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To The Bronx Concert Singers

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T H E B R O N X

# CONCERT SINGERS

ROBERT RENÉ GALVÁN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

## 30TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT



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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011 AT 4:30 P.M.**

## **Bronx Concert Singers Chamber Ensemble**

Robert René Galván, Music Director

### **Trumpets**

Armando Rodriguez  
Tom Mueller  
Frank Huber

### **Horns**

Ellen Arciere  
Susan Lyon

### **Tuba**

Bob Stewart

### **Trombones**

George Saenz  
Leonard Walworth  
Harold Stern

### **Timpani**

Annette Aguilar

### **Keyboard**

Tamara Cashour

© Member, but not singing at this time

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## **The Bronx Concert Singers**

Robert René Galván, Music Director

### **Sopranos**

Marguerite Allen, Angela Barrett, Mavis Gallier, Valerie Hall, Elizabeth Jacobsen<sup>©</sup>, Alexandra LoBianco, Beverly K. McDew, Lucinda Ortiz, Fernella Peters, Sonia Rodriguez, Anita Swint<sup>©</sup>, Marie Toppin, Olive White

### **Altos**

Frances Ciurcina, Laura Dellarose, Deborah Hood<sup>©</sup>, Naomi Golf, Jennifer Ponzoni, Odilia Thomas

### **Tenors**

Hyojong Chang, Anthony Cinelli, Michael Joseph, Ellie D. McDew, Rev. Kelly-Ray Merritt, Joey Palermo

### **Basses**

James Bobick, Denis Haynes, Hugh-Anthony Moses, Dalton Taylor, Harry A. Thompson

**BCS Accompanist** : Tamara Cashour

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## Program

THE BRONX CONCERT SINGERS  
Robert René Galván, conductor

1. Entrata Festiva (Op.93) .....Flor Peeters  
(1903- 1986)  
  
Christ is victorious.  
Christ now reigns.  
Christ commands.
2. Magnificat (Luke I. 46-56)
3. Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence .....Gustav Holst  
(1874- 1934)
4. O sing unto our Lord God (Psalm 98)
5. Masters in this Hall
6. O Holy Night ("Cantique de Noël")..... Adolphe Adam  
(1803-1856)  
  
Alexandra LoBianco, soprano
7. The Boar's Head Carol ..... Traditional

The boar's head in hand bear I,  
Bedeck'd with bays and rosemary.  
I pray you, my masters, be merry  
*Quot estis in convivio*

### CHORUS

*Caput apri defero*  
*Reddens laudes Domino.*

The boar's head, as I understand  
Is the rarest dish in all this land,  
Which thus bedeck'd with a gay garland  
Let us *servire cantico*.

Our steward hath provided this  
In honour of the King of Bliss;  
Which, on this day to be served is  
*In Regimensi atrio.*

(tr. As many as are in the feast)

(tr. The boar's head I offer)

(tr. Giving praises to the Lord)

(tr. Let us serve with a song)

(tr. In the Queen's hall)

## Program Translations

2. Magnificat .....Flor Peeters  
(Luke 1 v46-56)

*Magnificat anima mea Dominum*  
*Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari*  
*meo.*  
My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit has rejoiced in God my  
Saviour.  
For He has regarded the lowliness of his  
handmaidens;  
For behold, from henceforth all  
generations shall call me blessed.  
For He Who is mighty has magnified  
me, and holy is His Name.  
And His mercy is on them that fear Him  
throughout all generations.  
He has showed strength with his arm;  
He has scattered the proud in the  
imagination of their hearts.  
He has put down the mighty from their  
thrones and exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good  
things, and the rich He has sent away  
empty.  
He has helped His servant Israel, in  
remembrance of His mercy,  
As He promised to our forefathers  
Abraham and his seed, for ever.  
Amen

*Deposuit potentes de sede et exaltavit*  
*humiles.*  
He has put down the mighty from their  
thrones and exalted the lowly.

*Esurientes implevit bonis et divites*  
*dimisit inanes,*  
He has filled the hungry with good  
things, and the rich He has sent away  
empty.

