University of Florida Performing Arts

presents

The King’s Singers

Holiday

Monday, December 3, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

David Hurley, countertenor
Robin Tyson, countertenor
Paul Phoenix, tenor
Philip Lawson, baritone
Christopher Gabbitas, baritone
Stephen Connolly, bass
PROGRAM

Lessons and Carols

Veni veni Emmanuel  
Angelus ad virginem  
There is no rose  

Traditional arr. Lawson  
Anonymous ed. The King’s Singers  
Anonymous ed. Stevens

Reading: Carol Singing, from Under the Greenwood Tree  
Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

Remember, O thou man  
Noel Nouvelet  
Bogoroditsye Dyevo  
Coventry Carol

Thomas Ravenscroft (c. 1582 -1635)  
Traditional arr. Lawson  
Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)  
Anonymous

Reading: Innocent’s Song  
Charles Causley (1917–2003)

The Lamb  
Riu riu chiu  
E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

John Tavener (b. 1944)  
Anonymous  
Paul Manz (b. 1919)

Reading: Christmas: 1915  
Percy MacKaye (1875-1956)

Stille Nacht  
Franz Gruber (1787–1863)

Intermission

The Twelve Days Of Christmas  
Traditional

Christmas Close Harmony

** Program is subject to change**

Visit The King’s Singers website at: www.kingssingers.com

The King’s Singers appear by arrangement with IMG Artists  
Carnegie Hall Tower, 152 W.57th St., 5th Floor, New York NY 10019  
www.imgartists.com

The King's Singers’ recordings are available on the Signum Records, TELARC, RCA Victor & Red Seal/BMG Classics, and EMI/Angel record labels.

Recording Distributor for The King’s Singers’ American concerts:  
DJ Records, P.O. Box 445, Trout Lake, WA 98650.  
www.dj-records.com

In addition to sheet music and music books available from DJ Records, a comprehensive catalogue of The King’s Singers’ choral arrangements is available from Hal Leonard Corporation, 777 West Bluemound Road, Milwaukee WI 53213.  
www.halleonard.com
PROGRAM NOTES

Alone amongst the great Christian festivals, Christmas continues to be celebrated not just by a regular church-going minority, but by practically the whole population. Of course, there are commercial interests promoting the festival, but it seems unlikely that this would be enough in itself to keep the celebrations alive. In addition to the religious significance of the event being commemorated and the sacred traditions associated with the celebration, the more secular traditions that have developed over the years — decorated trees, family reunions around a holiday dinner, exchanging gifts, games, and even movies and TV shows — have helped to make the celebration universally appealing.

Perhaps it is the tradition of Christmas music that most of all promotes the atmosphere of the season, and although some of the music in this group will not be known to every one of you, we are sure that the images in the texts are ones with which you will all feel quite familiar.

—The King’s Singers

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Veni, veni Emmanuel

Veni, veni Emmanuel
Captivum solve Israel,
Qui gemit in exilio
Privatus Dei filio.
Chorus: Gaude! Gaude!
Emmanuel nascetur pro te Israel.

Veni, o Jessse virgula
Ex hostis tuos ungula,
Despectum tuos tartari
Deduc et antro barathri.
Chorus

Veni, clavis Davidica
Regna reclude caelica;
Faciet tatum superum
Et claude vias inferum.
Chorus

Angelus ad Virginem

Angeles ad Virginem subintrans in conclave.
Virginis formidinem demulcens, inquit “Ave!”
“Ave regina virginum, caeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies, et paries intacta, salutem hominum,
Tu porta caeli facta, medela criminum.”

Quomodo conciperem, quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem quod firma mente vovi?
“Spiritus sancti gratia, perficet haec omnia;
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas secura quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura Dei potential.”

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone,
Far from the face of God’s dear son.
Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou branch of Jesu, draw
The quarry from the lion’s claw,
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.
Chorus

O come, O come, thou dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night’s lingering gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.
Chorus

O come, thou Lord of David’s key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heav’nward road,
And bar the way to death’s abode.
Chorus

The angel came secretly to the virgin’s chamber
And, soothing her fear, he said, “Hail!”
“Hail, Queen of women; you, untouched by man,
Will conceive and bear the Lord of heaven and earth,
the salvation of mankind.
You have been made the gate of heaven, the redemption of sin.”

