

# A Ceremony of Carols

and other beloved songs of Christmas



with

**Women of Note**  
Cassie Turner, Harpist  
Olympia String Consort  
Karen Beret, Oboist

**December 8, 2016, 7pm**  
Shelton High School Performing Arts Center

**December 14, 2016, 7pm**  
St. David of Wales Episcopal Church  
with piano and oboe

# Welcome

**Wolcum Yole! Welcome Christmas!** Thank you for attending our annual Christmas concert. We are excited to share with you *A Ceremony of Carols*. It was written in 1942 when the English composer Benjamin Britten was 29 years old. It is one of Britten's most popular and widely performed works, particularly during the Christmas season. *A Ceremony of Carols* was composed in part during five weeks that Britten spent travelling by ship from New York to England during World War II. His ship stopped in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he purchased a book of medieval poetry. Poems from this book, along with Gregorian Chant and other poetry spanning 14th to 16th century England, were the inspiration for *A Ceremony of Carols*, which includes both a Christmas narrative as well as references to the re-birth of spring.

For us, a Christmas concert isn't complete without traditional carols and songs, so we found new and interesting songs to share and brought back some of our favorites, adding piano, oboe, cello, strings and/or harp accompaniments. It is a delight to share the stage with these accomplished musicians from our local and nearby communities. All of us hope you have an enjoyable and memorable evening as we share our music to celebrate Christmas.

*Elizabeth, Suzanne and Women of Note*

## Women of Note

**Women of Note** vocal ensemble currently has 14 singers from all walks of life who enjoy learning about choral music and vocal production and performing for people of all ages. Founded in 2014 and dedicated to public music performance and education, the choir promotes the arts in our county, supporting music programs in local schools and community. Although the choir performs primarily for Mason County audiences, it also enjoys collaborations with other ensembles such as Kitsap County's *Lyricea*, and with mixed choirs such as Thurston County's *Masterworks Choral Ensemble*.

**Women of Note** has been entertaining people with a broad variety of music from show tunes to classical choral works. The choir performs at the Shelton High School Performing Arts Center the 4th Thursday in May at 7PM and at Christmas time, the 1st Saturday in December at 3PM. We look forward to sharing our music with you and talking with you after the concert in the foyer.

*Cover illustration of angels singing from Henry VIII's Psalter (1540-41), ms. Royal 2.A.XVI, folio 118. Reproduced by permission of the British Library. Design by Sue Clarke and modified by Elizabeth Berndt for use in our program.*

## Soundscapes Thursday, May 25, 7 pm Shelton High School Performing Arts Center

The beauty of nature inspires us. The forces of nature affect us. Composers worldwide have set to music the feelings and struggles the elements bring our way for millennia. Whether inviting or hostile, delightful or painful, pleasing or frightening, nature inspired music is interesting and something different to experience. May 25th is the date to write in your calendar for an interesting evening of music with Women of Note.



# Program

## The Snow Begins to Fall\*.....Andy Beck

Soon the day is over. Soon the sky fades dim.  
Soon the earth will sing its winter hymn.  
Soon the wind grows colder. Soon the breezes blow.  
Soon the night will shimmer with the snow.

(Chorus) See it floating through the air,  
Gently falling ev'rywhere.  
All the world's asleep tonight as the ground turns white.  
See it drifting from above.  
'Tis a time of peace and love,  
As the snow begins to fall.

Now the river frozen, now the water still.  
Now a frosty blanket on the hill.  
Now the trees are laden, now the branches ice.  
Now the world a wintry paradise. (Chorus)

## The Snow\*.....lyrics, Alice Elgar; music Edward Elgar

O snow, which sinks so light,  
Brown earth is hid from sight,  
O soul, be thou as white as snow.

O snow, which falls so slow,  
Dear earth quite warm below;  
O heart, so keep thy glow,  
Beneath the snow.

O snow, in thy soft grave  
Sad flowers the winter brave;  
O heart, so soothe and save,  
As does the snow.

The snow must melt, must go,  
Fast as water flow.  
Not thus, my soul, O sow  
Thy gifts to fade like snow.

O snow, thou art white no more,  
Thy sparkling too, is o'er;  
O soul, be as before,  
Was bright the snow.

Then as the snow all pure,  
O heart be, but endure;  
Through all the years full sure,  
Not as the snow.

