

A PLU CHRISTMAS



2024 PROGRAM

IN EXCELSIS DEO

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for *In Excelsis Deo*, our 2024 PLU Christmas Concert. We are delighted to share this festive celebration of the season with you.

As you enjoy today's performance, remember that our annual Christmas concerts are but one part of a vibrant, busy performance season that showcases the collaborative work of an incredible faculty and talented students. We ask you to consider supporting these—and future—students in their PLU music journey. Your gifts, of any size, support music scholarships and will help PLU students share their talent and exceptional work for years to come.



To make a donation, please visit plu.edu/christmasgift or contact the Office of Advancement at advancement@plu.edu or by phone at 253-535-7177.

We thank you for celebrating Christmas with us. May you have a bright and merry holiday season!

IN EXCELSIS DEO 2024 PERFORMANCES

Friday, December 6, 2024

7:30 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*

Saturday, December 7, 2024

2:00 pm and 7:30 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*

Sunday, December 8, 2024

2:00 pm

*Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Russell Music Center*

Monday, December 9, 2024

7:30 pm

Benaroya Hall, Seattle



plu.edu/professional-studies/arts

*Please disable the audio signal on all electronic devices during the concert.
The use of cameras, cell phones, or other recording equipment
during the performance is prohibited.*

PROGRAM

PART I

Jay Murphy-Mancini, organ

**Toccata on “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme,” Op. 8, No. 2.....Hugo Distler
(1908-1942)**

PART II

**Combined Choirs and Orchestra
Brian Galante, conductor**

**from *All-Night Vigil*, Op. 37, “Hvalite imia Ghospodne”.....Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)**

Praise the name of the Lord. Alleluia.
Praise the Lord, O you His servants. Alleluia, alleluia.
Blessed be the Lord from Zion,
He who dwells in Jerusalem. Alleluia.
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.
Alleluia, alleluia.
For His mercy endures forever. Alleluia.
O give thanks unto the God of Heaven.
Alleluia, alleluia.
For His mercy endures forever. Alleluia.
—*Church Slavonic, liturgical evening prayer*

from *Gloria* (1974), I. “Gloria in Excelsis Deo”..... John Rutter

Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace to all those of good will.
We praise you. We bless you.
We worship you. We glorify you.
We give thanks to you according to your great glory.
—*Latin, liturgical*

**AUDIENCE CAROL: O Come, All Ye Faithfularr. David Willcocks
(1919-2015)**

(Please stand and sing)

VERSE 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:

Chorus

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

IN EXCELSIS DEO

VERSE 2

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten, not created:
(Chorus)

VERSE 3

Sing, choir of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God In the highest:
(Chorus)

PART III

University Chorale
Raul Dominguez, conductor

The Glory of the Father..... Egil Hovland (1924-2013)

The Word Was God (1996).....Rosephanye Powell

Cum Iucunditate Francisco López de Capillas (1608-1674)

With pleasure
let's celebrate the birth,
Blessed Virgin Mary,
that she may intercede for us,
to the Lord Jesus Christ.
—Latin, trans. Raul Dominguez

A-Wassailing (2020).....arr. Chad Weirick

PART IV

Combined Choirs and Orchestra
Raul Dominguez, conductor

Angels From the Realms of Glory (2014)..... Scottish carol, arr. Dan Forrest

Cradle Hymn (2014).....Kim André Arnesen

Angels We Have Heard on High (2023)..... French carol, arr. Dan Forrest

..... **INTERMISSION**

PART V

University Symphony Orchestra
Asieh Mahyar, conductor

from *Lieutenant Kijé Suite, Op. 60, IV. "Troika"*.....Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)

Christmas Fantasy for Orchestra (2008) arr. Dan Goeller

AUDIENCE CAROL: Joy to the WorldEnglish carol, arr. John Rutter

(Please stand and sing)

VERSE 1

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

VERSE 2

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

VERSE 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.

PART VI

Choir of the West
Brian Galante, conductor

Ave Maria (1997)..... Brian Edward Galante

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.
—Latin, traditional prayer

IN EXCELSIS DEO

O Magnum Mysterium (1994)..... Morten Lauridsen

O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear the
Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!
—*Latin, Matins of Christmas*

Ding Dong, Merrily on High! (1984)..... French Carol, arr. Chester L. Alwes

PART VII

Combined Choirs and Orchestra
Brian Galante, conductor

AUDIENCE CAROL: Hark the Herald Angels Singarr. David Willcocks

(Please stand and sing)

VERSE 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 th' angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Chorus

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

VERSE 2

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail th' incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
(Chorus)

VERSE 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings;

Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.

(Chorus)

from Gloria (1974) John Rutter

II. "Domine Deus"

Áine McCarty -or- Emily Morse, *solo*

Ellie O'Brien and Lillian Gundersen -or-
Hannah McVay and Jessica Heinauer, *duet*

Ellie O'Brien, Lillian Gundersen, and Abigail Thompson -or-
Hannah McVay, Jessica Heinauer, and Kyla Rivera, *trio*

Lord God, heavenly king, God the Father almighty.
Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You who take away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
You who take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You who sit at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy upon us.