*Suscepit Israel puerum suum recordatus*  
*miseritcordiae suae,*  
He has helped His servant Israel, in  
remembrance of His mercy,

*Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,*  
*Abraham et semini eius in saecula.*  
As He promised to our forefathers  
Abraham and his seed, for ever.  
Amen

*30th Annual Holiday Concert* is made possible with public funds from the  
Bronx Council on the Arts through the New York State Council on the Arts  
Decentralization Program, and through the New York City Department of  
Cultural Affairs Greater New York Arts Development Fund Reigrants Program,  
Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and the Bronx Delegation of the  
City Council.

## Program

8. The Last Words of David ..... Randall Thompson  
(2 Samuel xxxiii, 3,4)  
1989-1984
9. Jubilate Deo – O be joyful (Psalm 100).....Michael Fink  
(1839- )

## INTERMISSION

10. Fanfare pour précéder "La Péri" .....Paul Dukas  
(1865-1935)
11. Angelus ad Pastores Ait (2002) ..... David Burks

*Angelus ad pastores ait:*  
*Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum*  
*Quia natus est vobis hodie*  
*Salvator mundi. Alleluia.*

The angel said to the shepherds.  
I bring you tidings of great joy.  
For unto you is born today.  
The savior of the world. Alleluia!

12. O Clap Your Hands (Psalm 47) .....Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

13. O Magnum Mysterium from **Christmas Cantata**  
..... Daniel Pinkham  
(1923-2006)

14. Hark! the Herald Angels Sing .....Please join us in singing!

15. Hodie Christus natus est ..... Giovanni Gabrieli  
(1555- 1612)

Alexandra LoBianco, soprano; Jennifer Ponzoni, mezzo-soprano;  
Anthony Cinelli, tenor; Dalton Taylor, baritone

16. Gloria Patri from **Magnificat** (Op. 157) .....Alan Hovhaness  
(1911- 2000)

17. Hallelujah from **Messiah**..... G.F. Handel  
(1685- 1759)

18. Joy to the World.....Please join us in singing!

~~~~~

## Program Translations

- 13. O Magnum Mysterium** ..... Daniel Pinkham

*O magnum mysterium*  
*et admirabile sacramentum,*  
*ut animalia viderent Dominum natum*

O great mystery  
and most wondrous sacrament divine,  
that animals should look and see the  
Lord a babe newborn

*jacentem in praesepeio.*

beside them in a manger laid.

*O beata Virgo,*

O how truly blessed is the Virgin

*cujus viscera meruerunt*

whose womb was worthy

*portare Dominum*

to bear and bring forth the Lord

*Jesum Christum. Alleluia!*

Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

- 15. Hodie Christus natus est** ..... Giovanni Gabrieli

*Christus natus est, hodie!*

Christ is born this day!

*Hodie Salvator apparuit:*

This day a Savior appears:

*Hodie in terra canunt angeli,*

This day on earth angels are singing,

*Laetantur archangeli,*

Archangels are rejoicing,

*Hodie!*

This day!

*Hodie exultant justi, dicentes:*

This day, rejoice all just people, saying

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Glory to God in the highest.

*Et in terra pax hominibus bonae*

And peace to all men of good will.

*voluntatis.*

- 16. Gloria** ..... Alan Hovhaness

*Gloria Patri, et Filio,*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

*et Spiritui Sancto:*

and to the Holy Spirit:

*Sicut erat in principio, et nunc,*

As it was in the beginning, is now,

*et semper, et in saecula saeculorum.*

and ever shall be, world without end.

*Amen*

Amen.

~~~~~

We invite you to sign our guest book at the Box Office and to  
comment on our concert.



**Robert René Galván, conductor,** was born in San Antonio, Texas. He has been Music Director of the **Bronx Concert Singers** since Fall 2006, and in 2009 served as interim Music Director and guest conductor for **Florilegium Chamber Choir** in Manhattan. He was appointed Music Director of **The Peace of Heart Choir** (Manhattan) and Professor of Conducting and conductor of the conservatory orchestra for the **Long Island Conservatory of Music** in August, 2010. He also serves as conductor of the choir of Central Unitarian Church in Paramus, NJ.

For three years Galván was Music Director of **Highbridge Voices**, a professional training choir for boys and girls in the Highbridge Community of the Bronx. From 2006-08 he was also Professor of Conducting & Choral Studies at the **Brooklyn-Queens Conservatory of Music** in New York City where he trained young conductors and directed the conservatory chorale. For four seasons he served as conductor

of the **Springfield Symphony Chorus** in Massachusetts and was Coordinator of Performing Arts at Manhattan College and Music Director/Conductor of the **Manhattan College Singers** in New York City. While at the college, he also formed the **Manhattan Sinfonia**, an orchestra of young professionals which he still directs.