## Amid the Falling Snow\*.....lyrics, Ryan; music, Enya, Ryan Soloist, Vicki Anderson

How I remember sleepless nights,  
When we would read by candlelight,  
And on the windowpane outside  
A new world made of snow.

A million feathers falling down,  
A million stars that touch the ground,  
So many secrets to be found  
Amid the falling snow.

Maybe I am falling down.  
Tell me, should I touch the ground?  
Maybe I won't make a sound  
In the darkness all around.

The silence of a winter's night  
Brings memories I hold inside;  
Remembering a blue moonlight  
Upon the fallen snow.

Maybe I am falling down.  
Tell me, should I touch the ground?  
Maybe I won't make sound  
In the darkness all around.

I close my window to the night.  
I leave the sky her tears of white.  
And all is lit by candlelight  
Amid the falling snow.

## Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day (Traditional English).... .....Arr. Rutter

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play,  
To call my true love to my dance;

(Chorus) Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,  
This have I done for my true love

Then was I born of a virgin pure,  
Of her I took fleshly substance  
Thus was I knit to man's nature  
To call my true love to my dance. (Chorus)

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was  
So very poor, this was my chance  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass  
To call my true love to my dance. (Chorus)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play,  
To call my true love to my dance;

## What Child?.....music Lohman

What Child is this who laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

(Chorus) This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.



So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come peasant, kng to own Him  
The King of Kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

**Rise Up Shepherd, and Follow\*.....lyrics and music, Thornett, Arr. Berndt**

There's a star in the East on Christmas morn,  
Rise up shepherd and follow.  
It will lead to the place where the Saviour's born,  
Rise up shepherd and follow.

(Chorus) Follow, follow,  
Rise up shepherd and follow.  
Follow the star of Bethlehem.  
Rise up shepherd and follow.

Leave your sheep and leave your lambs,  
Rise up shepherd and follow.  
Leave you ewes and leave your rams.  
Rise up shepherd and follow. (Chorus)

If you take good heed to the angel's words.  
Rise up shepherd and follow.  
You'll forget your flocks; you'll forget your herds.  
Rise up shepherd and follow. (Chorus)

**S'Vivon (Spinning Top) Traditional Jewish folksong..... Arr. Shields**

Dreidel spin spin spin  
Chanukah is a nice holiday.  
It's a joyous holiday for the nation.  
A great miracle happened there.

**A La Nanita Nana, traditional Spanish.....Arr. Davison**

(Chorus) Come, let's sing a little lullaby.  
My baby girl is sleepy, blessed be, blessed be.

Little spring running clear and loud,  
Nightingale that in the forest  
Sings and weeps,  
Hush, while the cradle rocks. (Chorus)

**Mary Had a Baby, American spiritual.....Arr. Ringwald**

Mary had a baby, Yes, Lord!  
Mary had a baby, Yes my Lord;  
Mary had a baby, Yes Lord!  
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone.

What did she name him? Yes, Lord!  
She named him King Jesus, Yes, Lord!  
She laid him in a manger, Yes, Lord!

Mary had a baby, Yes, Lord!  
Mary had a baby, Yes my Lord;  
Mary had a baby, Yes Lord!  
People keep a-comin' an' the train done gone.

**The Hand's That First Held Mary's Child....music, Forrest**

The hands that first held Mary's child  
Were hard from working wood,  
From boards they sawed and planed and filed  
And splinters they withstood.

This day they gripped no tool of steel,  
They drove no iron nail,  
But cradled from the head to heel  
Our Lord, newborn and frail.

When Joseph marvelled at the size  
Of that small breathing frame,  
And gazed upon those bright new eyes  
And spoke the infant's name,

The angel's voice he once had dreamed  
Poured out from heaven's height,  
And like the host of stars that beamed  
Blessed earth with welcome light.

This child shall be Emmanuel,  
Not God upon a throne,  
But God with us, Emmanuel,  
As close as blood and bone.

The tiny form in Joseph's palms  
Confirmed what he had heard,  
And from his heart rose hymns and psalms  
For heaven's human Word.

The tools which Joseph laid aside  
A mob would later lift  
And use with anger, fear and pride  
To crucify God's gift.

Let us, O Lord, not only hold  
The child who's born today,  
But charged with faith, may we behold  
To follow in His way.

