

*celebrates . . .*

*El Dia de los Reyes  
"Day of the Kings"*

*January 5, 2013*

*Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament  
1017 11th Street • Sacramento*


*Misa Criolla and  
Navidad Nuestra  
by Ariel Ramirez*

*Carols and Lullabies  
by Conrad Susa*

*Peter Nowlen  
Conductor*



*[www.cameratacalifornia.net](http://www.cameratacalifornia.net)*




This  
performance  
is made possible by the  
generosity of  
Dr. Roberta Marlowe

Additional support is provided by . . .  
The Sacramento Metropolitan Art's Council

Mario Obledo National Coalition  
of Hispanic Organizations

The Honorable Justice Cruz Reynoso, President  
&  
Mrs. Keda Alcalá-Obledo, Executive Director

. . . who are proud supporters of the  
production of this concert.



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

We look forward to an exciting future with our new Conductor and Artistic Director, Peter Nowlen. Peter brings us his many talents and good humor. I envision a whole new future of collaboration, potential and growth. Welcome aboard, Pete!

The Camerata leaves on the January 16th for New York. The composer, Jonathan Wilcocks, invited us to perform in the celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday. We will sing Wilcocks' "A Great and Glorious Victory" which we presented at our last Memorial Day concert. While we are there, we will spend some time with our friend, composer Matthew Harris. We performed his work "A Child's Christmas in Wales" two years ago.

This concert celebrating the "Day of the King's" is a break from our usual Holiday tradition. We have had a lot of fun preparing this music. We hope that you will enjoy it.

I hope that we will see you at our Memorial Day concert.

Mary Wesley  
General Director

P.S. See the special announcement ad on page 16 to enter your email in the FREE Camerata California mug drawing!

*Ava DeLara . .*

*Voice Lessons & Performance Coaching*

With more than twenty years experience teaching professional vocal artists, Ava De Lara, will guide you through your growth toward healthy singing technique, style, performance, audition technique, and theory in long-term singing lessons.

She will also help you prepare for auditions, roles in opera or musical theater, and recording sessions with single visit coaching sessions. Equally important will be the confidence and fearlessness that you will develop through your ongoing training.

Your first visit is always free!

songbird@inreach.com  
916.570.3135



PROGRAM

**Three Venezuelan Christmas Carols** (*arranged by Bruce Trinkley*)

**La Jornada** (*The Jordanian*)

**Como Busca El Tierno Infante** (*Seeking the tender infant*)

**Cantemos** (*Sing!*) — Norman DeVol, tenor

**Missa Criolla** — Ariel Ramírez (1921 - present)

Kyrie • Gloria • Credo • Sanctus • Agnus Dei — Norman DeVol, tenor

I N T E R M I S S I O N

**Carols and Lullabies — Christmas in the Southwest — Conrad Susa (1935-present)**

**¡Oh, mi Belén!** (*Oh, my Bethlehem*)

**El Deseembre Congelat** (*Frozen December*)

**Alegría** (*Rejoicing*)

Don Dittmer & Niels Krop, baritones • Eric Stetson, tenor

**A la Nanita Nana**

**Las Posadas** (*The Inns*) — Jim Almond, bass / baritone

**Campana sobre Campana** (*Bell on Bell*)

**El Belén Tocan a Fuego** (*In Bethlehem touching fire*) — Ava DeLara, soprano

**El Noi de la Mare** (*The Boy of the Mother*)

Vanessa Martucci, soprano • Barbara Lazar, alto

Alan Lazar, tenor • Niels Krop, baritone

**Chiquirriquitín**

**El Rorro** (*The Babe*)

**Navidad Nuestra** (*Our Christmas*) — Ariel Ramírez (1921-present)

**La Anunciación** (*The Annunciation*)

Michael Accinno, tenor • Jim Almond, bass, baritone

**La Peregrinacion** (*The Pilgrimage*)

**El Nacimiento** (*The Birth*) — Ava DeLara, soprano

**Los Pastores** (*The Shepherds*) — Rodney Parada, tenor

**Los Reyes Magos** (*The Magi*)

**La Huida** (*The Flight*)

**Vamos todos a Belén** (*Let us go to Bethlehem — arranged. Philip Kern*)

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Vita Academy  
Becky & Bill Allen  
Splended Gourmet Catering  
Grant Parker GAP-CI  
Chapeau Graphic Design & Consulting  
James Radford of printNERSA.biz  
Sadie and Jan Dillon  
Susan Dakuzaku  
Mrs.Keda Alcala-Obledo  
Rex Rollanka  
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament  
The Guitar Society

SPECIAL THANKS  
Barbarar Lazar

*Thank you to the Donor -  
Supporters of Camerata California*

PREMIER

Roberta Marlowe • Mary Wesley  
Dorothy Dublirer

VITUOSO

Margo Kaufman • Jean Alfred  
Don Dittmer

PATRON

Richard and Celeste Weklych  
Robert Dresser • Rona Commins  
Michael Giles • Ava DeLara  
Jim & Anna Almond



**Heritage  
Institute  
for  
Family  
Advocacy**

Advocacy &  
Human Rights,  
Children & Youth,  
Community,  
Disabled, Justice  
& Legal

*To give families a voice and develop  
community outreach programs for health,  
housing and education*

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 290,  
Sacramento, CA 95825

**916-564-4111**



*Camerata California would like  
to thank all who supported  
us in the 2012  
**Race For The Arts!***

The 2013 race will be held in August.  
Please put it on your calendar now for  
an early start and a quick run to  
the finish line for Camerata.