III. "Quoniam tu solus"

For you alone are holy.
You alone are Lord.
You alone are the most high, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.
—Latin, liturgical

**Beautiful Savior arr. F. Melius Christiansen
arr. for orchestra by Paul Tegels**

IN EXCELSIS DEO

PERFORMERS

CHOIR OF THE WEST Brian Galante, *conductor*

SOPRANO

Erin Burson
Caitlyn Carnahan
Maggie Dobbins
Kyra McCloud
Hannah McVay
Emily Morse
Ellie O'Brien
Kristen Ronning
Claire Schwartz

ALTO

Caitlyn Babcock
Presley Clark
Lillian Gundersen
Jessica Heinauer
Marissa McBride
Kyla Rivera
Abigail Thompson
Mariana Vargas
Isabella Wilkins

TENOR

Joel Barkman
Sam Brown
Coleton Davis
Ryan Lelli
Joaquin Makinster
Zyreal Oliver-Chandler
Jacob Ray
Dane Schmidt
Gabriel Stadtmueller

BASS

Daniel Beck
Jack Burrows
Robert Cope-Powell
Glen Fritz
Kai Kindem
Kody Smith
Cooper Perez
Isaiah Utto-Galarneau
Dominic Walker

UNIVERSITY CHORALE Raul Dominguez, *conductor*

SOPRANO

Leila Bauer
Lily Dadole
Seleah Hisey
Kiana Kendall
Jocelyn de Leeuw
Áine McCarty
Gracie McDanold
Lydia McDougall
Madison Zantello

ALTO

Lizveth Delgado-Olvera
Alonna Hall
Dorothea Koetje
Issabella Marchio
Ashley Midlo
Josie Mae Sanders
Zari Warden
Anna Yee

TENOR

Blake Bogue
Kay Fitton
David Garfia
Evan Schipull
Joseph Stitzel
Thomas Tafoya
Eric Woodson

BASS

Nate Clay
Joe Cox
Hudson Groom
Prince Malikai Jamerson
Jack Meisberger
Matthew Roe
Liam Schmidt
Cordelia Seil
Cade Tate
Brody Willard

UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Asieh Mahyar, conductor

FLUTE

Katherine Gunter
Blake Leahy
Kade Levien

OBOE

Sara Atwood
Jayden White

CLARINET

Joseph Alvarez
Maeghan Austin
Caitlin Collins

BASSOON

Thomas Tafoya
Syd Thayer-O'Brien

HORN

Benjamin Coats
James Gibson
Rosalyn Tobeck
Aleia Truman

TRUMPET

Connor Kaczkowski
Brandon Liukkonen
Jess Mason~

TROMBONE

Joshua Green
Max Minjares
Sarah Zundel

TUBA

Cassidy Stanhope

PERCUSSION

Ben Helgeson
Rory Lacy
Evan Nakanishi*
Adrian Ragil

KEYBOARD

Amy Boers^

VIOLIN I

Justinpal Singh+
Janelle Barlow
Kyra Kehm-Goins
Cora Beeson
Adelaide Waite

VIOLIN II

Pablo Arellano Cardenas*
Elizabeth Bankowski
Joan Fort
Kaitlynn Koehn
Damaris Ibrahim

VIOLA

Alyson Rake*
Kindra Gonsalves*
Sofia Topete
Emily Bratcher
Natalie Story

CELLO

Ellen Coburn*
Marisa Robbins*
Jeffrey Buetow
Nathaniel Bratcher
Elliott Capron
Soren Bostrom
Kellen Gonsalves
Ralizza Rosales
John Coughlan
Gabriela Vera-Kavanaugh
Cayla Low
Bronwyn Poppen-Eagan

DOUBLE BASS

Madi Cline*
Tucker Doering
Cameron McLennan
Campian Roberts*

+ Concertmaster

* Section Principal/Co-principal

~ librarian

^ Faculty

CONDUCTORS

BRIAN GALANTE, Choir of the West



BRIAN GALANTE is Associate Dean of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and Director of Choral Studies at PLU. During his time at PLU, Dr. Galante has conducted all four of the curricular ensembles and taught undergraduate courses in Vocal Pedagogy, Choral Repertoire and Rehearsal. Dr. Galante received the DMA degree in Choral Conducting from the University of North Texas, and MM and BME degrees from Louisiana State University. Choirs under his direction have offered performances for the 2010 Washington Music Educators

Association conference; the 2011 Northwest MENC Conference; and 2012 and 2022 NW Region ACDA Conferences. He has conducted honor choirs at all levels, and led workshops on conducting pedagogy, voice science, and repertoire. Galante's compositions are published by Galante Music, Walton, and Colla Voce, and have been performed by choirs worldwide. His works have been recorded for commercial release by Delos, Centaur Records, and MSR Classic. He is the recipient of multiple ASCAP Plus awards, and a regular composer-in-residence for the Taylor Festival Choir (Charleston, SC). He is the Past President of the American Choral Directors Association Northwest Region and Performing Choir Chair of the 2025 ACDA National Conference.

