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*the Siskiyou Singers*

**Yuletide  
Voices**

**Mozart's Solemn Vespers  
& More**

**Mark Reppert** - *Conductor*

**Mikiko S. Petrucelli** - *Accompanist*

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## Yuletide Voices Mozart's Solemn Vespers & More

### Cantique de Jean Racine .....Fauré

*O Word, worthy of the Most High,  
our sole hope, eternal day of earth and the heavens,  
we break the silence of the peaceful night.  
Divine saviour, cast Thine eyes upon us!*

*Shed the light of Thy mighty grace upon us.  
Let all Hell flee at the sound of Thy voice.  
Dispel the slumber of a languishing soul  
that leads it to the forgetting of Thy laws!*

*O Christ, be favorable unto this faithful people  
now gathered to bless Thee.  
Receive these hymns it offers unto Thine immortal glory  
and may it return fulfilled by Thy gifts.*

### Vesperae Solennes de Confessore .....Mozart

Ellie Holt-Murray, soprano  
Andrew Brock, tenor

Michelle Cox, alto  
Dan Gibbs, bass

#### Dixit (Psalm 110)

*The Lord said unto my Lord:  
Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*

*The Lord shall send the rod of thy power out of Sion:  
be thou ruler, even in the midst among thine enemies.*

*In the day of thy power shall the people offer thee free-will offerings with  
an holy worship: the dew of thy birth is of the womb of the morning.*

*The Lord sware, and will not repent:  
Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedech.*

*The Lord upon thy right hand:  
shall wound even kings in the day of his wrath.*

*He shall judge among the heathen;  
he shall fill the places with the dead bodies:  
and smite in sunder the heads over divers countries.*

*He shall drink of the brook in the way:  
therefore shall he lift up his head.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.*

#### Confitebor (Psalm 133)

*I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart:  
secretly among the faithful, and in the congregation.*

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*The works of the Lord are great:  
 sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.*

*His work is worthy to be praised and had in honour:  
 and his righteousness endureth for ever.*

*The merciful and gracious Lord hath so done his marvellous works:  
 that they ought to be had in remembrance.*

*He hath given meat unto them that fear him:  
 he shall ever be mindful of his covenant.*

*He hath shewed his people the power of his works:  
 that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.*

*The works of his hands are verity and judgment:  
 all his commandments are true.*

*They stand fast for ever and ever: and are done in truth and equity.*

*He sent redemption unto his people:  
 he hath commanded his covenant for ever; holy and reverend is his Name.*

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom:  
 a good understanding have all they that do thereafter;  
 the praise of it endureth for ever.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
 Amen.*

### **Beatus Vir (Psalm 112)**

*Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord,  
 that delighteth greatly in his commandments.*

*His seed shall be mighty upon earth:  
 the generation of the upright shall be blessed.*

*Wealth and riches shall be in his house:  
 and his righteousness endureth for ever.*

*Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness:  
 he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.*

*A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth:  
 he will guide his affairs with discretion.*

*Surely he shall not be moved for ever:  
 the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.*

*He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.*

*His heart is established, he shall not be afraid,  
 until he see his desire upon his enemies.*

*He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth  
 for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.*

*The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and  
 melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
 Amen.*

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**Laudate Pueri (Psalm 113)**

Praise the Lord, ye servants: O praise the Name of the Lord.  
 Blessed be the Name of the Lord: from this time forth for evermore.  
 The Lord's Name is praised:  
 from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.  
 The Lord is high above all heathen: and his glory above the heavens.  
 Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath his dwelling so high:  
 and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth?  
 He taketh up the simple out of the dust: and lifteth the poor out of the mire;  
 That he may set him with the princes even with the princes of his people.  
 He maketh the barren woman to keep house:  
 and to be a joyful mother of children.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
 Amen.

**Laudate Dominum (Psalm 17)**

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.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
 Amen.

**Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)**

My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
 and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
 For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
 For behold, from henceforth:  
 all generations shall call me blessed.  
 For he that is mighty hath magnified me:  
 and holy is his Name.  
 And his mercy is on them that fear him:  
 throughout all generations.  
 He hath showed strength with his arm:  
 he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
 and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
 He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
 and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
 as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
 Amen.

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### Ave Maria

**Ave Maria** ..... Mouton  
*Praise Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,  
 Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
 Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
 Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

**Dixit Maria**.....Hassler  
*Mary said to the angel:  
 Behold the handmaid of the Lord;  
 Be it done unto me according to thy word.*

**Ave Maria** .....Conte  
 Suzanne Barnes, soprano      Laura Barlow, tenor  
 Marilyn Reppert, soprano      Priscilla High, tenor  
 Bunny Lewis, alto      Jim Martin, bass  
 Sally Peterson, alto      Ian Wessler, bass

**Ave Maria** .....Gounod  
 Suzanne Barnes, soprano

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**Lo, How a Rose**..... German, arr. Distler

**Good King Wenceslas** ..... English, arr. Parker, Shaw  
 Robin Griffiths, soprano      Jim Gleaves, bass

**Holly & the Ivy**.....English, arr. Parker/Shaw

**The Virgin's Slumber Song** ..... Reger  
 Virginia Abbott, soprano

**Silent Night** ..... Grüber, arr. Fissinger

**Holiday Sing along**  
 We Wish You a Merry Christmas.....English, arr. Rutter



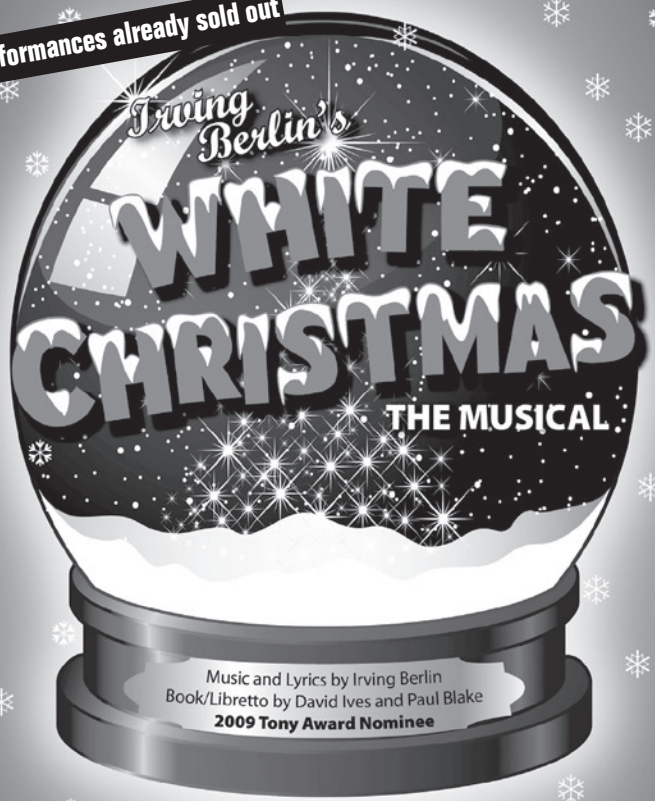
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| <i>Trumpet 1</i><br>Bruce Dresser   | <i>Timpani</i><br>Theresa McCoy     | <i>Viola</i><br>Kimberly Fitch        |
| <i>Trumpet 2</i><br>Steve Kessler   | <i>Violin I</i><br>Arlene Tayloe    | <i>Cello</i><br>Michal Palcewicz      |
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**The Siskiyou Singers** will make choral music available to local schools throughout the 2010/11 school year. The outreach program shares our musical heritage and actively engages students in the enjoyment that is singing.

We sang our first school concert in May 2007 after receiving a Rotary Club of Ashland Lithia Springs grant. Since then we have performed monthly free concerts for elementary schools in the area, which were funded by a generous grant from the **Jackson County Cultural Coalition**, with additional support from **Rotary Club of Ashland Lithia Springs**, and other generous donations.