### Ariel Ramirez (1921 - 2010)

Born in Santa Fé, Argentina, Ariel Ramírez specialized in the folklore of his native country and made extensive studies of its history and development. In 1950 he went to Europe to study the folklore of Central Europe at the Academy of Vienna. He received a fellowship to the institute of Hispanic Culture in Madrid where he studied the origins of Argentine music.

**"Misa Criolla,"** widely regarded as a stunning artistic achievement, combined Spanish text with indigenous instruments and rhythms. Its effect is that of a reverent carnival, and it has sold millions of albums and been performed countless times across the world. For all its verve, "Misa Criolla" had its origins in a post-Holocaust visit to Germany. He felt a need to compose something deep and religious that would revere life and involve people beyond their creeds, race, color or origin, the composer told the Jerusalem Post. He added in another interview that the song was a tribute to human dignity, courage and freedom, with a distinct message of "Christian love."

**"Navidad Nuestra"** Like the "Misa Criolla", Ariel Ramírez composed "Navidad Nuestra" in 1964. For the six episodes of this Creole tableau with Spanish texts by Félix Luna (b.1925), the composer availed himself of dances and songs of Argentine musical traditions that are indicated in the score. From the characteristic melodic 6/8 rhythms in the dance types chamamé in La Anunciación and the *chaya riojana* in Los Pastores, to the gracious lyricism of the *huella pampeana* in La Peregrinación and the *vidalas* from Catamarca in El Nacimiento, Ramírez evokes a wide range of expressions from traditional Argentine music. Luna's six poems narrate the universally known episodes of the Christmas story from the annunciation through the birth to the flight to Egypt from Herod's sacrifice of children. Far from the original Bethlehem, Luna locates the story in the north of his native Argentina, alluding in particular to the moon of the Rioja in the poem about the adoration by the shepherds. The text, in Castilian, interpolates words in the indigenous *guaraní* language; in La Anunciación, for example, the Virgin Mary is described as *la más bonita cuñatai* (the most beautiful of all maids) and the angel Gabriel arrives *caté* which translates roughly as 'sharp-looking'. Other native elements in the text portray the country people to whom the work is dedicated. Telling examples are the offering by the Three Kings of a *poncho blanco* de alpaca real (a white poncho, the finest alpaca) and the references to local instruments such as the *cajas*, guitars and *bonbo legüero*. As well, there are three references to drinks made from the *algarrobo* blanco tree – *aloja* (beer), *añapa* (a non-alcoholic beverage) and *arroke* (a thick, sweet syrup).

### Conrad Susa (1935 to present)

Conrad Susa studied composition at Juilliard where he won a number of awards including a Ford Foundation Fellowship. His scores for theater, documentary films and television total more than one hundred and have been performed at major theaters and festivals, including the San Diego and Stratford Shakespeare festivals, the American Conservatory Theater, and the Guthrie Theater.

**Carols and Lullabies — Christmas in the Southwest** — Carols and Lullabies came about when conductor Philip Brunelle suggested to Conrad Susa he write a companion piece to Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols." Using a collection of Spanish carols he had sung as a boy in Arizona, Susa juggled them around to form a narrative. In it, Susa explores the Christ child's birth through the many moods, rhythms, and colors of Bethlehem carols that use varied texts – Biscayan, Catalanian, Puerto Rican, Spanish, Andalusian, Castilian, and Mexican. The evocative timbres of the harp, the marimba and vibraphone, and the guitar are woven into an instrumental fabric that is at times beautiful and serene and at other times rhythmically energetic.

C O N D U C T O R

PETE NOWLEN

S O P R A N O

Jean Alford, Ava DeLara, Amanda Johnston,  
Vanessa Camille Martucci

A L T O

Mary Honsinger, Mary Anne Kirchner,  
Barbara Lazar, Jan Truesdail, Mary Wesley

T E N O R

Michael Accinno, Rodney Ernesto Parada Guirola,  
Alan Lazar, Eric Stetson

B A S S

James Almond, Don Dittmer,  
Edward Gibson, Neils Krop

**STAGE MANAGERS** Jack Mootz & Tom Smith

**REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST** Rachel Kang

**GENERAL DIRECTOR** Mary Wesley



## CONDUCTOR



**Pete Nowlen** — has been a member of the UC Davis faculty since 1988, and the CSU Sacramento faculty since 1990. He was a member of the French horn section of the Sacramento Symphony from 1987 to 1996, and is active as an orchestral and chamber musician and conductor.

Horn performance credits include the San Francisco Symphony, Opera and Ballet orchestras, Symphony Silicon Valley, Sacramento Philharmonic and Opera, the Music in the Mountains Festival, and the International Orchestra of Italy. In 1992 he was the third prize winner of the

International Competition for Solo Horn of the Castle of Duino, Italy, and in 1994 was a semi-finalist in the prestigious American Horn Competition

Mr. Nowlen has been the Director of Concert Bands at U. C. Davis since 2002 and is Opera Musical Director at CSU Sacramento. Previous opera, ballet and theater conducting credits include *La Bohème*, *Hansel und Gretel*, *Magic Flute*, *Amahl*, *Orpheus in the Underworld*, *La Finta Giardiniera*, *Billy the Kid*, *L'Histoire du Soldat*, *Façade*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Falsettos*, *Company*, and *Man of La Mancha*.

