

Portland Community Orchestra

Music Director, Vinny Fuerst

Violin I

Caroline Loupe
Hillary Barter
Stefanie Barley
Martha Naber
Dixon Riley
Kay Wheeler
Pearl Sciaraffa
Edward Mooney

Violin II

Don Crandall
Maggie Daniels
Diana Fish
Peter Lee
Debra Yoo
Laurie Phillips
Alan Lukas
Joan Zikowitz
Barbara O'Brien-Graff

Viola

Carol Marshburn
Jenny Karod
Lynn Rider
Mark Curtis

Cello

Bill McNeal
Chelsea Scudder
Kate LeRoy
Dale McCormick
Hailey Dimond

Double Bass

Rachel York
Charlie Oehrtmann, *guest artist*

Flute

Nancy Renton
Mary Louise Bates
Julie Faure

Oboe

Chet Bishop

Clarinet

Barry Daniels

Bassoon

Marilyn Gordon

Trumpet

Joseph Saunders



Portland Community Orchestra

Sunday, December 16, 2018 3:00 pm

at Trinity Episcopal Church, 580 Forest Avenue, Portland

As Shepherds Watched . . .



with Guest Soloists

Joseph Bates, Jasmine Farrington, Caroline Homer,
Sarah Robbins, and Lily Kimball Watras

*The Portland Community Orchestra is an ensemble which provides
an enriching musical experience for amateur musicians of all ages.*

*Please visit our website portlandcommunityorchestra.org
to find out more about us.*

🎵 Reception to Follow 🎵

As Shepherds Watched . . .

- Handel** **Overture to Messiah**
The Shepherds Were Watching
 ~ Caroline Homer, soprano
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night (*music: Parry*)
 ~ Joseph Bates, tenor
- Handel** **Pifa** *from Messiah*
If You Shepherds Watch The Lambing
 ~ Sarah Robbins, soprano
- Handel** **He Shall Feed His Flock** *from Messiah*
 ~ Lily Kimball Watras, soprano
To Shepherds As They Watched By Night
Il est ne (He is Born, the Divine Christ Child)
 ~ Jasmine Farrington, soprano
- Bucciali** **Offertoire pour La fête de Noël**
Sleep of the Infant Jesus
 ~ Caroline Homer, soprano
- Corelli** **Christmas Concerto**
 Vivace ~ Grave
 Adagio ~ Allegro ~ Adagio
 Pastorale (Largo)
- Handel** **Comfort Ye, My People** *from Messiah*
 ~ Joseph Bates, tenor
While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks
 ~ Sarah Robbins, soprano
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night (*music: Mason*)
 ~ Joseph Bates, tenor
- Handel** **Par che mi nasca in seno** *from Tamerlano*
 ~ Caroline Homer, soprano
- Handel** **Hallelujah Chorus (Sing Along!)**

Sarah Robbins, a soprano from Topsham, Maine, studied vocal performance at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida. After taking a break from singing full time to complete her MBA, Sarah moved back to her home state of Maine in 2013. Upon her return she joined the *Oratorio Chorale* where she has been a member for the last 5 years. In 2014 she joined the all women ensemble *Sweetest in the Gale (SinG)* as a founding member. In addition, Sarah has also performed each summer with the *Portland Bach Festival* and now the *Portland Bach Experience*. Early music is a passion of hers as well as "singing as high as possible whenever possible!"

Lily Kimball Watras is a senior at Brunswick High School, and is excited to be almost done with her college applications. She plans on going to school for a double major in vocal performance and physics. She enjoys singing, playing the viola, dabbling in 5-ish other instruments, dancing, acting, painting, drawing, ceramics, crocheting, kayaking, running, and many more random activities.

Jasmine Farrington is 13 years old. She attends the eighth grade at Cony High School in Augusta. Her passion is singing and has been since she was very young. She has sung at several church services, and church and school talent shows. She is a member of the school chorus and also the Chamber Chorus. She plays piano and flute, and recently purchased an acoustic guitar to learn that. Next on her list is a ukulele.