Galván earned a M.M. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Doctoral studies in conducting were undertaken at the University of Texas where he served as conductor of the **University Chorus** and **Longhorn Singers** for which he received the *Texas Excellence in Teaching Award*. During his time in Texas Galván was the conductor of the **Austin Philharmonic**, associate conductor of the **Austin Choral Union**, principal guest conductor of the **Ausfin Choral Artists** and director of the **Choir of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin**. He received his B.M. from Texas State University where he studied conducting, voice, piano and cello.

**Tamara Cashour, accompanist,** is currently on the Collaborative Pianist Faculty of William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ, and also works as an accompanist for singers and opera workshop in the Mannes College Extension Division, NYC, and for the Long Island Conservatory of Music. For nine years, Ms. Cashour was on the Vocal Accompanying Staff of the Manhattan School of Music. She was appointed Music Director/Organist-Choir Director at the Presbyterian Church of New Rochelle in June, 2008.

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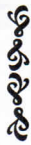
*30th Annual Holiday Concert*

*December 11, 2011*

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As a pianist, Ms. Cashour has performed/premiered the works of many new music composers of opera, art song and solo piano pieces, including those of John Harbison, Ricky Ian Gordon and Dorothy Chang, as well as New York Composer Circle members Debra Kaye, Nataliya Medvedovskaya and Noah Haverkamp. Ms. Cashour made her Carnegie-Weill Hall Accompanying debut in February, 2002.

Ms. Cashour holds a BA in Music Theory from Columbia University (NYC) and an MA in Opera Directing/Performance (with a concentration in feminist/avant-garde theatre studies) from New York University.

**Hyojong Chang, guest conductor and tenor**, graduated in 2009 from Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary in his native Seoul, Korea, with a degree in conducting. While there, he distinguished himself in several Oratorio Festival Conducting Concours; and in 2007 he was vice-conductor for

choir at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Music Concert of the Far East Broadcasting Co. In 2009 he served as conductor for both the Korea Christian Male Choir Annual concert and the Messiah Great Concert of Sihung Municipal Church Association.

He is currently enrolled in conducting studies for an Artistic Diploma at Long Island Conservatory of Music.

As a professional with over ten years of experience, **Soprano Alexandra LoBianco's** career has been as exciting as it has been diverse.

Ms LoBianco made her operatic debut as Leonora in *Il trovatore* with Union Avenue Opera where she returned to perform on their October 2010 Gala bringing life to the iconic Puccini character Turandot. She appeared with Tulsa Opera in their production of Bellini's masterpiece *Norma* in the spring of 2011. She is also a proud alum of Opera Singers Initiative in NYC. Her opera roles include Cio Cio San

(Madame Butterfly), Mother/Witch (Hansel & Gretel), Mother (Amahl and the Night Visitors), Praskowia (The Merry Widow), Dama (Macbeth) and Sieglinde (Die Walküre). Ms LoBianco was a member of the Young Artist Program with St. Petersburg Opera where she covered Mimi (La bohème) and Donna Elvira (Don Giovanni). She has even been seen as the quirky lovable Sister Robert Ann in the Musical smash *Nunsense*.

In 2009, Ms LoBianco made her New York City Debut as a member of the Opera Singers Initiative in their Young Opera Benefit. In summer 2007, she was a featured soloist with FloriMezzo's Summer Wind Ensemble, singing selections from Porgy and Bess.

She made her NYC Oratorio Debut with the Bronx Concert Singers in Spring 2010 with Liszt's *An den Wassern zu Babel*.

**Beverly McDew, soprano** and pianist, is a native New Yorker who grew up in a musical family and began her piano studies at an early age. She attended the Mannes College of Music, and was a piano student of Esther Hoffman-Wexler. She continued her piano and theory studies at the Juilliard School of Music.

Beverly studied organ with Yolanda Clarke and Dr. Richard Heske, and voice with Evelyn Reynolds, Frank Barr, and Kelley Wyatt. She obtained a Bachelor's of Science degree in Music Education from Concordia College, and has completed credits towards her Master's at City University of New York.