Orchestral conducting credits include the Sacramento Symphony, UCD Symphony Orchestra, CSUS Symphony Orchestra, Camellia Symphony, and Music in the Mountains Orchestra. Major symphonic repertoire conducted includes Beethoven's Symphonies No. 3, 5, 6 and 9, Saint-Saens' Organ Symphony and Christmas Oratorio, Mozart's Requiem and Great Mass plus numerous symphonies and concerti, Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, Dvorak's Cello Concerto and late symphonies, Schumann's Piano Concerto and Rhenish Symphony, Mahler's Fourth Symphony and *Songs of a Wayfarer*, the Mussorgsky/Rimsky Pictures at an Exhibition, Prokofiev's *Cinderella*, Franck's *Le Chausser Maudit* and D Minor Symphony, Sibelius' Violin Concerto, Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony and *Romeo and Juliet*, and Schwantner's *New Morning for the World*.

## FEATURED SOLOIST



**Norman DeVol, Tenor**, is an accomplished soloist from San Francisco Peninsula currently living in San Bruno. He received his B.A. in voice from San José State University where he studied with Jeanne Garson. Norman has performed with professional symphonies and opera companies throughout Northern California, including the Sacramento Symphony, Auburn Symphony, Apollo Opera, Camellia Symphony, Monterey Symphony, Opera La Piccola Scala, Mission City Opera, Pocket Opera, West Bay Opera and Berkeley Opera.

Reviewing a recent performance of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, the Santa Clara WEEKLY called him "the vocal standout of the evening.... His clear and flexible voice rang from beginning to end with strength, stability, and true artistry, as one hopes to hear in a heroic Tamino. One sensed the experience and knowledge behind every nuance, and true artistic respect for each famous note."

Norman's interpretation of Rodolpho in the Piccola Scala production of *La Bohème* garnered him a nomination for a Elly Award. When he's not singing, Norman also teaches voice privately, is a choral director and accompanist. He is currently the assistant conductor of the internationally acclaimed Masterworks Chorale based at the College of San Mateo and is a member of the San Francisco Opera Chorus.



## PROGRAM NOTES

### Three Venezuelan Christmas Carols

#### LA JORDANA

It is time to leave, the road to Bethlehem, the married couple go to Nazareth.

The Virgin Mary, is modest and simple, is the wonder of Eden.

Good friends, Joseph and Mary arrive at the Cirila -- porfia goodbye. Arrive exhausted on the cold night and no where to stay and out to the field and found a cave in it to stay overnight

#### Como Busca El Tierno Infante

*(As seeking the tender infant)*

As seeking the tender infant, afflicted and sorrowful, Rest and sleep in the Mother's breast, So I from shining the white light of dawn, I come to find, oh Mother, Your heavenly protection.

#### Cantemos (Singing)

Singing, we are singing! Loving praise we bring: Happy Eve of Christmas, Happy Eve of Christmas, Happy Eve of Christmas, to Thee, Infant King.

All our expectations, all our charity, all our consolation, Baby dear, in Thee. (Refrain)

Beaming through the darkness, flooding rays so bright, shining on the cradle, coming from on high.

#### REFRAIN

Night of jubilation, night of Jesus' birth, night of holy splendor, and redeeming love.

### Missa Criolla

#### Kyrie

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

#### Gloria

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to his people loved by God.

We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you. We give you thanks for your great glory. Lord God, Heavenly King.

God the Almighty Father. 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 on us.

You who take away the sins of the world, Hear our prayers. You reign with the Father, have mercy on us. Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to his people that love the Lord.

For you alone are Holy, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

#### Credo

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Conceived by the power and grace of the Holy Spirit, born of the Holy Virgin Mary,



**Wesley Group, Inc.**

Tax Accounting

Estate Planning, Wills & Trusts

Powers of Attorney

5412 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael,

916.483.1386

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into Hell. On the third day He arose from the dead, and ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints and the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

### Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of the universe! Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### Agnus Dei

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world grant us peace.

### INTERMISSION

## Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest

**Oh, mi Belén** (*Oh, my Bethlehem!*)

Oh, my Bethlehem!  
Your beloved hour has arrived!  
The light you shine so unceasingly is like a beacon that guides us on our way, night and day.  
Oh, my Bethlehem!

**El Diciembre congelat**

(*The Frozen December sung in English*)

In frozen December, our confusion vanishes. April is crowned with flowers, and all the world adores. For in this garden, love bears a divine flower. It's a beautiful rose, fruitful and fragrant.

The first Father made the dark night, so that sleep might calm our troubled eyes. But on this midnight, a sun shines without end. With its beautiful light, heaven itself falls in love.

May blooms here, though far away.  
A lily white and gentle, of rarest fragrance which all the world will enjoy forever.  
All His Sweetness! The fragrance!  
And our great good fortune!

### Alegria

Walking slowly unto Bethlehem, Holy Mary and her husband, traveling with them, though in secret, is the Savior of all nations.

Refrain: Joy and pleasure! For the Virgin passes by us with her husband to Bethlehem.