Caroline Homer, 22, is a soprano from Portland, Maine. This past spring she graduated summa cum laude from the Conservatory of Music at Purchase College in New York. During her time there she performed roles including Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), Damigella (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*), Sarah Good (*The Crucible*), and the Sandman (*Hansel and Gretel*). Caroline reprised her role of Sarah Good in Purchase Opera's CD recording of *The Crucible*, produced in 2016 by Albany Records. In July, Caroline sang with the Bar Harbor Music Festival in their production of *Hänsel und Gretel* under the direction of Fenlon Lamb (Papermoon Opera Productions). Caroline was a winner of the Young Stars of Maine competition, receiving the The Eleanor Erdman and Diane Nixon Vocal Excellence Prize this past June. Locally, Caroline has performed a series of recitals to benefit the Westside Food Pantry in her hometown of Southwest Harbor, raising over \$2,000 for the charity. Caroline currently studies with Kaori Sato of New York. To learn more about Caroline, visit CarolineHomer.com

Joe Bates, tenor, is a retired civil engineer. He currently takes voice lessons with Erin Chenard at the Portland Conservatory of Music, and is really enjoying it. Joe is also a woodworker, a beekeeper and a flower gardener. His wife, Mary Louise, plays flute in the PCO, and they compete in regional events in ballroom dance. They also like to travel.

The Shepherds Were Watching Their Flocks in the Night

Words: unknown

Music: E. W. S. Watson, 1916

The shepherds were watching
Their flocks in the night,
When pearly wings scattered
The darkness with light.

Refrain

O angels of glory,
Come, sing once again,
That wonderful story,
Good will unto men.
O angels of glory,
Come, sing once again,
That wonderful story,
Good will unto men.

We, too, with the angels
Would sing of His love,
Who for our salvation
Came down from above.
(Refrain)

We, too, with the Magi,
Would rest at His feet,
Our costliest treasures
Most fair and most meet.
(Refrain)

O, hear us, dear Saviour,
O grant us Thy grace,
And shed on our darkness
The light of Thy face.
(Refrain)

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Words: John Bowring, 1825

Music: Joseph Parry, 1879

Watchman, tell us of the night,
What its signs of promise are.
Traveler, o'r yon mountain's height,
See that glory beaming star.
Watchman, does its beauteous ray
Aught of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes - it brings the day,
Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night;
Higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light,
Peace and truth
its course portends.
Watchman, will its beams alone
Gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own;
See, it bursts over all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night,
For the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, darkness takes its flight,
Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchman, let thy
wanderings cease;
Hie thee to thy quiet home.
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace,
Lo! the Son of God is come!

If You Shepherds Watch The Lambing

Words: an Old Besançon Noël

Music: Besançon Melody

If you shepherds watch the lambing,
Watch it through the holy night,
Never will you find a yearling
Half so precious for delight
As a Lamb that we have found
Away beyond; Come on!
There is no peril,
This is Christ, King David's Son,
In manger laid,
Born of Mary maid.

Come now, shall we take our tabors
Marching drumming all the way?
Let the clamour rouse the neighbours;
Here they come and join the play.
More the merrier! Oh but look!
We'd be mistook
For a mob, or an army;
Folk will shut portals and hide
While we, continue
Our foolish din.

I will wake, then, Old man Simon,
We can play by clear moonlight,
I my fiddle, he his viol
That's the music for the night!
We'll begin carols and tunes,
Singing to
Jesus and Mary and Joseph,
Live the omnipotent King,
Laying in hay,
Who was born this day!

He Shall Feed His Flock

Words: from the Bible

Music: Handel / "Messiah", 1741

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,
And He shall gather the lambs with
His arm, with His arm.
He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,
And He shall gather the lambs with
Him arm, with Him arm,
And carry them in His bosom,
And gently lead those that are
with young,
And gently lead, and gently lead, those
that are with young.

**To Shepherds As They Watched
By Night**

Words: Martin Luther

Music: "Puer Nobis," 15th cent.

To shepherds as they watched by
night
Appeared a host of angels bright;
Behold the tender Babe, they said,
In yonder lowly manger laid.

At Bethlehem, in David's town,
As Micah did of old make known;
'Tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,
Who doth to all salvation bring.

Oh, then rejoice that through His Son
God is with sinners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh &
blood,
Your Brother is the eternal God.



On the Morning of Christ's Nativity.