“How may I conceive, since I have not known a man?
How may I break the promise which I made with firm intent?”
“The grace of the Holy Spirit will bring about all these things.
Fear not, but rejoice in the knowledge that your virtue will remain pure,
Through the power of God.”
There is no Rose

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu
Alleluia.
For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space.
Res Miranda.
By that rose we may well see
That He is god in persons three.
Pares forma.

The angels sung the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gaudeamus.
Leave we all this worldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus.
Alleluia, res Miranda,
Pares forma, gaudeamus,
transeamus.

Remember, O thou man

Remember, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man!
Remember, O thou man,
Thy time is spent.
Remember, O thou man,
How thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can:
Therefore repent!

Remember Adam's fall,
O thou man, O thou man!
Remember Adam's fall
From heaven to hell!
Remember Adam's fall,
How we were condemned all,
In hell perpetual, there for to dwell.

Remember God's goodness,
O thou man, O thou man!
Remember God's goodness,
And his promise made!
Remember God's goodness;
How he sent his Son, doubtless,
Our sins for to redress:
Be not afraid!

In Bethlehem he was born,
O thou man, O thou man!
In Bethlehem he was born,
For mankind dear;
In Bethlehem he was born
For us that were forlorn,
And therefore took no scorn
Our sins to bear.

Noël nouvelet

Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici;
Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci.
Chantons Noël pour le roi nouvelet,
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

D’un oiselet après le chant ouïs
Qui aux pasteurs disait: ‘Partez ici;
En Bethléem trouvez l’agnelet.’
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

Noël nouvelet, sing we a new Noël;
Thank we now our God, and of his goodness tell;
Sing we Noël to greet the newborn King;
Noël nouvelet, a new Noël we sing!

Then a tiny bird ceased joyous song to say
Unto certain shepherds: ‘Haste you now away!
In Bethlehem the newborn Lamb you’ll see.’
Noël nouvelet, a new Noël sing we!
En Bethléem Marie et Joseph vis
L’âne et le boeuf, l’enfant couché parmi;
La crèche était au lieu d’un bercelet.
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

L’étoile y vis qui la nuit éclaircit.
Qui d’Orient dont elle était sortie
En Bethléem les trois rois conduissant,
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

L’un porte l’or, l’autre le myrrhe aussi,
L’autre l’encens qui faisait bon sentir.
Du Paradis semblait le jardinet
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

Bogoroditsye Dyevo

Bogoroditsye Dyevo raduissya
Blagodatnaya Maria, Gospod Toboyu;
Blagoslovlyena Tyi vzhenaikh,
i blagoslovyen Ploid chryeva Tvoyego,
yako Spassa rodila yessidush nashikh.

Coventry Carol

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child
By, by, lully lullay.
Thou little tiny child,
By, by, lully lullay.

O sister too,
How may we do,
For to preserve this day
This poor youngling,
For whom we do sing,
By, by, lully lullay?

Herod, the king,
In his raging,
Charged he hath this day
His men of might,
In his own sight,
All young children to slay.

That woe is me,
Poor child for thee!
And ever morn and day,
For they parting
Neither say nor sing
By, by, lully lullay!

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,
By, by, lully lullay.
Thou little tiny child,
By, by, lully lullay.

Bogoroditsye Dyevo raduissya
Blagodatnaya Maria, Gospod Toboyu;
Blagoslovlyena Tyi vzhenaikh,
i blagoslovyen Ploid chryeva Tvoyego,
yako Spassa rodila yessidush nashikh.

The Lamb

Little Lamb who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life & bid thee feed,
By the stream & o’er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing woolly bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little Lamb who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Little Lamb I'll tell thee,
Little Lamb I'll tell thee:
He is called by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb:
He is meek & he is mild,
He became a little child:
I a child and thou a lamb,
We are called by his name.
Little Lamb God bless thee!
Little Lamb God bless thee!

Riu riu chiu
Riu, riu, chiu
La guarda ribera
Dios guarde el lobo
De nuestra cordera.