**INTERMISSION**

***Ceremony of Carols, Op. 28***

**Benjamin Britten**

***Soloists: Barbie Nesmith, Martinique Ortiz-Mendoza,  
Jubilee Whitman***

**Procession - "Hodie Christus natus est"** is based on liturgical Gregorian chant, sung in Latin, rejoicing in the birth of Christ.

Hodie Christus natus est:  
hodie Salvator apparuit:  
hodie in terra canunt angeli:  
laetantur archangeli:  
hodie exsultant justi dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Today Christ is born;  
today the Savior has appeared.  
Today the angels sing on earth;  
the archangels rejoice.  
Today the righteous exult, saying:  
Glory to God on high! Alleluia!)

**Wolcum Yole! (Welcome, Yule!)** - based on ancient text to welcome the Yule season- Words: anonymous, 14th century.

Wolcum be thou hevene king,  
Wolcum, born in one morning,  
Wolcum for whom we sall sing!

Wolcum be ye Stevene and Jon,  
Wolcum innocentes every one,  
Wolcum Thomas marter one.  
Wolcum be ye good Newe Yere,  
Wolcum, Twelfth Day both in fere,  
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere,  
Wolcum Yole!

Candelmesse, Quene of bliss,  
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.

Wolcum be ye that are here,  
Wolcum, wolcum, make good cheer.  
Wolcum alle another yere.  
Wolcum!

**There Is No Rose** - The rose is a reference to Mary; text alternates between Latin and English.

There is no rose of such vertu  
as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
For in this rose containèd was  
heaven and earth in litel space,  
Res miranda, Res miranda. (Marvelous thing.)  
By that rose we may well see  
there be one God in persons three,  
Pares forma, Pares forma, (Equal in nature.)  
The aungels sungen the shepherds to:  
Gloria in excelsis,  
gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gaudeamus, Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice.)  
Leave we all this werldly mirth,  
and follow we this joyful birth.  
Transeamus, Transeamus, Transeamus. (Let us pass over.)  
Alleluia, Res miranda, Pares forma, Gaudeamus,  
Transeamus, Transeamus, Transeamus.

**That Yonge Child and Balulalow** - a lullaby

That yongè child when it gan weep  
with song she lulled him asleep:  
That was so sweet a melody it passèd alle minstrelsy.

The nightingalè sang also:  
Her song is hoarse . . . and nought thereto:  
Whoso attendeth to her song  
and leaveth the first. . . then doth he wrong.

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweat,  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert,  
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir  
with sanges sweet unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my hert sall I bow,  
And sing that richt Balulalow.

**As Dew in Aprille** - based on an anonymous fifteenth century poem, praising Mary.

I sing of a maiden That is makèless (mateless):  
King of all kings To her son she ches (chose),

He came al so stille, There his moder was,  
As dew in Aprille That falleth on the grass.

He came al so stille To his moder's bour (bower),  
As dew in Aprille That falleth on the flour (flower).

He came al so stille, There his moder lay,  
As dew in Aprille That falleth on the spray.

Moder and mayden was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady Goddes moder be.

**This Little Babe** - based on a poem by the Jesuit poet Robert Southwell, 1561-1595.

This little Babe so few days old,  
is come to rifle Satan's fold;  
All hell doth at his presence quake,  
though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmed wise  
the gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field,  
His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries,  
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,  
and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitched in a stall,  
His bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes;  
of shepherds he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,  
the angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;  
stick to the tents that he hath pight.  
Within his crib is surest ward;  
this little Babe will be thy guard.  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,  
then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

**Interlude (instrumental harp solo)**

**In Freezing Winter Night** - based on Southwell.

Behold, a silly tender babe, in freezing winter night,  
In homely manger trembling lies. Alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full; no man will yield This little pilgrim bed.  
But forced he is with silly beasts in crib to shroud his head.

This stable is a Prince's court, This crib his chair of State;  
The beasts are parcel of his pomp, the wooden dish his plate.

The persons in that poor attire His royal liveries wear;  
The Prince himself is come from heaven;  
This pomp is prized there.

With joy approach, O Christian wight,  
Do homage to thy King,  
And highly praise his humble pomp,  
wich he from Heaven doth bring.

**Spring Carol** - Cornish, a duet.

Pleasure it is to hear iwis,  
the Birdes sing,  
The deer in the dale,  
the sheep in the vale,  
the corn springing.  
God's purveyance for sustenance,  
It is for man, it is for man.  
Then we always to him give praise,  
And thank him than.