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## Director's Notes

The "Solemn Vespers of the Confessor," as it is translated, is a set of pieces intended to be used for a catholic festival vespers service honoring a saint. Unfortunately, the identity of the saint has not been definitely identified. The traditional biblical texts consist of the Psalms 110, 111, 112, 113, 117, and the Magnificat, Mary's proclamation of faith to her sister Elizabeth in Luke 1:46-55.

Mozart's settings of these verses are unusual in their use of a wide variety of styles to paint very different emotional expressions. One of the most striking moments in the set is the juxtaposition of the "Laudate Pueri", a very serious, complex Bach-like fugue with the "Laudate Dominum," a beautiful, operatic aria which could have been written for his famous, and, at the time, avant-garde opera, Marriage of Figaro, written six years later.

The "Cantique de Jean Racine", which begins our program is a setting by Gabriel Fauré of a prayer by the 17th century playwright named in the title. The piece by the 19-year-old Fauré won a first place prize at the Ecole Niedermeyer in Paris and launched his great musical career. The music in this piece is a precursor to the style that would lead a generation of French composers, including such greats as Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel, to new territory in music.

After the intermission, we'll present several pieces whose texts honor the Virgin Mary. The "Ave Maria" by Jean Mouton is a piece from the beginning of the Renaissance. The "Dixit Maria" by Hassler are the words of Mary to Gabriel. The pieces that follow praise Mary for her beauty and graciousness.

Our program concludes with beautiful settings of traditional holiday pieces. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw wrote many wonderful arrangements which have become choral standards and from which we have chosen two. We will also sing three of the famous Alfred Burt carols and an angelic version of "Silent Night" written by Edwin Fissinger. After a rollicking sing-along we will conclude with the equally rollicking arrangement by John Rutter of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

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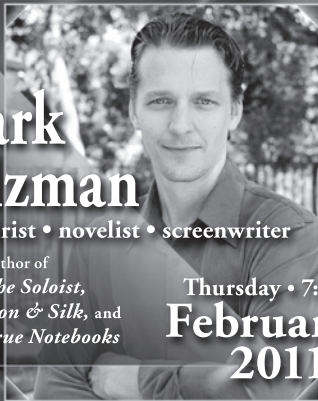
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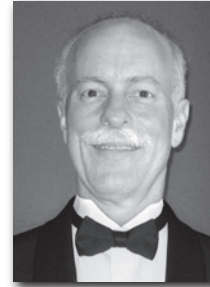
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## Biographies

### Mark Reppert Music Director



Mr. Mark Reppert studied conducting, composition, piano, and music history at the University of Southern California, graduating with a degree in Music History. While there, Mr. Reppert was a member of the University Symphony, the Opera Chorus, and the Trojan Marching Band.

Mr. Reppert received a master's degree in piano performance from Cal State University, Chico, graduating with distinction. While there, he soloed with the Shasta Symphony as the winner of the Shasta Symphony Solo Competition and also with the Paradise Symphony and performed numerous solo recitals.

Mr. Reppert began his teaching career at Paradise Intermediate School in Paradise, California. He taught for 23 years in California, teaching all manner of music from kindergarten to college, including band, orchestra, elementary music, college music appreciation, community choir, and, high school and middle school choir. He recently retired from the position of choral director at North Medford High School after 10 years there. While at North Medford the award winning choirs were an important part of the musical community, performing in many venues including the annual Renaissance Dinner. While at North he was the music director for numerous musical theatre productions including *Into the Woods*, *The King and I*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Mr. Reppert is now an active musician in the Rogue Valley. As music director at Camelot Theater he has worked on productions of *Cabaret*, *Secret Garden*, *Gigi* and *White Christmas*. He has also worked as a singer and accompanist for the Rogue Valley Chorale. He accompanies the Jefferson State Choral Coalition, under the direction of Kirby Shaw, and works as a musician in many other capacities around the Valley.