When to Bethlehem they had traveled, they were searching for a haven. All the innkeepers refused them, dressed so poor and heavy laden. (Refrain)

As they see Mary and Joseph, all the songbirds of the forest serenade them with their singing; Precious gifts come from the poorest. (Refrain)

**A la nanita nana** *A la nanita nana, nanita ea*

Blessed be my child Jesus! Now you must sleep! Crystal fountain resounding clearly and brightly, nightingale in the forest, weeping so sweetly, hush! Now the child is sleeping, laid in a cradle.

### La Posadas (*The Inns*)

Shall I have them open the stable before you?  
Shall I bring the shepherds to praise and adore you? Hush, hush now, my darling; see the boy is almost sleeping.

My beloved Father, my God and my Savior, happily you sleep through the harshness of winter. Hush, hush now, my darling; see the boy is almost sleeping.

**Campana sobre Campana** (*Bell after Bell*)  
(*sung in English*)

Bell after bell is heard, gathering all who are able! Come to the window and hear the word, you'll see a child in a cradle.

Refrain: Ding, dong! Oh, ring the bells of Bethlehem, what are the angels singing, what news do they bring?

Now that all your flock is gathered, tell me shepherd, what's the matter? We shall carry to the manger cheese and wine and sweetest butter. (Refrain)

(program notes continued on page 12)

PROGRAM NOTES . . . *continued*

Stars in the heavens are shining, shepherd,  
where will you go tonight? Quickly run to the  
baby. Watch him slumber so sweetly. (Refrain)

**En Belén Tocan A Fuego** (*There's a Fire in  
Bethlehem*) (sung in Catalán)

There's a fire in Bethlehem, in the stable see the  
flames! For they say that born of a Virgin from  
heaven to earth He came!

Refrain: Fish in the river are glistening and  
dancing, dancing and leaping to celebrate his  
birthday.

In Bethlehem's humble stable there's a lovely  
white carnation, it will grow into a purple Lily.  
Greet the Savior of the nations!(Refrain)

Virgin Mary, by the river hangs the swaddling  
clothes of Jesus, all the birds around her are  
singing and the river flows rejoicing! (Refrain)

**El Noi de la Mare** (*The Child of the Mother*)  
(sung in English)

What shall we give to the Child of the Mother?  
What can we bring that will give him delight?  
Bring to him raisins in kingly abundance, Bring  
him the offerings he richly deserves.

What shall we bring to the Child of the Mother?  
What shall we bring to the beautiful boy? Raisins  
and honey and olives and walnuts, raisins and  
honey and figs that are ripe.

What shall we do if the figs do not ripen?  
What shall we do if the figs are still green?  
Gifts that we offer the Child should be perfect  
mild for a baby, yet fit for a King.

**Chiquirriquitín**

(Note: The title word is probably a variant  
of *chiquero*, meaning "stable")

In the manger! He is laid in a manger bed.  
Follow us to the manger. Find them all through  
the doorway, there in the stable, Mary Joseph,  
and Jesus, their holy baby.

Ox and mule are His guardians sleeping beside  
Him, in the poorest of stables humbly abiding.

**El Rorro** (*the baby*)

A La ruru, my precious baby, please go to  
sleep now, my tiny Jesus. The buzzing bee and  
elephants that lumber; be silent now, do not  
disturb His slumber.

Come, oh night of blessing, night of great rejoicing.  
We gather to bless the sweet  
and holy Virgin.

Choirs in heaven, raise your voices now to praise  
Him, sing for joy the blessings that this night  
has given!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mary Wesley — President  
 Roberta Marlowe — Secretary  
 Mary Chapeau • Ava DeLara  
 Dorothy Dublirer • Lee Brown  
 Carol Gordon • Judith Larson  
 Alan Lazar • Barbara Lazar  
 Michael McCoy • Jack Mootz  
 Elizabeth Mora • Sally Eres Rice  
 Piper Schwartz • Tom Smith  
 Sarah Wheeler-Valine • Esther Volkan

## Navidad Nuestra

### La Anunciación — *The Annunciation*

The angel he comes to see her, comes to her from the heav'ns afar. He shows her a star, how brightly it shines so high above Bethlehem. He brings her news from the heav'n above. He tells of God's love, how sweetly it grows, it's blooming for me, for you. O holy is the hour the beautiful Child is born. O wonderful is the flow'r that blooms for us on Christmas Morn. Now she smiles the lovely Mary and heav'n grows bright with a radiant glow. Her voice is a song, her eyes like the stars that shine above Bethlehem. In heaven there is rejoicing. And angels sing in a heaven'ly choir. How beautiful is the Mother, how beautiful will be the Child. O holy is the hour the beautiful Child is born. Oh, wonderful is the flow'r that blooms for us on Christmas Morn.

### El Nacimiento — *The Nativity*

Night long awaited, Night of love's pow'r, Jesus is born of petals and flow'rs. All is in silence, Calm is his birth, Christmas is with us, Peace upon earth. Low in the manger, Lord from above, Brings us the news of peace and of love. When He is smiling, Radiance glows, and in His arms a tiny cross grows. Angels are singing over the door, Christmas is with us, Jesus is born. This is the night God promised of old, His gift to all men, see it unfold. This is the night when sleep is foregone, God is among us, Jesus is born.

