

featuring members of the

THE Usquehanna ORCHESTRA SHELDON BAIR, FOUNDER AND MUSIC DIRECTOR

Program Saturday, December 4th, "A Steel Pan Christmas"

Corelli – Christmas Concerto Grosso Op. 6, No. 8 arr. G Welles Still – II Est Ne, Le Divin Enfant (He is Born, the Divine Child) J.S. Bach – Schlafe mein Liebster from "Christmas Cantata" A Shepherd's Lullaby arr. Brian Folus – A Taste of Chanukah Vaughan Williams, arr. Parrish – Fantasia on Christmas Carols Sheldon Bair – 'Twas the Night Before Christmas arr. Sheldon Bair – The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy arr. Sheldon Bair and Doris Reinhardt – A Steel Pan Christmas: Jesu Bambino and Carol of the Pans Anderson/arr. Applebaum – Sleigh Ride



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This performance is supported in part by grants through Harford County Cultural Arts Board and the Harford County Office of Economic Development



Personnel

<u>Violin I</u>

Wendy Bohdel, concertmaster Rebecca Leadmon Christine Robbins Logan Santiago Lily Wang Amy Wilkinson

<u>Violin II</u>

Manfred Reek Rachael Kanagie Tabitha Kanagie Terry O'Neill Bernadette Solounias

Viola

Jessica Conklin Will Conway Melissa Pileggi <u>Cello</u> Sheldon Lentz Tracy Wettig Katie Kuester

<u>Bass</u> Brian Folus Alyson McMenamin Beth Weed

Organ and Piano Barbara Bair

<u>Percussion</u>

Mary Eilerman Meredith Campbell G. Welles Still Braeden Travers <u>Trumpet</u> David Stauffer

Steel Pandemic Lead Barbara Bair Angela Prevette Lauri Stephen Carol Thompson

Double Tenor Mary Eilerman

Double Second Fiona Sparks

Guitar Marsha Roach

Bass Doris Reinhardt Arcangelo Corelli – Christmas Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 8 (1713-1753)

Vivace – Grave Allegro Adagio-Allegro-Adagio* Vivace Allegro Largo – Pastorale

Violins – Wendy Bohdel and Manfred Reek 'Cello – Sheldon Lentz

- Corelli was an early Italian baroque composer and violinist.
- His main output consists of Trio Sonatas (2 violins, plus continuo usually consisting of 'cello and harpsichord or organ) and Concerto Grossi.
- This Christmas Concerto Grosso is one of his most popular works.
- It is referred to as a Christmas Concerto due the last movement, a Pastorale (think shepherds)



arr. G. Welles Still – Il est ne, le divin Enfant (He is Born, the Divine Child) *

- This is an arrangement of a traditional French carol from the 19th century.
- This arrangement, by one of our own musicians, includes a tenor drum which adds to the color of the instrumentation

Johann Sebastian Bach – Schlafe mein Liebster from the "Christmas Oratorio", Part 2* (1685-1750)

Katie Stout, soprano

- J. S. Bach was one of many family members who made their living as musicians. Bach, a German baroque composer who worked most of his life in Lutheran churches in Leipzig, Germany, is considered by many to be one of the greatest composers of all time.
- Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" consists of six cantatas, and includes music that Bach borrowed from some of his own, earlier works.
- The music of this beautiful aria, a lullaby, was also used in Bach's cantata "Hercules", but in a different key and with different text.
- This is a Da Capo aria: the A section is performed, followed by the B section. At the end of the B section the words 'Da Capo', or 'return to the beginning', are written under the final bar. So, the A section is once again performed.

English Translation

Sleep, my beloved, enjoy Your rest, and awaken after it for all the fortunate!

Let your heart delight, experience the joy that rejoices our hearts!

Translation © Pamela Dellal, courtesy Emmanuel Music Inc.



arr. Brian Folus – A Taste of Chanukah

- Brian Folus, SSO bassist and guest conductor, has reworked his popular Chanukah full-orchestra medley for strings alone, making the work more concise but maintaining the general feeling of the original.
- This medley includes: Who Can Retell, The Little Spinning Top, Chanukah, Oh Chanukah, and Ma'oz Tsur (Rock of Ages)
- Brian Folus will conduct his arrangement.

Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. Todd Parrish – Fantasia on Christmas Carols* (1872-1958)

Tracy Wettig, cello solo

- This composition by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams was originally written for baritone solo, chorus, and orchestra.
- The arrangement for strings heard today is a shorter version that still contains the three main carols from the original: The Truth Sent from Above, Come All You Worthy Gentlemen, and the Sussex Carol.



Sheldon Bair – 'Twas the Night Before Christmas (A Merry Frolic) (b. 1954)

Katie Stout, soprano

- Poem by Clement Clark Moore, with additional text by the composer.
- This work includes a multitude of percussion instruments, plus soprano and strings.
- Although this composition is original, the composer uses snippets from six other songs. Can you name them?

Two musical selections for steel drums, percussion, and strings, featuring Steel Pandemic:

arr. Sheldon Bair – The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

arr. Sheldon Bair and Doris Reinhardt – A Steel Pan Christmas: Jesu Bambino and Carol of the Pans

- The SSO music director's wife, Barbara, suggested that he arrange holiday music for her steel drum band, Steel Pandemic, along with string orchestra with percussion.
- Five members of Steel Pandemic play their orchestral instruments in the SSO!
- Steel Drums or Pans originated in Trinidad and Tobago.
- The Steel Drum Band in these arrangements consists of five parts: lead (4 players!), double tenor, double second, guitar, and bass.
- The leader of Steel Pandemic, Doris "Dolly" Reinhardt (also the SSO's principal flutist!) assisted in the creation of these arrangements.



Leroy Anderson/arr. Samuel Applebaum – Sleigh Ride (1908-1975)

• The SSCO concludes its holiday concert with the ever-popular Sleigh Ride by American composer Leroy Anderson, re-worked for strings and percussion by Samuel Applebaum.

* Selections not performed at the Children's Concert.

Also, a big Thank You to Robin Payne who will be our Master of Ceremonies for our 1:00 pm concert. Robin will help us navigate through today's music!

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