Hallelujah Chorus

Words: from the Bible

Music: Handel / "Messiah", 1741

| : Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! :|

| : For the Lord God Omnipotent
reigneth.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! :|

The kingdom of this world
Is become the kingdom of our
Lord,
And of His Christ, and of His
Christ;
And He shall reign for ever and
ever,
For ever and ever, forever and
ever,

| : King of kings, and Lord of
lords, :|

And Lord of lords,

And He shall reign forever and
ever,

King of kings, forever and ever,
And Lord of lords,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign forever and
ever,

| : King of kings! and Lord of
lords! :|

And He shall reign forever and
ever,
King of kings! and Lord of lords!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!

Ye shall and must at last prevail;
God's own ye are, ye cannot fail.
To God forever sing your praise
With joy and patience all your days.

This gift of God we'll cherish well,
With joy and love our hearts shall
fill.

For He, laid in this humble stall,
'Tis Christ who shall redeem us all.

Il est ne, le divin Enfant

Words: Traditional French Lyrics

Music: traditional French carol

Chorus:

He is born, the divine Christ child.
Play on the oboe and bagpipes
merrily.

He is born, the divine Christ child.
Sing we all of the Saviour's birth.

Through long ages of the past,
Prophets have foretold his coming;
Through long ages of the past,
Now the time has come at last.
(Chorus)

Oh, how lovely, oh, how pure.
Is this perfect child of heaven.
Oh, how lovely, oh, how pure,
Gracious gift of God, to all.
(Chorus)

The Sleep Of The Infant Jesus

Words: Old French Noel

Music: F. A. Gevaert

Here by the sheep and oxen mild,
Sleep, sleep, sleep God's little Child.
Angels, pure and white,
Guard You through the night,
Come from hea'vn above
to watch the Lord of Love,
Sleep, sleep, Lord of Love, now, sleep.

Here 'neath the shepherd's
greeting eyes,
Sleep, sleep, sleep God's little Child.
Bending low in fear,
by the Infant dear,
Trembling there before
the gentle Lord of Host,
Sleep, sleep, Lord of Host, now, sleep.

Here, now, the wise men trav'ling are.
Sleep, sleep, sleep God's little Child.
Guided from afar,
by that holy star,
Shining e'er so bright
above the Lord of Light,
Sleep, sleep, Lord of Light, now, sleep.

Here, too, we worship from afar,
Sleep, sleep, sleep God's little Child.
Now we kneel in awe,
near your humble stall,
By the little Child
Who is the Lord of All,
Sleep, sleep, Lord of All, now, sleep.

Comfort Ye, My People

Words: from the Bible

Music: Handel/Messiah, 1741

Comfort Ye, My People
Comfort ye, comfort ye
My people,
Saith your God.
Speak ye comfortably
to Jerusalem,
And cry unto her,
That her warfare is
accomplished,
That her iniquity is pardoned.
The voice of him that
Crieth in the wilderness
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.
Make straight in the desert
a highway for Our God.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

Words: Nabum Tate (1659-1715)

Music: Traditional

While Shepherds watch'd
their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord
came down,
And glory shone around.
"Fear not, said he
(for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind).

"Glad tidings of
great joy I bring
To you and all mankind."

"To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line,
A Saviour, which is
Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign.
The Heavenly Babe
you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped
in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.

Thus spake the Seraph:
and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of Angels, praising God,
who thus
Addressed their joyful song:
"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth
from heaven to men
Begin and never cease."

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Words: John Bowring, 1825

Music: Lowell Mason, 1830

and Joseph Parry, 1879

Watchman, tell us of the night,
What its signs of promise are.
Traveler, o'r yon mountain's height,
See that glory beaming star.
Watchman, does its beauteous ray
Aught of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes - it brings the day,
Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night;
Higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light,
Peace and truth its course portends.
Watchman, will its beams alone
Gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own;
See, it bursts over all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night,
For the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, darkness takes its flight,
Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchman, let thy wanderings
cease;
Hie thee to thy quiet home.¹
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace,
Lo! the Son of God is come!

Par che mi nasca in seno (It Seems That Within My Soul)

*(from Handel's "Tamerlano", 1724/
rev. 1741)*

Par che mi nasca in seno
Un raggio di speranza
A consolarmi il cor.

*It seems that within my soul
A ray of hope comes forth
To console my heart.*

Ma non contenta a pieno
Del seno la costanza,
Se l'agita il timor.

*Yet it is not fully convinced
Of the soul's faithfulness,
Should fears trouble it.*

Par che mi nasca in seno
Un raggio di speranza
A consolarmi il cor.

*It seems that within my soul
A ray of hope comes forth
To console my heart.*