### Mikiko S. Petrucelli Accompanist



Born in Tokyo, Japan, Mikiko S. Petrucelli first started playing piano at the age of 4. She attended the Mushashino Academia Musicae and received her undergraduate degree in Piano Performance. She then moved to Germany and earned a Performance Degree from Hochschule für Musik, Detmold in Detmold, Germany. After she returned to Japan, Mikiko played with the string chamber group Uovo as their guest pianist, touring Japan and giving chamber and solo concerts in Germany. She has played — CONTINUED —>



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on NHK radio, the national public radio station in Japan, and won a special award at the Josef Dichter Competition in Vienna, Austria in 2001.

Mikiko moved to the United States in 2004 and received a Masters of Music from Baylor University and Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

In 2008, as a result of winning the Chiara Competition, Mikiko performed Dvorak's Piano Quintet with the Chiara Quartet. Mikiko has also studied Historical Performance Practice in fortepiano. In 2008, she was invited to an international conference, as a result of result a full Hixson-Lied Presentation of Scholarly and Creative Activity Grant. She attended an international conference "The Art of the Fortepiano" and performed in several concerts in Middleburg, the Netherlands.

Mikiko has extensive experience as a chamber and solo pianist and also as an accompanist. As of May 2010, she completed three years of service at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska as an adjunct faculty member. She recently relocated to the Rogue Valley and is in her first season as accompanist for the Siskiyou Singers.



### Ellie Holt-Murray Soprano

Ellie Holt-Murray, a magna cum laude graduate from San Francisco State University, was a finalist in both the San Francisco Opera's Merola Auditions and the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions for the San Francisco region. For ten years, she sang with the San Francisco Opera's educational outreach program, Opera a la carte. She has performed leading roles for numerous opera companies including San Jose, Sacramento, Oakland, San Antonio, Eugene, West Coast Opera, and Rogue Opera. Some of her favorite musical theater experiences include the roles Mrs. Lovette in *Sweeney Todd* and Bloody Mary in *South Pacific* with Rogue Music Theater & her debut with OCT in the premier of *Parcel from America*. Last spring she made her Camelot Theater debut as Mamita in *Gigi* and will return next spring as vocal coach for their new theater's production of *Sweeney Todd*.

Ellie's concert and recital appearances have included solo performances with many west coast symphony orchestras including the San Francisco Chamber Players, the Master Symphonia in Palo Alto and the Sacramento and Vallejo Symphonies. In 2007, she was featured as one of the singers for the Rogue Valley Symphony's *The Three Sopranos* concert. She is a frequent soloist for the Rogue Valley Chorale, the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers. Last December, she sang the soprano solos in the Poulenc *Gloria* for the Siskiyou Singers. In January, she will join guitarist James Edwards in a performance of Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5 by Villa-Lobos.

— CONTINUED —>

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Ellie is a vocal instructor at Southern Oregon University and has a private voice studio as well. She was the Musical Vocal Coach for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for two seasons and is co-founder of SING IT! SAY IT! DANCE IT!, an intensive, two-week musical theater workshop for children.

### Shelly Cox Alto

Shelly Cox was born and raised in Southern Oregon. She has been a student of voice for more than 15 years. She is an active member and frequent soloist in the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers. She is also an active member and section leader in the choir at Trinity Episcopal Church in Ashland.



As a high school junior and senior, Shelly won first place in the Alto Division at the Oregon State Solo Competition.

Shelly has appeared in several Rogue Opera productions as a chorus member including: *Carmen*, *The Mikado*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. She also toured in Rogue Opera's 'Opera in the Schools' program for two seasons.

### Andrew Brock Tenor



Originally from Santa Cruz, CA, Mr. Brock earned his undergraduate degree in music education from the University of Oregon and moved to the Rogue Valley in 1996, to begin a career as a general music teacher, choral director, and part-time performer. In 2006, he completed Master's Degrees in Voice and Music Education from the University of Oregon and recently received his Initial Administrator's License from Southern Oregon University.