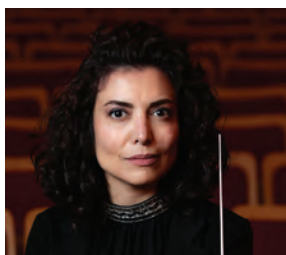
RAUL DOMINGUEZ, University Chorale



RAUL DOMINGUEZ is in his first concert season as the Associate Director of Choral Studies at Pacific Lutheran University, where he leads the University Chorale, University Singers, and teaches courses in Secondary Methods and the Conducting sequence. He is also the Associate Conductor for Choral Union, PLU's community ensemble. His research focus is the choral music of the United Mexican States and seeks to provide choral directors the necessary means to create artful performances of this repertoire. He holds a Doctor of

Musical Arts in Choral Conducting & Literature from the University of Colorado Boulder, a Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from Ithaca College, and Bachelor of Music degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance from Oklahoma City University. Raul lives in the beautiful Tacoma, WA area with his wonderful husband Kevin and their two cats, Luci and Ahsoka. (raulconducts.com)

ASIEH MAHYAR, University Symphony Orchestra



Passionate about performing music from various cultures, ASIEH MAHYAR serves as the interim Director of Orchestral Studies at Pacific Lutheran University where she conducts PLU Symphony Orchestra and teaches instrumental conducting and ear training courses. Originally from Iran, Ms. Mahyar possesses a diverse conducting background that includes leading orchestras, full opera productions, and choirs in different countries. Previously, she has served as the Assistant Conductor at Tchaikovsky Music College of

Yerevan, Armenia, and as the Teaching Assistant at Michigan State University and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Ms. Mahyar has guest-conducted orchestras at all labels including the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra and the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, among others. A Doctor of Musical Arts candidate in Orchestral Conducting at Michigan State University, Ms. Mahyar holds a MM in Orchestral Conducting from University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a BM in Choral Conducting from Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Armenia.

ORGANIST

JAY MURPHY-MANCINI



JUSTIN J. MURPHY-MANCINI is the inaugural Paul Fritts Endowed Chair in Organ Studies and Performance at Pacific Lutheran University. At PLU, he teaches primary and secondary organ students, ear training, and composition, and serves as University Organist and accompanist of the Choral Union. Jay is equally at home with music of the distant past as from the modern day and emphasizes performance of music by lesser-known composers; he has premiered over a dozen new works for organ and harpsichord and has championed composers

including Emma Lou Diemer and Eva-Maria Houben. Jay's debut solo album, surveying American organ music from 1791 to the present, will be released on Acis in February 2024. In addition to his performance activity, he composes in both avant-garde and accessible genres; his works have been performed by Ensemble SurPlus, the King's Chapel Choir, and members of the Mivos Quartet. Jay earned degrees in organ performance, composition, historical performance, and philosophy from Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music, and Ph.D. in composition from UC San Diego.

PIANIST

AMY BOERS



AMY E. BOERS is known in the greater Seattle-Tacoma area as a collaborative keyboardist, vocalist, conductor, and church musician. A lifelong resident of this area, she received her Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Central Washington University. Her keyboard playing for conductors and soloists has been characterized as deeply expressive, artistic, and insightfully supportive. As a collaborative artist at heart, Amy treasures working with a constantly shifting variety of ensembles and soloists.

These collaborations will take her to China in 2025 where she will clinic and perform at the International Choral Festival (Xian). As choral conductor, Amy has adjudicated large ensemble festivals across the region and has led workshops in Canada on "Collaborative work in the Choral rehearsal". As church musician, she is Director of Music at Mountain View Lutheran Church in Edgewood. As pianist, Amy is currently serving positions at Pacific Lutheran University and Symphony Tacoma Voices as well as many regional conventions and festivals. Within PLU's School of Music, Theatre & Dance she serves as Resident Music Director and staff pianist.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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PLU SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

The PLU School of Music, Theatre & Dance is a nationally recognized center for performance, education, and community. From early in the morning to late at night students are practicing, studying, collaborating, and sharing their passion for artistic growth.

The Mary Baker Russell Music Center, an architectural and acoustical jewel on the PLU campus, houses the exquisite Lagerquist Concert Hall, the spectacular Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Organ, and impressive rehearsal and classroom facilities. Our faculty—exceptional performers, composers, authors, and educators—consistently demonstrate artistry and musical leadership, dedication to nurturing talent, fostering an inclusive learning environment, and encouraging musical opportunities for all students.

During the academic year, the PLU School of Music, Theatre & Dance produces nearly 200 performances—involving hundreds of students—including recitals, ensemble performances, chamber music concerts, opera productions, theatrical productions, and master classes. Faculty artists and guests further enrich the wide range of educational and performance experiences for both students and the Puget Sound community. For more information, please visit plu.edu/smtd.