### Los Pastores — *The Shepherds*

Come in the morning, good shepherds, from field and from sheep-fold when sun lights the sky. Come in the morning, Mother and Child in the manger do lie. Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you. Shepherds are coming from Pinchas and Chuque, Aminga, San Pedro, Poman. See the bright flowers they bring Him, the candles they light for the sweet Son of God. Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you. Julio Romero will come on his horse, and will play for us on his guitar. Julio Romero will sing us a song, when he comes on his horse from afar. Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you.

See how we celebrate Christmas, with songs and rejoicing, for this little Boy. Bring Him your candles, your arms filled with flowers, and bring Him your hearts filled with joy. Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you.

### La Huida — *The Flight*

Move on! Move on! Little donkey, move on!

Herod is here with a sword at his side, where is a place for the Baby to hide? Hush, little One, do not cry, safe in my arms you will lie, Herod is here with a sword at his side.

Move on! Move on! Little donkey, move on!

Hard is the road and a long way to go, lovely the land where we take you, I know. Hush little one, do not cry, we will be there by and by. Hard is the road and a long way to go.

Move on! Move on! Little donkey, move on!

### Vamos todos a Belén

Let us all go to Bethlehem with love and joy. Let us adore our Savior, our Redeemer.

Night became day, an angel descended, swimming in the light, this is what he said: Let us all go to Bethlehem with love and joy. Let us adore our Savior, our Redeemer.

Joyous shepherds, the prophecy is fulfilled; Heaven is opened, Life is born.

**"Funded in part by  
the Cultural Arts Awards of the  
Sacramento Metropolitan Arts  
Commission with support from the  
City and County of Sacramento."**

**SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN  
ARTS  
COMMISSION**

## BIOGRAPHIES

### SOPRANOS

**JEAN ALFORD** has been singing in choirs all her life. Not unusual when your parents and grandparents were church choir directors in So. California for several decades. Besides her membership with Camerata California, Jean has also sung with the Sacramento Symphony Chorus, the Sacramento Choral Society, the Sacramento Opera Chorus and is a member of the women's vocal ensemble, Chanteuses. Jean currently sings with the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Choir under choirmaster David Link.

**AVA DELARA** is a member and regular soloist with Camerata California. She has also been guest soloist with many regional California orchestras, including the Solano Symphony, Camellia Symphony, Auburn Symphony, Gold Country Chamber Orchestra, the Sacramento Choral Society Festival Symphony, and the Valley Choral Society Orchestra. Her oratorio work includes Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, Händel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Missa in Augustis*, Mozart's *Vesperae Solennes de Dominica*, a television broadcast of Verdi's "Messa da Requiem", Saint-Saën's *Oratorio de Noël*, and J.S. Bach's *Magnificat* and *B Minor Mass*.

In December 2007, Ava sang the *Magnificat* from Randall Thompson's *The Nativity* according to St. Luke. In 2009 she added Vaughn Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* to her repertoire and gave her first ever performance of Mahler's *Symphony No. 4*. 2011 provided her the opportunity to perform Respighi's beautiful and difficult *Lauda per la Nativita Del Signore*.

Her opera experience includes performances of leading roles with several of California's regional opera companies, including Townsend Opera Players, North Bay Opera and the San Francisco Children's Opera. The roles she has performed include *Violetta* (*La Traviata*), *Cio-cio-san* (*Madama Butterfly*), *Aida* (*Aida*), *Erste Dame* (*Die Zauberflöte*), *Georgetta* (*Il Tabarro*), *Esmeralda* (*The Bartered Bride*), *Cinderella* (*Cinderella*), *Josephine* (*H.M.S. Pinafore*), and *Polly* (*The Beggar's Opera*) which garnered her a nomination for a Sacramento regional theater Elly Award.

**AMANDA JOHNSTON** has performed with several different choral ensembles both nationally,

and internationally. In addition to singing with the Camerata California. She is currently singing with the Sacramento City College Choir.

**VANESSA CAMILLE MARTUCCI** was born and raised in Sacramento and began studying music at age 10. She began her music studies by taking piano lessons and performing in a local children's choir and drama group. In high school, she continued participating in choir, and had the opportunity to perform with the California Regional Honor Choir in 2006. She also played clarinet with a private high school band under the direction of Eric Rainwater. At age 16, she began studying voice with baritone opera singer Nicolai Mitakys, whom she studied under for 3 years. During that time she completed her Associates Degree in Communications at Sacramento City College. Upon transferring to Sacramento State University, Martucci decided to concentrate on music as well as Italian. Through the opera theatre department at Sacramento State, Martucci performed the role of Adele in Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, and Sandrina in Mozart's *La Finta Giardiniera*. She is currently a junior at Sacramento State University and has studied voice under Michael Sokol and Claudia Kitka.

### ALTOS

**MARY HONSINGER** is a native of Sacramento and has been performing locally for more than thirty years. She graduated with a BA in Music from California State University, Chico and received her MA from CSU Sacramento, where she studied vocal performance with Claudia Kitka. She returned to school after a few years and earned a BSN, and has been working as an RN with Kaiser Permanente for the past twenty-five years.

