



Advance Program Notes

All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914
Cantus and Theatre Latté Da
Saturday, November 22, 2014, 7:30 PM

These Advance Program Notes are provided online for our patrons who like to read about performances ahead of time. Printed programs will be provided to patrons at the performances. Programs are subject to change.

Cantus

All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 100th Anniversary

by Peter Rothstein
with musical arrangements by
Eric Lichte and Timothy C. Takach

CANTUS—PRELUDE

Carols for Male Voices, arranged by Ralph Vaughn Williams
God Rest You Merry
As Joseph Was A-Walking
The First Nowell
Coventry Carol
I Saw Three Ships
—*Brief Interlude*—

PROLOGUE

Will Ye Go to Flanders? Scottish folk song, arranged by Eric Lichte

THE OPTIMISTIC DEPARTURE

<i>Come on and Join (Alexander's Ragtime Band)</i>	Irving Berlin*
<i>God Save the King</i>	English Traditional
<i>Good-Bye-Ee</i>	R. P. Weston and Bert Lee*
<i>It's a Long Way to Tipperary</i>	Jack Judge and Harry Williams*
<i>Les Godillots</i>	Paul Briollet and Eugene Rimbault, based on French Traditional

THE GRIM REALITY

<i>Pack Up Your Troubles</i>	George Henry and Felix Powell*
<i>The Old Barbed Wire</i>	English Traditional*
<i>I Want to Go Home</i>	Lieutenant Gitz Rice*
<i>Deutschlandlied</i>	Franz Joseph Hadyn
<i>Keep the Home Fires Burning</i>	Ivor Novello*
<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	12th century plainchant

*harmonized by Cantus

Program, continued

CHRISTMAS

<i>Christmas in the Camp</i>	Harrington and Scott
<i>We Wish You a Merry Christmas</i>	English Traditional Carol
<i>Die Wacht am Rhein</i>	Karl Wilhelm
<i>Christmas Day in the Cookhouse</i>	Traditional English*
<i>O Tannenbaum</i>	German Carol, arranged by Timothy C. Takach

THE TRUCE

<i>Silent Night</i>	Franz Gruber, arranged by Erick Lichte
<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	French Traditional*
<i>Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella</i>	French Carol*
<i>In Dulci Jubilo</i>	German Carol*
<i>Wassail</i>	Erick Lichte, based on traditional texts
<i>Minuit Chretiens (O Holy Night)</i>	Adolphe Adam, harmony by Erick Lichte
<i>Will Ye Go to Flanders? (Reprise)</i>	Scottish folksong, arranged by Erick Lichte
<i>Es ist ein Ros entsprungen</i>	German Traditional*
<i>Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern</i>	Philip Nicolai, arranged by Erick Lichte
<i>Good King Wenceslas</i>	Piae Cantionis*

THE RETURN TO BATTLE

<i>Auld Lang Syne</i>	Scottish folk tune, arranged by Timothy C. Takach
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EPILOGUE

<i>The Last Post</i>	English Bugle Call
<i>Silent Night (Reprise)</i>	Franz Gruber, arranged by Eric Lichte

*harmonized by Cantus

Creating All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914

I studied World War I in high school and college, but I don't remember reading about the Christmas Truce in any of my textbooks. If I had, I certainly would have remembered. This extraordinary event took place in 1914, the first year of the war, and was never repeated. Thousands of men put down their guns and left their trenches to meet their enemies in No Man's Land. They exchanged gifts of tobacco, rum, and chocolates; even photographs of love ones. They sang songs, played a game of soccer, and buried each other's dead. Upon orders from above, they eventually returned to their trenches and re-instigated a war that would last four more years.

So why did I not learn of this remarkable event? The propaganda machine of war is powerful, and news of soldiers fraternizing across enemy lines would put a human face on the Germans and readily undermine public support for the war. The heroes of this story are the lowest of the ranks—the young, the hungry, the cold, and the optimistic—those who acted with great courage to put down their guns, overcoming a fear that placed a gun in their hands in the first place. Their story puts a human face on war, and that's the story I hope to tell. In 2005, I attended a Cantus Christmas concert. I was struck by not only their remarkable sound, but also how their work was pushing the boundaries of chamber music in the ways Theater Latté Da was pushing the boundaries of musical theater. I approached Cantus about collaborating on a piece about the Christmas Truce. They immediately said yes, and our work began.

I am interested in creating performance where the content dictates the form. In the creative process I continually ask myself: If the characters were left to their own devices, how would they tell their story? What language, what tools were available to them? There was our answer—radio. Radio was critical to military operations; it was the primary means of mass communication and mass entertainment. Our piece would be a radio musical drama, using only the tools of radio: music and text. The music ranges from trench songs to patriotic and sentimental tunes, as well as Christmas music from the participating countries. The text is taken from a wide range of sources including letters, journals, official war documents, poetry, grave stone inscriptions—even an old radio broadcast.

One of the reasons I love working in the theater, versus film or television, is because the theater is a two-way street. It asks the audience to engage their imagination in order to complete the story. So, here are the words and the songs of these remarkable men. Completing the story, putting a human face on war—well, that's up to you.

