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## Christmas Choral Recital: The University Treble Choir, December 6, 1974

Donald Armstrong Conductor

Melody Tussing Piano

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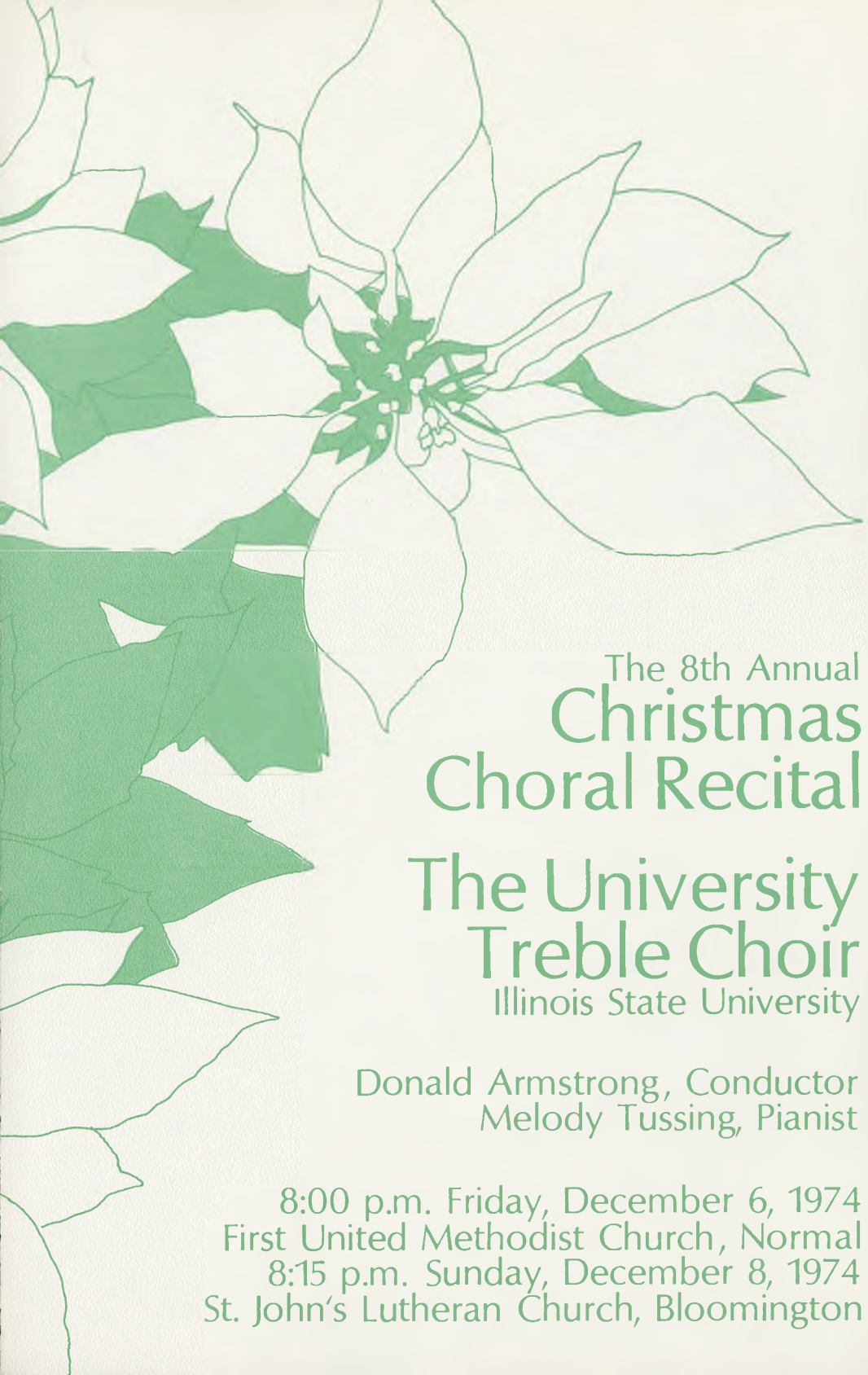
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The 8th Annual  
**Christmas  
Choral Recital**