She has performed as soprano and piano soloist, and accompanist throughout the Metropolitan area, Washington, and California, and has received several awards.

Beverly has worked as an accompanist for LEAP (Learning through an Extended Arts Program), and the Metropolitan Opera Guild: A Choral initiative, sponsored by the Dana Foundation, and Vivendi Universal Fund, who are helping to put music back into our schools. She is a member of the David I. Martin Music Guild of the National Association of Negro Musicians.

**Jennifer Ponzoni, mezzo-soprano**, studied voice with Angus Godwin and choral conducting with Lawrence Doeblert at Ithaca College. After making her home in Orange County, NY, she continued vocal studies with Claudia Cummings (New York City Opera). She has performed as soloist and chorister for several ensembles in the Hudson Valley region including Cappella Festiva, Orange County Classic Choral Society, Hudson Valley BachFest, Camarata/Ulster County Choral Union and West Point's Annual "Messiah Sing" at the Cadet Chapel.

In addition to performing joint recitals with various musicians in the region, Jennifer has taken part in productions with *Festival Theatre*, the *Opera Company of the Highlands*, and *MUSE* Early Music Chamber Ensemble. She has served in several area churches as Alto section leader and has been a guest artist of *The Bronx Concert Singers* for several seasons.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

*Odilia Thomas*

FROM HER

MAGGY LONDON FAMILY

Ms. Ponzoni is currently one of the professional singers in the choir at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Englewood, NJ. She is also a Cantor at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys R.C. Church in Brookfield, CT. She offers private instruction in voice and piano at the New York School of Music in Walden, NY and at the Orange County School of Dance in Monroe, NY.

**Tenor Anthony Cinelli** holds a Bachelor of Arts from Rhode Island College with a concentration in vocal performance and theatre. Anthony has toured nationally performing numerous roles from standard opera repertoire to American musical theatre in regional and summer stock houses throughout the eastern seaboard.

He has been a featured solo artist with the West Point Cadet Choir, *The Bronx Concert Singers*, New Jersey Chorale, Third Street Music Settlement and Cornerstone Chorale for which he served as President of the Board of

Directors for the millennium season.

Mr. Cinelli is an ensemble member of MUSE Early Music Chamber Ensemble as well as principal tenor and soloist at Congregation Oheb Shalom in South Orange, NJ.

**Dalton Taylor** is a classically trained baritone, and alumnus of LaGuardia Arts High School. He graduated from SUNY Purchase College's Conservatory of Music; and studied voice with Thomas Goodheart and Jacque Trussel.

He sang the roles of Masetto in *Don Giovanni*, Baron in *The Merry Widow*, Papageno in *The Magic Flute* and roles in *Die Fledermaus*, and *Man of LaMancha* among many others.

Dalton served as the section leader for St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in White Plains for eight years. Currently, Dalton is the resident artist at Blessed Sacrament Church in Hamden, CT. He has been a guest artist with *The Bronx Concert Singers* for several seasons.

### Save the date:

**Sunday, May 6, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.**

For Bronx Concert Singers' Spring concert

## *A Night at the Opera*

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- Visit our website: [www.bronxconcertsingers.org](http://www.bronxconcertsingers.org)
- Call 917-743-4641 for information.

## SUPPORTING THE BRONX CONCERT SINGERS

Bronx Concert Singers is a volunteer chamber chorus dedicated to bringing the powerfully enriching musical experience and the artistic excellence of the downtown concert hall to communities within the Bronx and Greater New York. The chorus is committed to rehearsing and performing a distinctive repertoire, with orchestra, that is grounded in the European classical tradition and inclusive of the works of 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century composers as well as musical traditions from throughout the world

Primary financial support comes from gifts of individual contributors, like you, and from advertisements in the concert program. The group also raises money through various fundraising events, membership dues, and by charging admission to the concerts.

Since The Bronx Concert Singers is a 501(c)(3) organization, gifts are deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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**If you are interested in scheduling The Bronx Concert Singers to perform in an event you are planning, or want more information, please call: Frances Ciurcina at (917) 743-4641.**

Now that you have had a chance to familiarize yourself with The Bronx Concert Singers, we would like to know more about you and ways in which you would be interested in supporting us.

Please take a moment to fill out Page 21 and mail it back to us at:

The Bronx Concert Singers  
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Or leave it at the box office.