To the thousands of men who changed history, thank you. May we do your story justice.

—Peter Rothstein, creator/director

People Cited

- Dick Barron**
2nd London Mounted Brigade
- Private Frank Bass**
9th Battalion Norfolk Regiment
- Robert Burns**
7th Queens Own Cameron Highlanders
- Winston Churchill**
First Lord of the Admiralty
- Private W. T. Colyer**
Artists' Rifles
- Corporal John Ferguson**
Seaforth Highlanders
- Count Gleichen**
Brigadier General, 15th Brigade
- Captain Sir Edward Hulse**
Scots Guards
- Hugo Klemm**
133rd Saxon Regiment
- Maurice Laurentin**
Commandant 6e Compagnie
- Francis Edward Ledwidge**
Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
- Second Lieutenant Geoffrey Lillywhite**
Royal Engineers
- George Littlefair**
Durham Light Infantry
- Private Tom Macdonald**
9th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment
- Patrick MacGill**
London Irish Regiment
- Lt. General C.F.N. Macready**
British Army
- Private Peter McGregor**
14th Battalion Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders
- Albert Moren**
2nd Queen's Regiment
- Sgt. G. H. Morgan**
Royal Warwickshire Regiment
- Oberstleutnant Johannes Niemann**
133rd Royal Saxon Regiment
- Wilfred Owen**
Manchester Regiment
- Second Lieutenant Arthur Pelham-Burn**
6 Gordon Highlanders
- Pope Benedict XV**
- Jack Rogers**
Sherwood Foresters
- Siegfried Sassoon**
Royal Welch Fusiliers
- Private Frank Sumpter**
London Rifle Brigade
- Private Jack Sweeney**
1st Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment
- G. T. Forrestier-Walker**
Brigadier General
- Frank and Maurice Wray**
London Rifle Brigade

Biographies

ACTORS



MATT REIN

Hometown: Minneapolis, Minnesota
Stage Credits: Guthrie Theater, Park Square Theatre, Illusion Theater, and Children's Theatre Company



DAVID ROBERTS

Hometown: St. Paul, Minnesota
Stage Credits: Jungle Theater, Theater Latté Da, Commonweal Theatre, Minnesota Jewish Theatre, Plymouth Playhouse, Mu Performing Arts, Children's Theatre Co., and Illusion Theater



PATRICK BAILEY*

Hometown: London, England
Stage Credits: Frank Theatre, Jungle Theater, Park Square Theatre, and Commonweal Theatre; in the UK: Royal Shakespeare Company, National Theatre, and Courtyard Theatre

TENORS



ZACHARY COLBY

Hometown: Crown Point, Indiana
Education: doctor of musical arts degree and master of music degree in vocal performance, University of Minnesota; bachelor of music degree in music education, Butler University



AARON HUMBLE

Hometown: Palmyra, Ohio
Education: doctor of music and master of music degrees, Indiana University; bachelor of music degree, Millikin University; all degrees in vocal performance and literature



BLAKE MORGAN

Hometown: Detroit, Michigan
Education: bachelor of arts degree in music performance and education, Western Michigan University

TENORS, continued



PAUL JOHN RUDOI

Hometown: Keene, New Hampshire
Education: bachelor of music in vocal performance, The Hartt School



SHAHZORE SHAH

Hometown: Chicago, Illinois and Stillwater, Minnesota
Education: bachelor of music degree in vocal performance, bachelor of music degree in music education, and bachelor of arts degree in French; Lawrence University Conservatory of Music

BARITONES



MATTHEW GOINZ

Hometown: Bemidji, Minnesota
Education: master of music degree in choral conducting, University of Arizona; bachelor of arts degree in vocal performance, Bemidji State University



MATTHEW TINTES

Hometown: Fargo, North Dakota
Education: master of music degree in vocal performance, University of Wisconsin-Madison; bachelor of music degree in secondary vocal music education, North Dakota State University

BASSES



CHRIS FOSS

Hometown: Council Bluffs, Iowa
Education: master of music degree in choral conducting, University of Nebraska; bachelor of music degree in commercial music, Millikin University

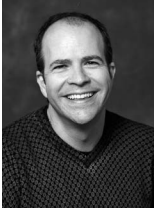


SAMUEL GREEN

Hometown: Webb City, Missouri
Education: bachelor of music degree in music education, University of Missouri-Kansas City

Biographies, continued

CREATOR/DIRECTOR



PETER ROTHSTEIN**

Hometown: Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Directing Credits: Theater Latté Da, Guthrie Theater, Children's Theatre Company, The Playwrights' Center, Illusion Theater, Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre, Ten Thousand Things, and the

Minnesota Opera

ARRANGERS



ERICK LICHTÉ

Hometown: Appleton, Wisconsin

Education: bachelor of music degree in music education, St. Olaf College



TIMOTHY C. TAKACH

Hometown: Lake Zurich, Illinois; Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Education: bachelor of arts degree in music theory/composition, bachelor of arts degree in studio art; St. Olaf College

**Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

***The director is a member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.*

Company Biographies



The "intellectually, emotionally, and musically rich" (*Star Tribune*) nine-member men's vocal ensemble Cantus is known worldwide for its trademark warmth and blend and its engaging performances of music ranging from the Renaissance to the 21st century. Working without a conductor, the members of Cantus rehearse and perform as chamber musicians, each contributing to the entirety of the artistic process. *The Washington Post* hails the ensemble's sound as having both "exalting

finesse" and "expressive power" and refers to their music-making as "spontaneous grace." Cantus performs more than 60 concerts each year both in national and international touring, as well as in its home of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, and has released 17 albums on its own self-titled label. Past performances have brought Cantus to the stages of the Kennedy Center, UCLA, San Francisco Performances, Atlanta's Spivey Hall, Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival, and New York's Merkin Concert Hall. The 2014-2015 season sees Cantus perform twice in New York at Lincoln Center and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and in Houston, Dallas, Berkeley, and the Krannert Center at the University of Illinois, among numerous other North American engagements.

Each year the artists of Cantus share their own love of singing with thousands of students through workshops and master classes to ensure the future of choral arts.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cantus, 1221 Nicollet Mall, Suite 231
Minneapolis, MN 55403
info@cantussings.org • cantussings.org



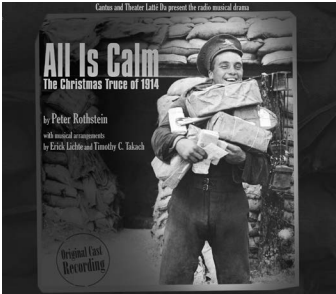
Theater Latté Da is a Twin Cities-based musical theatre company recognized for its ability to connect artists, audiences, and communities through diverse stories that resonate with our current world. Committed to innovative musical theatre, Theater Latté Da's bold approach expands the genre by originating new works, radically reinventing classics from the musical theater canon, and experimenting with unusual forms, musical styles, and storytelling techniques. Founded in 1998 by Artistic

Director Peter Rothstein and Music Director Denise Prosek, Theater Latté Da boasts an impressive history of work that has received significant popular and critical acclaim, including over 50 mainstage productions, with nine world premieres, a new works initiative called NEXT: New Musicals in the Making, and a student matinee program for teens.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

Theater Latté Da, 345 13th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413
info@latteda.org • latteda.org

Recordings Available at the Concert



All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914

The Western Front, Christmas, 1914. Out of the violence comes a silence, then a song. A German soldier steps into No Man's Land singing *Stille Nacht*. Thus begins an extraordinary night of camaraderie, music, and peace. The original cast recording of this remarkable true story is told in the words and songs of the men who lived it.



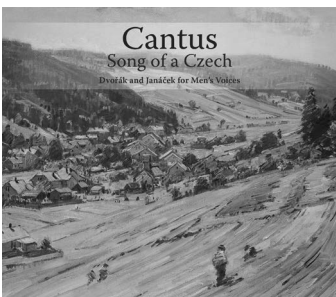
Christmas with Cantus

The men of Cantus bring the sounds of the holidays to you and your family. Including audience favorites *Do You Hear What I Hear*, *Carol of the Bells*, *Noël Nouvelet*, *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, and of course the Franz Biebl *Ave Maria*, this collection of songs old and new is full of light and life.



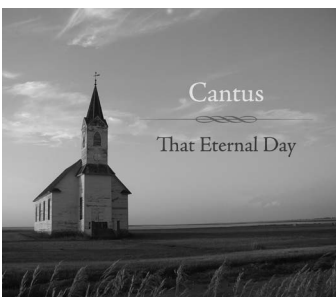
A Harvest Home

For years, public radio listeners around the country have celebrated *Thanksgiving with Cantus* with American Public Media. The latest Cantus recording features beloved songs celebrating the joy of the holiday. *A Harvest Home* includes original arrangements of favorite hymns and American folk tunes, as well as pieces by Ysaye Barnwell, Byron Adams, Edvard Grieg, and Randall Thompson.



Song of a Czech: Dvořák and Janáček for Men's Voices

With this new recording of repertoire by two giants of Czech musical history, Cantus explores literature rarely heard outside of eastern Europe, lending their trademark warmth, blend, and exemplary musicianship to these fascinating treasures of the choral canon.



That Eternal Day

This recording is a wonderful collection of American sacred music, including audience favorites *There's a Meetin' Here Tonight*, *Wanting Memories*, and new arrangements of *Keep Your Lamps*, *Sweet By and By*, and *Simple Gifts*. This program is emotionally invigorating and musically fulfilling.

These and other Cantus recordings are available at cantussings.org.

In the Galleries



Sam Krisch
Passage VII, 2014
Antarctica
24 x 24 inches
Archival Ink Digital Print

Explore the work of regional artists in a variety of media: abstracted aerial terrains by Betsy Bannan, pristine powerful landscape photography by Sam Krisch, and young ingenuity by Community High School students.

Betsy Bannan, Sam Krisch, and Young Artists

Thursday, December 4, 2014-Sunday, February 1, 2015

Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 AM-6 PM/Saturday-Sunday, 10 AM-4 PM

These three exhibitions, all by Roanoke-based artists, reveal the talent that lies in our region.