**The University  
Treble Choir**  
Illinois State University

Donald Armstrong, Conductor  
Melody Tussing, Pianist

8:00 p.m. Friday, December 6, 1974  
First United Methodist Church, Normal  
8:15 p.m. Sunday, December 8, 1974  
St. John's Lutheran Church, Bloomington

## PROGRAM

### MISSUS EST GABRIEL (1546)

Cristobal de Morales  
1500-1553

Morales and his close contemporary, Tomas Luis de Victoria, represented counter-reformation Catholic liturgical polyphony most ably. Although transposed from the original for singing by treble voices (a practice that no doubt took place in convents), the long lines of the motet admirably fit high voices. The plainsong melody for the proper Ave Maria is ingeniously woven into the first section of this two part motet.

### AVE MARIA (1960)

Noble Cain  
b. 1896

Noble Cain is a name not known to younger generation choral singers, but without the immense influence on choral education and composition in this country exerted by Noble Cain, and his contemporaries, the position of choral music in today's education structures would be far less secure. A simple, largely chordal setting of this familiar annunciation text is nevertheless highly appropriate in its placidity and gentility.

### HOW EXCELLENT THY NAME (1952)

Howard Hanson  
b. 1896

Another name of imposing stature in twentieth century America is Howard Hanson, for many years director of the Eastman School of Music. His reputation as composer and conductor is worldwide, and rests primarily upon his instrumental works. His most famous choral work is the 1926 *Lament for Beowulf*. His *Song of Democracy* is also an established mainstay in the repertoire.

This work was originally scored for mixed chorus, but arranged by the composer for both women's and men's choirs. Its strength lies in its well shaped prosody, and use of declamatory logic to communicate the long text from Psalm 8.

Organist—Tom Stefan

### A CHRISTMAS GARLAND (1958)

George Dyson  
b. 1883

Sir George Dyson was for many years professor, then director of the Royal College of Music. His most famous choral composition is the *Canterbury Pilgrims*.

- I. Yet If His Majesty, Our Sovereign Lord—Anonymous
- II. Sweet Music, Sweeter Far—Anonymous
- III. Tell Us, Thou Clear and Heavenly Tongue—Robert Herrick
- IV. Come We Shepherds Whose Blest Sight—Richard Crashaw
- V. Fairer Than the Sun at Morning—from Prudentius
- VI. There Came Three Kings From Galilee—Anonymous
- VII. Wake, O Earth, Wake Everything—William Austin
- VIII. But See the Virgin Blest—John Milton

## SUS, SUS DEBOU (MAGNIFICAT)

Sleep no longer! End your slumber!  
Hear the good news I have to tell!  
'Soon will appear your own Messiah,!  
Said the archangel Gabriel;  
Born to a virgin fair who now sings Magnificat.

When the fair maiden heard the message,  
She was much troubled in her mind,  
On being chosen as the Mother of a princely, heavenly child.  
Praise sang the Virgin fair to her God at ev'ry hour.

God saw the maiden's deep devotion  
And her profound humility.  
He called her blessed that all men  
Might honour from now until eternity.  
A virgin pure, and meek and gracious;  
Mother of God's only son.

(My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
And my spirit rejoices in God, my saviour.  
For he regards the lowliness of his servant.  
Behold, from henceforth  
All generations shall bless me.)

## ALLONS OUIR, SUR NOS TETES

Listen to the sounds in heaven!  
Angels sing their songs of joy;  
Heralds fanfare on their trumpets,  
'Born today, a royal boy!'  
Seraphs play tarara, tararere,  
And cherubs straightway make reply,  
Laderitampon, a newborn babe, God's only Son!

When we make our way to greet him,  
King of heav'n and Prince Royale,  
We will say, 'O gracious master,  
We have come to sing Noel.'  
We will sing tarara, tararere, and all  
Will join our cheerful song, Laderitampon, etc., etc.