Mary's first love has always been choral performance, especially with small groups. She sang for several years with the Silver Swan Singers, a madrigal group that was originally formed by members of her church choir at Westminster Presbyterian. She sang for twelve seasons with the Sacramento Symphony Chorus, first under the direction of Bruce LaMott, then with Donald Kendrick. She is also very proud to have been a founding member of Chanteuses, a local women's vocal ensemble, and with them traveled and performed in Switzerland and France.



## Vocal & Instrumental Teaching Artists Academy of Northern California



MORA BEYOND MARKETING.COM

11210 Gold Express Drive #310-187 Gold River, CA 95670  
Telephone: 916-625-5234  
E-mail: emora2@comcast.net

**Growing your Organization!**  
Engage your Membership

Newsletters—Event Flyers  
Social Media—E-Blasts  
Websites that work!

FREE 1 Hour Consultation with this ad  
through January 2013!

**SAVE THESE DATE**



**2013 SEASON**

*Pete Nowlen conducting*

May 26, 2013

Memorial Weekend Concert

Please contact Mary Wesly for tickets  
and more information  
916-483-1386



*Rockin' the Renaissance!*

**JOIN US TODAY!**

**Celebrating local visual &  
performing artists**

- > Artist profiles & portfolios
- > Directory of organizations
- > Calendar of events
- > Community newsletter & PR

Involved in the creative arts?  
Learn more at:

**CommunityArtsAlliance.com**

**FREE!**

**Camerata California  
mug drawing . . .**

Send your email address to  
mwesley@surewest.net  
and be entered into the **FREE**  
Camerata Mug Drawing!

Your email must be received by  
midnight February 28th.

The winner will be contacted via email.

**BIOGRAPHIES**

Mary is delighted to be singing with Camerata, after having taken several years hiatus from performing in preparation for retirement to Idaho.

**MARY ANNE KIRCHNER** was singing in the church choir in utero when her mother was doing just that in Louisville, Ky. She learned Gregorian Chant with block notes in the sixth grade and sang daily Mass for three years in that format. In high school and college she sang alto in the chorus for those eight years. She also sang in Holy Name Choral Club, a regional chorus, doing solo work for community concerts. After graduation, she continued her church affiliation, taking charge of and leading the weekly congregational singing in Oklahoma. After a break for marriage and children, she came back to choral singing, leading the Alta California Regional Center Christmas choral group from 1984 until 1992 here in Sacramento. In 1984 and 1985 she directed the Madrigal Singers for Shakespeare in the Park at McKinley Park. She was the vocal director for a presentation of Jesus Christ, Superstar, produced by Sacramento City College in 1983. She was a founding member of a vocal trio, "Oh Yeah" which presented music of the 30s, 40s, and 50s, in the style of the Andrew Sisters until 1986. This group was featured for two years in the Community Showcase production. Since 2001, she has been singing alto in another vocal trio, "Hot Ticket", which also features music of the 30s, 40s, and 50s, in the style of the Andrew Sisters. A member of the Sacramento Opera Chorus, since 1991, she has appeared in over 30 operas.

**BARBARA LAZAR** is a life-long Sacramento resident. Barbara began in music as an instrumentalist, studying piano, trumpet, and organ. For some years, before computers took over the job, she worked both as a music copyist and transposer, transposing orchestra parts for the Music Circus. She also has dabbled in choral arranging and many of her pieces have been performed locally. She is retired after 25 years teaching music at Sacramento Country Day School, and though she has been organist in a number of local churches over the years, she had her longest stint at the Unitarian Universalist Church, from which she retired after a collective 25 years service. Though she did a little singing in high school and college, she began taking it more seriously when she joined first the Sacramento Chamber Singers and then the Mark

Clark Chorale. Currently, besides Camerata California, Barbara also sings with Chanteuses.

**JAN TRUESDAIL** has many years of musical experience both singing and playing. A vocal major in college, she also played French horn through her college years, all while singing in a variety of choral groups. She holds a BA in Vocal Music and a MA in Music and Pupil Personnel Services. She has divided her career between teaching and school guidance counselor. She has sung with The Sacramento Chorale and the Sacramento Chamber Singers. She presently sings with the Chanteuses and plays with the Sierra Nevada Winds Orchestra.

**MARY WESLEY** received her education in voice and oboe performance at the University of Wisconsin. She has performed many classical roles with various symphonies in the midwest and the east coast. She has sung throughout Europe and the United States. She was a member of the Sacramento Opera Company, The Silver Swan Singers, The James Mitchel Chorale, the Wisconsin Symphony Chorus, and The Melodies among others. Mary has conducted numerous church choirs, community choruses and classical groups. She sits on the boards of many arts and community organizations. Mary was a founder of Camerata California.

**TENORS**

**MICHAEL ACCINNO** is finishing his second year as a doctoral student in Musicology. He holds a BM in Vocal Performance from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, and a MA in Musicology from the University of Iowa. Michael's current research explores the reception of street musicians in urban centers of the United States during the nineteenth century and presented a paper on the topic at the Society for American Music's meeting in 2012.

**RODNEY ERNESTO PARADA GUIROLA**, has been singing tenor with the Sacramento Opera since 2011, participating in Pagliacci, Rigoletto and Barber of Seville. Rodney started singing bel canto in 2002 at the National Art Centre in San Salvador and participated in Madama Butterfly with the Opera de El Salvador.

