

The Ringers

Nick Carrol Susan Coddington-Allen* Cheryl Crane*
Ryland Fernandez Sheila Howerter Lenore Koller
Cheri Meadows Ekuah Ramsey Gilmore Tammy Sigl
Stan Slavin Alison Sliwa* Raquel Walkin
Julie Williams* Vee Williamson Sharon Wonder*

with additional and grateful thanks to

Lucy Sakakibara Jen Beth Lambert Loretta Fransham Beverly Green

* members of the RiverBells SACRAMENTO Board of Directors

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- RiverBells LITE coordinated by Susan Coddington-Allen•
 - Rehearsal and performance space provided by Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church•
 - Cargo trailer donated and lettered by Daniel and Mercedes Riggelman•
 - Cargo trailer customized by Craig Yonker and John Harrison•
 - Aesthetics and concert logistics coordinated by Susan Coddington-Allen•
 - Table covers and table logo stitched by Elisabeth Walkin•
 - Table risers conceived by Crystal Skinner•
 - Website maintained by Scott Hosner•
 - Website initially designed by James Garcia, Heather Hogan and *Flagship Design* (Sacramento City College)•
 - Social media publicity coordinated by Beth Lambert Jen and Alison Sliwa•
 - Equipment maintained by Susan Coddington-Allen•
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 - RiverBells “wedges” designed and constructed by Keith Mockford•
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www.riverbells.org

Paul W. Allen, Music Director

Cheryl Crane, President

Susan E. Coddington-Allen, Personnel Manager

THE SEASON OF MEMORIES IN MUSIC

a spellbinding afternoon of astounding holiday music
performed by an extraordinary musical ensemble

Sunday, December 17, 2023

SACRAMENTO JAPANESE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“THE GARDEN CHURCH”

6929 Franklin Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95814

3:00pm

CAROL OF THE BELLS

Shchedryk

Mykola Leontovych (1914)

English adapt., Peter J Wilhousky (1936)

arr. Charles Maggs (2015)

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Gloria

Tune: *Les Anges dans nos campagnes* (1842)

English adapt., James Chadwick

arr. Ron Mallory (2017)

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

Iris

text, James Montgomery (1816)

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski (1996)

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth.
Ye who sang Creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth!
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the new-born King!

RÍU RÍU CHÍU

16th century Spanish Villancico (1556)

arr. Sondra K. Tucker (2017)

adapt. Paul W. Allen (2022)

Momoko Tamaoki, *Soprano*

Larry Womak, *Bass*

Cadence Moore, *Percussion*

*Ríu, ríu, chiu, la guarda ribera,
Dios guardó el lobo de nuestra cordera*

[With a cry of] 'Ríu, ríu, chiu,' the kingfisher [God] kept the wolf from our Lamb [Mary, spared of original sin at birth].

The raging wolf sought to bite her, but God Almighty knew to defend her. He chose to make her so that she could not sin. No original sin was found in that virgin.

This one that is born is the Great King. Christ the Patriarch clothed in flesh. He redeemed us when He made Himself small, though He was infinite, He would make himself finite.

I saw a thousand boys [angels] go singing, here making a thousand voices while flying, telling the shepherds of glory in the Heavens, and peace to the world since Jesus has been born.

FANTASIA on Greensleeves

16th century English carol

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1934)

What Child Is This? text, William Chatterton Dix (1865)

arr. Kevin McChesney (2010)

Beverly Green, *Flute*

Cadence Moore, *Violincello*

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Bill Hays and Jay Johnson (1948)

arr. Hart Morris (2002)

Larry Womak, *Bass*

FANTASY on Kingsfold

16th century English carol

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

text, Louis F. Benson (1889)

arr. Dean Wagner (2009)

O sing a song of Bethlehem, Of shepherds watching there,
And of the news that came to them From angels in the air.
The light that shone on Bethlehem Fills all the world today,
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth – The angels sing always.

A NATIVITY ANTIPHONAL

Noël nouvelet, Personent hodie, and Il est né, le divin Enfant

arr. Malcolm C. Wilson (1995)

Sheila Howerter, *Organ*

O HOLY NIGHT

Cantique de Noël

Adolphe Adam (1847)

French text, Placide Cappeau (1843)

English version, John Sullivan Dwight (1855)

arr. Sandra Eithun (2016)

Momoko Tamaoki, *Soprano*

O Holy Night, the stars are brightly shining.
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope! The weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O Light Divine! O Night, when Christ was born!
O Night Divine! Oh Night, O Night Divine!

Truly he taught us to love one another.
His law is love and His Gospel is Peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His Name all oppression shall cease!
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we.
Let all within us praise His Holy Name!
Christ is the Lord! Oh then, forevermore praise we!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

OSSE SHALOM

He Who Makes Peace

Nirit Hirsch (1986)

arr. Susan T. Nelson (2000)

עושה שלום

He who makes peace in his high places
He shall make peace upon us
And upon all of Israel
And say Amen.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

St. Louis

Lewis H. Redner (1868)

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski (1987)

SLEIGH RIDE

Leroy Anderson (1948)

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson (2005)

Cadence Moore, *Percussion*

RiverBells SACRAMENTO, an independent adult consort of handbell experiences and experiments, is a CA non-profit and 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation. This is our twenty-fourth season, begun in 1998 as an adjunct musical program with Cosumnes River College, Sacramento. With a maximum of 15 ringers, our emphasis – aside from seasonal demands – is to perform original music composed idiomatically for the English handbell choir, and to feature swing (Big Band) sounds on this unique percussion instrument. We hope this lifts up, thrills, and challenges both ringers and audiences.

We are an open choir. If you ring and would like to apply for membership, contact us through our website. If you *don't* ring but would like both to learn to read music and to ring, we will be glad to have you join our beginner's class which meets every Wednesday evening at 5:45pm for an hour. We'll provide all that you need, *gratis*.

Fill out the tri-folded, color **brochure** to be placed on our e-mail list, and take the stub with you as another record of your visit with us. To initiate a contract for a performance at nearly any location for almost any reason, contact the director through our website. Our rates are reasonable and negotiable; we prefer a concert performance that's at least as long as it takes us to set up.

Your interest in our art may take the form of donating time or funds to our work. We perform a lot of concerts for free, and travel quite a bit. Donations from many individuals embolden our work, as you can see from our acknowledgments page. No one in our ensemble is paid, even though they are professionally-disposed. We have several special projects (amplification equipment, additional bells) toward which you may contribute.

We are very grateful for both your loyal presence and your enthusiastic attention this afternoon. This is our fifth concert at our home, **Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church**; we also participate in their worship services at scheduled times). A percentage of today's concert proceeds will be donated to SJUMC's "Love Your Neighbor/Acts of Kindness" campaign.