jesus by Jay Althouse. Althouse is an American composer based in North Carolina, who has over 800 choral works in print and whose music is performed all over the English speaking world.

Refrain: I just heard some good news The baby King is born They called Him baby Jesus And made a crib His bed With angels watching over His tiny little head	Three wise men came a'calling To see the holy Child They found an infant lowly So humble, meek and mild They say it was a miracle What happened on that night They say the heavens opened wide And the Lord came down
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Gloria (from Mariazeller Messe)

Joseph Haydn composed his 8th version of the *Mass ordinary*, a set of texts performed during Catholic services, for a performance in Mariazell, Austria, in 1782. This is the second movement, a celebratory and exciting setting of the familiar text. Haydn was an Austria composer active during the Classical period, instrumental in the development of chamber music such as the string quartet.

Gloria in excelsis Deo Et in terra pax hominibus Bonae voluntatis Laudamus te, benedicimus te Adoramus te, glorificamus te	Glory to God in the highest And on earth peace to those On whom his favour rests We praise you, we bless you We adore you, we glorify you
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Jingle Allll the Ways

You’ve never heard Jingle Bells like this before! The familiar winter song was written in the 1850s by James Lord Pierpoint in Massachusetts. Although it does not directly reference Christmas, it has become synonymous with the winter holiday and is sung all over the world as one of the most popular songs of the season. This arrangement for choir is by Adam & Matt Podd, brothers based in Brooklyn, New York, working as composers, music directors, and performers. The arrangement for choir and band is by Ottawa Wind Ensemble member and trumpeter Michel Rondeau.

Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh O’er the fields we go, laughing all the way Bells on bobtail ring, making spirits bright What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way Oh what fun it is to ride in a one house open sleigh!	A day or two ago I thought I’d take a ride And so my friend and I Went sledding side by side We laughed and sang all day Out playing in the snow Until our toes and fingers froze And then we had to go
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O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him, Born the King of Angels:

O come, let us adore Him, (3×) Christ the Lord.

2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,

Born this happy morning,

Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

O come, let us adore Him, (3×) Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

O Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest:

O come, let us adore Him, (3×) Christ the Lord.

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. 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 angelic hosts proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem"

Hark! the herald angels sing: "Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord;

Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see: Hail the incarnate Deity,

Pleased as one with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel,

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

3. 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 newborn King!"

Les anges dans nos campagnes

Les anges dans nos campagnes Ont entonné l'hymne des cieux,

Et l'écho de nos montagnes Redit ce chant mélodieux

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Bergers, pour qui cette fête? Quel est l'objet de tous ces chants ?

Quel vainqueur, quelle conquête Mérite ces cris triomphants:

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Silent Night

Please join in on the last line of each verse:

1. Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh 2. Le brillant choeur des anges

Aux bergers apparaît 3. Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Deck the Hall

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, fa la la la la, la la la la

‘Tis the season to be jolly, fa la la la la, la la la la

Don we now our gay apparel, fa la la la la, la la la la

Troll the ancient yuletide carol, fa la la la la, la la la la

See the blazing yule before us, fa la la la la, la la la la

Strike the harp and join the chorus, fa la la la la, la la la la
Follow me in merry measure, fa la la la la, la la la la
While I tell of yuletide treasure, fa la la la la, la la la la

Fast away, the old year passes, fa la la la la, la la la la
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, fa la la la la, la la la la
Sing we joyous all together, fa la la la la, la la la la
Heedless of the wind and weather, fa la la la la, la la la la

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord has come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

2. Joy to the world, the Saviour 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

3. 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...

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