Mr. Brock has performed with Eugene Opera, Eugene Symphony, Rogue Opera, Obsidian Opera (Bend), University of Oregon Opera Ensemble, Rogue Valley Chorale, Rogue Valley Symphony, Siskiyou Singers, Rogue Music Theatre, and Camelot Theatre in Talent, OR. Favorite roles include: Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*, Rinnuccio in *Gianni Schicchi*, Kaspar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Bobby Child in Cole Porter's *Crazy For You*, and Archibald Craven in *Secret Garden*. Oratorio appearances include soloist in Haydn's *Mass in Time of War*, Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* (conducted by Helmuth Rilling, Oregon Bach Festival), Saint-Saens' *Christmas Oratorio*, Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, and as Obadiah and Angel in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

A scholarship recipient, Andrew attended the Aspen Music Festival and School in the summer of 2003, where he worked with tenor, — CONTINUED —>

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Vinson Cole, and Julliard director, Edward Berkeley. In 2007, again a scholarship winner, Andrew participated in the extensive four-week vocal camp OperaWorks in Los Angeles, where he was featured in the original work, *My Other, My Selves*, directed by Ann Baltz and Eli Villanueva. In 2008/09, Andrew sang the tenor role in Bach's *Coffee Contata* and the roasting swan in Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Rogue Valley Symphony.

During the summer break, Andrew enjoys directing and choreographing productions for the Oregon Conservatory of Performing Arts, which serves youngsters ages 6 to 18 years old. Andrew currently teaches music at Walker Elementary in Ashland, Oregon, and is an instructor of voice at Southern Oregon University.

### Dan Gibbs Baritone

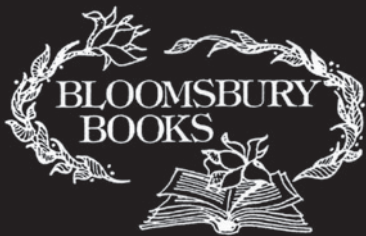


Dan is currently finishing his fifth and final year at Southern Oregon University. This Spring he will receive his Bachelor of Arts diploma in Music, with an emphasis in Vocal Performance. In these five years, he has studied primarily with Dr. Paul French; working temporarily with instructors Ellie Holt Murray and Laurie Ann Hunter while Dr. French was on sabbatical in fall of 2009.

Within the previous four years I've had small roles in each of the Rogue Opera's major productions; as an armed man and chorus in W.A. Mozart's *Magic Flute* (English) (2007), as Dr. Cajus in Otto Nicolai's *Merry Wives of Windsor* (English) (2008), as Benoit in Giacomo Puccini's *La Boheme* (English) (2009), as Antonio in W.A. Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* (2010).

Dan's involvement with the Rogue Opera also includes community outreach. In the summer of 2010, he organized a program entitled "Opera in the Streets!" where three to six other performers and he gave "flash-mob" performances of famous opera scenes in large public areas within Ashland, Oregon.

Other notable solo performances include the following: featured Bass soloist for G.F. Handel's *Messiah* with the Southern Oregon University Concert Choir, Baritone soloist in Carl Nielsen's *Third Symphony*, with the Peter Britt Festival Symphony Orchestra, featured Bass soloist in J.S. Bach's *Magnificat* with the Southern Oregon University Concert Choir, featured Baritone soloist in Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* (Libera me) with the Southern Oregon University Concert Choir, featured Baritone Soloist in Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem* (Libera me) with the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers, cast as The Mayor and ensemble in the Southern Oregon University Theater Department production of Kurt Weil's *Johnny Johnson* (2010), featured Baritone soloist in Norman Dello Joio's *Songs of Abelard* with the Southern Oregon University Symphonic Band. Dan also performed this piece for the American Band Festival at Fresno State University March 23, 2010.



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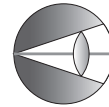
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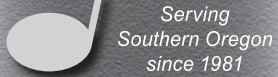
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