## BIOGRAPHIES

Passionate about singing and music in general since early childhood, Rodney was born in San Salvador, El Salvador to a very musical family on both sides, and grew up singing and playing guitar in family reunions. He became a recipient of a scholarship to study in Germany, getting the opportunity to learn German, Italian and Portuguese and to get involved with music from around the world. Performing live for more than 20 years, he has been lead singer in bands of diverse genres such as Andean, Caribbean/Salsa, Pop/Rock and Folk.

**ALAN LAZAR** is a retired financial advisor by profession. Alan has enjoyed performing in groups since he sang with the UC Berkeley Octet while in college. After taking time off from singing while serving as an officer in the US Navy and advancing his education at Columbia University, he returned to California and subsequently sang with the Palo Alto Chamber Singers, the Sacramento Chorale, the Mark Clark Chorale, and the Sacramento Chamber Singers. Alan was a member of the Sacramento Opera Chorus for sixteen years.

**ERIC STETSON** is the music director at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento, a professional musician, multi-instrumentalist, teacher,

and at age 27 is the youngest candidate in the country for the UUA Music Leadership Credentialing Program — a master study in choir directorship and music ministry. He is a film composer with recent credits for the PCS Film Festival 2011 (The Breakup, winner of the WAVE award, 2012), and the Sacramento Horror Film Festival 2010 (Within, Best Short Film). He is currently composing music for a new children's musical, "Choir Boys" (Byrd Brane Productions, LLC) to premier in Atlanta, Summer 2013. A graduate of Georgia Southern University (B.M. Composition/Theory), Eric has been performing with Camerata California since Winter, 2010.

## BASSES

**JAMES ALMOND** received his PhD in Chemical Engineering and Math from the University of Washington, and has had a career full of surprises. After heading Operations Research for Boeing's Supersonic Transport program, he went to the University of Stuttgart with a 2-year contract to install Germany's first supercomputer. Twenty-plus years later, he was surprised to still be there, with tenure, a wife, and three children. He was surprised again to be recruited as Director of the Texas state supercomputer center,



## printNERD.biz

Sweeten the coffee, tea or hot cocoa of someone special in your life with a personalized photo mug. Find just the right style to suit the person you're making it for . . . we have a variety of cup sizes and styles to choose from!

Along with your photo, you can also customize your picture mug with a design, border color or title.

Warm your best friend's heart with an 11 oz. picture mug for their birthday or anniversary featuring a custom design.

Give a new dad a 13 oz. commuter mug with a photo of his new baby that he can enjoy on the way to work. Toast at your wedding with custom photo steins for your groomsmen.

**11oz Ceramic Mug**  
**Full Color – \$12.99 ea.**  
*(case discounts available)*

Add a photo to a custom mug, commuter mug or even a stein and give a photo gift that's not only fabulous but also functional!

**Visit our website: [printNERD.biz](http://printNERD.biz) or call us today at: 916.247.2425**



## BIOGRAPHIES

followed 8 years later by a consulting career, first in England, then back to Germany, then to California and retirement. Jim has sung lead roles in "The Mikado" and "The Lute Song". In Seattle, he was the lead in the Pacific Northwest championship barbershop quartet "The Moonlighters". Singing in many choirs, including the Austin Lyric Opera, and now the Sacramento Opera and Camerata California, he has directed church choirs in Texas and in England, and both men's and women's barbershop choruses in Germany. He plays cello in the Consumnes River College orchestra . . . insurance for when the voice becomes "mature."

**DON DITTMER** began singing with Camerata California in the Fall of 2005. He has a BA in Music from Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, where he was a member of the college madrigal group. His chorus experience includes singing with the CSU Sacramento chorus and the Gregg Smith Singers. Notable performances with the Gregg Smith Singers were Stravinsky's Mass and Les Noces with Stravinsky conducting at the Los Angeles Music Festival. The Mass was recorded for Columbian Records, also with Stravinsky conducting. His ongoing musical endeavors include song leader at church services for his congregation, guitar accompanist and cantor.

**EDWARD F. GIBSON** is an Emeritus Professor of Physics at CSU Sacramento where he taught for 38 years. His research specialty was medium energy experimental nuclear physics. He received the Universities Outstanding Scholarly Achievement Award in 2002. Edward performed his first solo in an elementary school play. He was in the high school band as a clarinet player, so didn't have another class period free for choir. As an undergraduate student at the University of Colorado, he sang in a barbershop quartet. He returned to singing in a church choir after graduate school. Now in Sacramento, he has sung in many church choral groups. He sang with the Sacramento Chorale for 20 years, with the Sacramento Chamber singers, and currently sings with the CSUS University Choir, and the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra. Edward has been a soloist at University functions, and often sings solos at church.

**NIELS KROP** was born in the Netherlands and emigrated to the United States with his family when he was seven. He grew up in the Bay Area completing his education with a degree in Psychology. Music was always present as Mom played the piano, Dad the guitar, Sister the violin, Brother the cello, and Niels the clarinet. Niels did some singing early on with his Elementary School choir and with the family singing Dutch folk songs at cultural events. Music took a hiatus in his life until he moved to Sacramento in 2000 and took up singing four years later. At that time he began pursuing his singing and performing. He has since performed with Sacramento Opera, Davis Comic Opera, Ad Hoc Opera, Light Opera Theater of Sacramento, and Camerata California.