Silent night,  
Holy night,  
All is calm,  
All is bright.  
Round yon virgin,  
Mother and Child,  
Holy infant,  
So tender and mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

**Deo Gracias (Thanks be to God!)** - based on medieval text.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter thought he not to long.  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
And all was for an appil, an appil that he tok,  
As clerkes finden written in their book.  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Ne had the appil take ben, the appil take ben,  
Ne hadde never our lady a ben hevene quene.  
Blessed be the time that appil take was.  
Therefore we moun (must) singen.  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias! Deo gracias!

**Recession** - a repeat of the opening "Hodie Christus natus est" liturgical chant.

Recessional  
Hodie Christus natus est:  
hodie Salvator apparuit:  
hodie in terra canunt angeli:  
laetantur archangeli:  
hodie exsultant justii dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Night of Silence.....Music, Kantor**

Cold are the people, winter of life  
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night  
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping  
Flowers that will echo the sunrise  
Fire of hope is our only warmth  
Weary its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night  
On wind you enfold us you speak of the light  
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly  
Rumors of a dawn so embracing  
Breathless love awaits darkened souls  
Soon will we know of the morning.

Spirit among us shine like the star  
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar  
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely  
Rising in the warmth of your Son's love  
Star unknowing of night and day  
Spirit we wait for your loving Son.



# Artists



Cassie Turner, born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, has nearly 10 years experience teaching and performing. With her Bachelors in Harp Performance, Cassie's passion is to instill a love of music in her students both for piano and harp, and shares the joy of music in solo performance as well as performing with the Bremerton Symphony, Washington Wind Symphony, and others.

Aaron Inglin of Olympia has performed to critical acclaim throughout the northwest, Canada and abroad. He began playing violin at age 4. He has studied with Helen De Pastel-Pagels, Tyler Reilly, and Carrie Rehkopf-Michel. He formed the Abraxas Quartet, one of 8 string ensembles chosen nationally to compete in the Fischhoff national chamber music competition. He was chosen as a soloist for the west coast premiere of George Crumb's "Star-Child" at Benaroya Hall. In 2006, he won the concertmaster position of the Olympia Symphony Orchestra, the youngest to hold this position in its almost 60 year history.

Jon Hanson was born and raised in Alaska. He started learning violin as a child and has played ever since, earning his degree in music from Western Washington University. Jon spent time in Hungary studying baroque violin where he also had his first venture in crafting violin bows. He has toured and performed across Europe. Jon is currently part owner of R.L. Ray Violin Shop where he manages the shop and makes and repairs violin family bows. He is an active performer, including with the Olympia Symphony.

Kate Inglin, a native of Bainbridge Island, began studying the violin at the age of six. At 13, she won the young artist competition and performed with the Bainbridge Orchestra. She played in the Seattle Youth Symphony as a youth, and went on to study violin performance at Central Washington University where she was concertmaster for 3 years of both the Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. Kate and her husband Aaron, formed a competitive string quartet, the Gestalt String Quartet, which competed and toured nationally. She has toured and performed up and down both coasts, Chicago and Italy. She has performed with the Mammoth Lakes Summer Symphony, the Malibu Coast Chamber Ensemble, and for the past 10 years is Assistant Principal Viola of the Olympia Symphony Orchestra.

Mya Alspaugh is a senior at Olympia High School. She is the principal cellist for their Chamber and Symphony Orchestras. She has been playing cello for eight years, studying with Holly Reeves, principal cellist of the Olympia Symphony Orchestra. Mya plans to continue her musical studies in college while pursuing a degree in Music Therapy."

Karen Berets earned a Bachelor of Music from Seattle Pacific University and a Master of Music from University of Washington. She performed with Seattle Opera, Seattle Symphony and Joffrey Ballet. She was soloist with the Wenatchee Symphony and Southwest Washington Symphony. Her teachers include Ray Still of the Chicago Symphony, Bernard Shapiro of the Seattle Symphony, Laila Storch of the Soni Ventorum Wind Quintet and Joel Timm of the University of Southern California. She has performed with the Olympia Symphony, Masterworks Choral Ensemble, Northwest Wind Symphony, and Capital Philharmonic. Karen has served as Teaching Artist with Student Orchestras of Greater Olympia (SOGO) and traveled to Italy, performing with the SOGO faculty wind quintet. She taught Orchestra, Band and General Music for 28 years at Evergreen Christian School in Olympia and is currently teaching Kindergarten -3rd Grade General Music in the Olympia School District. She also maintains a successful private studio.