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come
Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

Stille Nacht
Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Alles schläf', einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar,
Holder Knab' im lokkigen Haar.
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh',
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht.
Hirten erst kundgemacht
Durch der Engel Hallelujah,
Tönt es laut von Fern und Nah:
Christ der Retter ist da,
Christ der Retter ist da.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright.
‘Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild;
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherd quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav’nly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born.
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love’s pure light
The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
A partridge in a pear tree.

On the second day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the third day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the fourth day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Four calling birds,  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the fifth day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Five golden rings,  
Four calling birds,  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the sixth day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Six geese a-laying,  
Five golden rings,  
Four calling birds,  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the seventh day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Seven swans a-swimming,  
Six geese a-laying,  
Five golden rings,  
Four calling birds,  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the eighth day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
Eight maids a-milking,  
Seven swans a-swimming,  
Six geese a-laying,  
Five golden rings,  
Four calling birds,  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves,  
And a partridge in a pear tree.
On the ninth day of Christmas,
my true love sent to me
Nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six geese a-laying,
Five golden rings,
Four calling birds,
Three French hens,
Two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the tenth day of Christmas,
my true love sent to me
Ten lords a-leaping,
Nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six geese a-laying,
Five golden rings,
Four calling birds,
Three French hens,
Two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the eleventh day of Christmas,
my true love sent to me
Eleven pipers piping,
Ten lords a-leaping,
Nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six geese a-laying,
Five golden rings,
Four calling birds,
Three French hens,
Two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the twelfth day of Christmas,
my true love sent to me
Twelve drummers drumming,
Eleven pipers piping,
Ten lords a-leaping,
Nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six geese a-laying,
Five golden rings,
Four calling birds,
Three French hens,
Two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree!

**BIOGRAPHIES**

**The King's Singers**
For many years The King's Singers have been delighting audiences around the world with their incomparable musicianship. Founded in 1968 by six choral scholars from King's College Cambridge, they quickly became a prominent musical force in the United Kingdom. The rest of the world soon followed, so that today the group's engagements are spread throughout the globe.

Right from the start they specialized in “everything.” From medieval music to masterpieces of the Renaissance, from romantic songs to folk, pop and jazz, their repertoire is all-encompassing. The venues at which they have appeared is equally diverse, including cathedrals and palaces, barns and former factories, as well as the world’s major concert...
halls. Many well-known composers have written pieces especially for them, and they have joined forces with orchestras, chamber ensembles and famous soloists. Often these collaborations have resulted in recordings to add to the group’s discography of nearly 90 albums.

Renowned for their commitment to blend, balance and intonation in their own performances, they are keen to pass on their knowledge and regularly conduct master class courses in many countries. But above all it is the simple enjoyment of what they do that has captured the imagination of the public all over the world and kept The King’s Singers at the top of their game for nearly four decades.

**David Hurley**  
**Countertenor**  
Now in my 18th year as a King’s Singer, I continue to enjoy my life as an itinerant musician, traveling around the world to an enormous variety of concert venues. My future life as a singer was kick-started when in 1970, aged seven and a half; I was offered the choice by my parents of watching Southampton’s soccer team, or attending the choir trials for Winchester Cathedral Choir. I chose the latter, setting into action a chain of events, which leads me here today. Having said that, I can’t help feeling that if my choice had been different, I would not be reflecting on a career in soccer! After three years at Oxford University, I began my life as a professional singer, which led me to my current position on the right wing of The King’s Singers. Away from the concert platform, I love being at home with my wife, Sarah, where we are constantly trying to tame our rather wild garden. When time and weather permit, I like to spend time sailing my boat, which is very like being a member of The King’s Singers - hard work, with a lot of time spent making sure everything is in order, but capable of providing wonderful moments of happiness and satisfaction.