---

## ACCOMPANIST

**RACHEL KANG** has been teaching and performing in the Sacramento area more than 25 years. She holds both a bachelors and masters degrees in music in piano performance from California State University, Sacramento.

During her school years, she had six solo recitals, and received numerous scholarships such as Saturday club, Sac State music department, and she was the winner of MTAC Advanced recital. She started taking piano lessons at age 5, and attended Sunhwa arts junior high and high school in South Korea where she trained as a piano major. She came to America after high school, and studied with the late Frank Wasko. He wrote her a card one time saying that her performance always came back in the form of communication. Ms. Kang has been teaching at Sacramento city college as an adjunct professor since the fall of 1999, she has taught privately in her Gold River home studio for 25 years, she has given private lessons at Capital Christian school since 2000. She is currently an accompanist at Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento. Her two children are majoring in cello performance.

---

Send Mary Wesley your email address and be entered into the FREE Camerata Mug Drawing! Details on page 16.



## • O R C H E S T R A •

**MIKE CRAIN** is a composer, percussionist and educator based in Northern California. He is an active performer in the community and has performed on the east and west coasts at venues and festivals such as the Otherminds Festival, the Viola Festival, and the John Cage MusiCircus at Fort Mason San Francisco, the Mondavi Center, the San Francisco Asian Art Museum, Carnegie Hall and others. His compositions have received performances and praise by ensembles & festivals here in the US and internationally including the Electronic MidWest Music Festal, VoxNovus & Digital Art Week in Switzerland among others. As an educator at Sacramento State University, and Los Rios Colleges, Mike teaches a variety of courses related to world music and drumming, music theory, and music technology.

**RYAN GOODPASTOR** is a percussionist with the Auburn Symphony, Folsom Symphony, Sierra Nevada Winds, and founding member of the Auburn Drum Line. He is also the drummer for the Stardust Cowboys, Tepid Club of Cool, and Wild Duck. He volunteers with various organizations including: Summer Series Concert Committee, Auburn World Music Day Committee, APPAC, and PlacerArts. California.

**SEAN O'CONNOR** has been performing and teaching privately in the greater Sacramento area since the year 2000. A Magna cum Laude graduate of the CSUS music program, he divides his time between teaching over 40 private lessons a week to students ages 8-108, and performing on both classical and electric guitars.

**ERIC PRICE** is a free lance double bassist and teacher living in the East Bay. Eric attended UC Davis for his undergraduate studies in music, followed by graduate studies at Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia where he earned a master's degree in bass performance. He currently lives in Martinez and works for several schools around the bay area as a bass coach. Eric regularly performs as principal bass in the UC Berkeley symphony orchestra as well as actively free lancing.

**JONATHAN RAMAN** attended S.J. Delta College as a percussion major under Mary Wells. Playing in the S.J. Delta Wind Ensemble with Art Holton, the S.J. Delta Jazz Band with John Nordgren and worked under the instruction of

Brian Kendrick. He performed with many artists including; Bobby Watson, Mike Vax, Doug Hunt, Bobby Shew, Tower of Power's Mic Gillette, and Brian Lynch. Jonathan has performed with numerous other groups including; the Barkin Dawgs Jazz Band, the Oak Street Quartet, the Holy Cows as well as other variety of music groups.

Jonathan transferred to C.S.U. Sacramento to further his passion for teaching and performing in music under the teachings of Daniel Kennedy. Performances with the C.S.U. Wind Ensemble, C.S.U. Jazz Band, C.S.U. Orchestra, the Sacramento Marching Band, Camerata Capistrano, and the Sacramento Percussion Group. In 2012, Jonathan received his Bachelors of Music in Music Education and Instrumental Performance in Percussion.

His other notable performances are with the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, U.C. Davis Percussion Ensemble, Fresno State Percussion Ensemble, Sierra Wind Ensemble, Stockton Symphony, Sacramento Youth Symphony, VITA Academy, Camellia Symphony, Folsom Symphony, the South Oregon University Percussion Ensemble, Wet Ink Series Music in the Mountains, and The Runaway Stage Production. Derek Keller, Allen Vizzutti, Samuel Hazo, Mark Camphouse, Jack Stamp, Steve Schick, Chris Froh, Loran Mach, and Daniel Kennedy.

**LARISA SMIRNOVA** comprises the diverse talents of an accomplished musical artist; soloist, orchestral musician, accompanist, and inspiring pedagogue. Born and educated in Russia, she received her Bachelor of Music in Lipezk Igumnov's College of Music specialized in teaching, solo performance, chamber music, and accompaniment.

Larisa earned her Master's in Piano and Harp Performance and Pedagogy from the Moscow State University of Culture and Arts where she studied piano with Professor Svetlana Karas and harp with Professor Margarita Maslennikova. Primary among her current mentors in performance and pedagogy is Brian Ganz of the Peabody Conservatory, Maryland, with whom she supports a longstanding professional connection.

As soloist and accompanist she has given numerous recitals in Russia (Moscow, Great Composers Performance Hall) and throughout Northern California (CSU Sacramento, UC Davis, Sonoma University, Mondavi Center, among others). She has also performed with the Auburn Symphony, Folsom Symphony, Camellia Symphony, and Camerata California.

[www.cameratacalifornia.net](http://www.cameratacalifornia.net)

916.483.1386

[mwesley@surewest.net](mailto:mwesley@surewest.net)