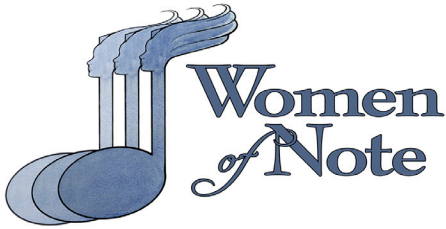
Suzanne Montgomery enjoys teaching elementary music at Mountain View Elementary School. She is widely respected for her skills as an accompanist and director, and for bringing local choirs together for Shelton's Songs of Freedom to honor veterans. Suzanne accompanies Harstine Island Community Choir, professional musicians for concerts, and young musicians for solo/ensemble contests as well as for local events. She has enjoyed accompanying and/or singing under the baton of well known directors Drs. Nance, Peterson, Jessop and Rutter. She earned her degree in music education from Pacific Lutheran University, and her Master of Education and Creative Arts from Lesley University in Cambridge, MA.

Elizabeth Berndt supports local musicians and choirs as a conductor, singer or accompanist, helping organize events like Shelton's Tree Lighting Ceremony or taking choirs statewide to perform at events like the Puyallap State Fair. She studied conducting with Dr. Ron Jeffers of Oregon State University, and voice with Dr. Geoffrey Boers of University of Washington and holds Bachelor's Degrees in Music and Music Education, with emphasis in Choral Conducting, and a Masters Degree in Education. She worked as a Dodds high school teacher in Germany, accompanied the German American Choir, and was rehearsal director and singer for Karlshoehe Kantorei. In August she performed with the Tacoma Symphony Choir in Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina. She and Suzanne Montgomery recently presented a vocal recital in Shelton, and continue to work together for "Women of Note," bringing choral music to as many people as possible in our region.



# Sing with Us

# Our Sponsors



This audition choir was created for women singers in the greater South Puget Sound area. Auditions for the 2017 season take place in January. Audition information is available at [harstinechoir.org/Women-of-Note.htm](http://harstinechoir.org/Women-of-Note.htm). To make your audition appointment, please email [elizabeth@soundplan.com](mailto:elizabeth@soundplan.com).

Rehearsals begin January 12, 2017, Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:00 PM at St. David of Wales Episcopal Church in Shelton. Performance dates are 4th Thursday in May and 1st Saturday in December at Shelton High School Performing Arts Center. Further information is found at [harstinechoir.org/Women-of-Note.htm](http://harstinechoir.org/Women-of-Note.htm)

Women of Note is under the umbrella of the 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation of Harstine Island Community Choir. Donations are tax deductible. We are especially grateful to:

SoundPLAN International LLC  
St. David of Wales Episcopal Church  
Shelton High School Music Departments  
Shelton High School Tech. Ed. Stagecraft students  
David Miser, Auditorium Operations Engineer  
Shelton Journal, Mason County Life  
Senior News, Coffee News, KMAS  
Shelton and N. Mason Chambers of Commerce  
Community Concert Association  
**YOU!**

With a great number of instrumentalists in this concert, we have a great number of expenses. We hope you will help us cover our expenses via a generous tax deductible donation. Donation baskets are at the door, and all funds will be used to bring music to all citizens of Mason County and our neighbors beyond our borders. *Elizabeth, Suzanne and Women of Note*

## SOPRANO I

Sarah Hannapel  
Barbie Nesmith  
Linda Ouye

## SOPRANO II

Jeanette DeAndre  
Doreen Hodgkins  
Carol Jade  
Martinique Ortiz-  
Mendoza

## ALTO I

Vicki Anderson  
Sally Jones  
Carol Sroke

## ALTO II

Linda Humphrey  
Suzanne Montgomery  
Jubilee Whitman

## INSTRUMENTAL

Karen Berets, oboe  
Jon Hanson, violin  
Aaron Inglin, violin  
Kate Inglin, viola  
Mya Alspaugh, cello  
Cassie Turner, harp

## ACCOMPANIST

Suzanne Montgomery

## DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Berndt

## CHOIR BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Vicki Anderson

## TREASURER

Carol Jade

## MARKETING

Sarah Hannapel  
Sally Jones  
Linda Ouye

## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Berndt



It has been delightful making music with our guest artists this season. Thank you!