**Robin Tyson**  
**Countertenor**  
I was hooked on The King’s Singers the moment my first audition began, when the five people huddled around me began a piece by taking a breath at the same time. “What a brilliant idea,” I thought to myself, “I bet that’s how they do it without a conductor! If I can breathe like that I might have a chance here.” Seven hundred concerts later I’ve got the hang of the breathing, and more besides. It is amazing to me that I have been singing countertenor (or ‘countertinkler’ as one enlightened lady from Miami once called my efforts) for half of my life. I sang treble in Canterbury Cathedral before arriving at King’s College Cambridge as a squeaky 18-year-old. Performing every day in the chapel, whose acoustics makes anyone sound good, was a pure joy and convinced me I could have a career in singing. These days, without the help of those acoustics, I rely on the best colleagues anyone could wish for. My wife Christina and I are lucky to be parents to twin boys, Henry and Magnus, now both (!) two, and when not traveling I spend my time in meaningful conversations with them, eating their leftovers, and having the ride of my life!

**Paul Phoenix**  
**Tenor**  
Passing 10 years with The King’s Singers represents a milestone for me in several respects: firstly, that I’m still here and enjoying it so much; secondly that my thirties have been spent traveling the globe singing in some of the world’s greatest performance venues; and thirdly, that I’m privileged to be a member of the group during its 40th anniversary year. However, the last few years have not just been exciting musically, but also personally. I love the time between tours at home with my wife Helena, taking William, 11, and Edward, seven, to school and being part of a vibrant rural community near Cambridge.
Keeping fit has taken on a new significance (something to do with turning 40!), and running in as many different countries as possible is a personal goal – my score currently stands at 20. My love of cars and motoring remains as strong as ever, and I recently bought my dream car. I won’t describe it as a mid-life crisis sports car, but as a mid-life opportunity. Here’s to the next 10 years!

**Philip Lawson**
Baritone

I become an instant fan of The King’s Singers when I saw them perform on the BBC’s daytime chat show, *Pebble Mill at One*, back in 1974. To have imagined then that 20 years later I would be a member of the group would have been unthinkable. Still, in 1982, having gained a music degree at York and three years’ experience of freelance singing in London, I found myself singing in Salisbury Cathedral choir, alongside Jamie Carrington, son of Simon Carrington, a founding member of The King’s Singers. I received a phone call from Simon on his retirement in 1993, inviting me to audition for his job, and the rest is history! While in Salisbury, I had been lay clerk in the Cathedral Choir, school music director and pianist/arranger for a jazz band. This job is certainly different, although I still get to teach when we do workshops, and to indulge my lifelong passion for composing and arranging. After 14 years and well over 1,000 concerts I still wouldn’t want to do anything else. My family of supportive wife and three lovely daughters keep telling me all the traveling is alright with them, and since it puts thousands of miles between me and the constant nagging of four women, it’s fine by me too!

**Christopher Gabbitas**
Baritone

Born in Cornwall and raised in Kent, I am realizing an early ambition in being a member of The King’s Singers, having been raised by my parents listening to the original group. My musical education began as a chorister at Rochester Cathedral, and continued through school and university where I sang both as a choral scholar in the choir of St. John’s College, Cambridge and as a lay clerk at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, whilst pursuing law studies. I worked for a time as a solicitor in the City of London, while also a member of the choir of the Temple Church (made famous by the entirely fictional *The Da Vinci Code*.) In 2003 I successfully auditioned for second baritone within The King’s Singers, joining in 2004. I am thrilled to be part of this incredible group, particularly enjoying the variety of music and travel opportunities this brings, as well as being able to work with some of the finest musicians in the world. My home is in Greenwich, London, with a wonderfully supportive wife, Stephanie, and our cats, Sebastian and Amelia, waiting to greet me every time I return from tour.

**Stephen Connolly**
Bass

As I am writing this, it occurs to me that this year I will celebrate my 20th anniversary with The King’s Singers. It has been the most thrilling experience a singer could ever imagine. Not only to be fortunate enough to travel and sing around the globe, but also to be a co-director of one of the world’s most exciting vocal ensembles. My journey started as a boy chorister in Leeds, Yorkshire where I grew up. At the age of 18, as a baritone, I was fortunate enough to win a scholarship to study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. After three years in London, at the tender age of 21, I had a chance to audition with The King’s Singers and the rest is history. Having spent many years living in London, I now live in the southwest of England in the beautiful county of Devon, where I love to return from time to time between our busy touring schedule to be a dad to my two teenage children and to make music with them when they let me. Music and singing has been a gift in my life and it is a pleasure to be able to give back and bring joy to those around me.