Play the fifes and blow the trumpets,  
Beat the drums and sound the flutes!  
Toll the bells, ring joyful measures,  
Spread abroad the happy news!  
Sing aloud tarara, etc. And all the world will then respond,  
Laderitampon, etc., etc.

## TRANSLATIONS

### MISSUS EST GABRIEL

The Angel Gabriel was sent unto the Virgin Mary, and he said:  
Hail, Mary, though art highly favored: the Lord is with thee:  
Blessed art thou among women.  
And when she saw him she was troubled at his saying,  
And cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.  
And the angel said unto her: Fear not, Mary,  
For thou hast found favor with God. And behold,  
Thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son,  
And shalt call his name Jesus. And Mary said:  
Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done unto me according to thy word.

### AVE MARIA

Hail Mary, plenteous in grace, the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus Christ, Holy Mary, Mother of God.  
Pray for us sinners, now, and in the hour of our death. Amen.

### PROMPTEMENT, LEVEZ-VOU, MON VOISIN

Wake up, arise straightway, my good friend!  
The Saviour of the world has come  
To dwell among us here on the earth;  
God's sent his own and well beloved son.  
Go along, my friend, to the stable where he lies,  
Run along, my friend, to his manger bed.

Whilst watching o'er the flocks, my good friend,  
From o'er the meadows, hills and town,  
There came a new, bright song, my good friend,  
Of greater beauty than I've ever known.  
Go along, my friend, etc., etc.

Astonished by these sounds from the sky,  
I left my sheep in yonder fold  
To see the newborn King, my good friend,  
Born as the prophets once foretold.

Some moments later on, my good friend,  
When I'd knelt to make my prayer  
I gave my presents to the Child and to his Mother fair.  
Our King has nothing in this world,  
So offer all you have to give;  
For later when he's a man, my good friend,  
He'll suffer that we all may live.

Give only of your best, my good friend;  
Take from your flock a well fed lamb,  
Then give it with your heart, my good friend, to Joseph and to Mary.

Today hell's darkness ends, my good friend,  
For heav'n has won its victory.  
The long awaited King has been born,  
So go now, sing your praises.

## AVE MARIA, Opus 100, No. 1a (1957)

Alan Hovhaness  
b. 1911

Oriental and avant-garde flavors consistently permeate the vocal music of Alan Hovhaness. He has written a very large number of vocal and choral works, the outstanding one from the latter category is his *Magnificat*.

The *Ave Maria* is the first part of *Triptych*, opus 100, composed in 1957, other parts of which are *The Beatitudes* and *Easter Cantata*. The simple texture, long, weaving vocal lines, combined with the instrumental sonorities result in a setting of haunting beauty.

Harpist—Denise Grupp  
Oboists—Beth Christensen, Jan Lohs  
Hornists—Joy Knapp, Mary Riley

## CHANTONS NOEL! (1966)

John C. Phillips

These three traditional carols are taken from *Noel! Chantons Noel!* published in Paris by Paul Arma. Although the melodies are unchanged, the rhythms are altered. In the second carol, the plainsong melody of the *Magnificat* is cleverly interwoven into the gentle folk song.

- I. Promptement, levez-vous, mon voisin
- II. Sus, Sus debout
- III. Allons ouir, sur nos tetes

## FIVE NARRATIVE CAROLS (1952)

Lloyd Pfautsch

The composer is constantly gaining in stature through his composition, arranging, and conducting choral music throughout the nation. Formerly director of choral music at Illinois Wesleyan University, he is now head of choral activities at Southern Methodist University.

- I. Adam Lay Y'Bounden—Anonymous 15th century English
- II. Coventry Carol—15th century English
- III. Torches—translated from the Spanish
- IV. O Little One—translated from the German
- V. Patapan—translated from the French

Flutist—Sally Sparks

## FIVE LIGHT SONGS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

- It Doesn't Seem Like Christmas—Kent Newbury  
Mistletoe—Fred Waring, arranged by Hawley Ades  
White Christmas—Irving Berlin, arranged by Hector McCarthy  
The Meaning of Christmas—Mark Lawrence, arranged by Hawley Ades  
Christmas Time—William D. Lavender



