PRINCETON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ROSSEN MILANOV, MUSIC DIRECTOR

2023-2024



# **HOLIDAY POPS!**

### Saturday, December 16, 2023 3pm and 6pm

Featuring Morgan James, vocalist

Saturday, December 16 3pm and 6pm Richardson Auditorium

### **Holiday POPS!**

John Devlin, conductor Morgan James, vocalist Princeton High School Choir Vincent Metallo, director

Christmas Eve Festivities Quinn Mason

"Deck the Hall" Traditional Words by Thomas Oliphant arr. Ryan James Brandau

"Joy to the World" Traditional Words by Isaac Watts arr. Charles T. Cozens

"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" Words and Music by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane arr. Frank DeVol Prepared by Rob DuBoff and Jeffrey Sultanof

Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson

"We Three Kings" John Henry Hopkins, Jr. arr. Matthew Jackfert

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Traditional arr. Charles T. Cozens "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" Words by **Haven Gillespie** Music by **J. Fred Coots** arr. Frank DeVol Prepared by Rob Duboff and Jeffrey Sultanof

#### *Gaudete* Leanna Primiani

"Cool Yule" Steve Allen arr. Aaron Hettinga

"I Know a Bank" from A Midsummer Night's Dream Erich Korngold

"Silent Night" Franz Gruber arr. Charles T. Cozens

"I Saw Three Ships" Traditional Words by William Sandys arr. Matthew Jackfert

"Auld Lang Syne" Traditional Words by Robert Burns arr. Ryan James Brandau

"All I Want for Christmas is You" Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff arr. Luke Flynn

A Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson

> This concert is made possible in part through the generosity of *Princeton Symphony Orchestra Trustee Beth Protage Walsh.*



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.







## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**



Conductor **John Gennaro Devlin** is an ardent champion of American music, an innovator of concert design, and a thought leader in the field of classical music. Currently in his fifth season as music director of the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra (WSO), Devlin is only the ninth conductor in its 90year history to hold that title.

For his work with the WSO, Devlin has been named a recipient of the 2023 Georg Solti Foundation Career Assistance Award. Also in 2023, Devlin was honored by Wheeling's mayor, Glenn F. Elliott, with the Mayor's Award for "distinguished service, loyalty, and dedication to our city."

Devlin's artistry and versatility make him a frequent guest conductor with major orchestras across the nation. His engagements have included performances with the National Symphony Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra, Columbus Symphony, Omaha Symphony, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Greenville Symphony Orchestra, Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, Elgin Symphony Orchestra, and the American Repertory Ballet.

From 2015-2018 Devlin apprenticed with some of the world's best conductors, soloists, and orchestras while based in Washington, D.C. During that period, he was the exclusive cover conductor for the National Symphony Orchestra, where he served as assistant to world-renowned music directors Christoph Eschenbach and Gianandrea Noseda, accompanying the NSO on its historic 2018 tour of Russia. He served concurrently as the assistant conductor of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra in New Jersey, working alongside Music Director Rossen Milanov.

John Gennaro Devlin is an American conductor of Italian and Irish heritage. He completed his master's and doctoral degrees in orchestral conducting under the tutelage of James Ross at the University of Maryland School of Music. As an undergraduate student, Devlin attended Emory University as a Robert W. Woodruff Scholar, graduating *summa cum laude* with a double major in Clarinet Performance and Latin. Devlin has also benefitted enormously from his time as a member of the New York Youth Symphony, at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and at the Pierre Monteux School. His professional career has been shaped by his time as an assistant to conductors Gianandrea Noseda, Christoph Eschenbach, Rossen Milanov, and Victoria Gau.

"A phenomenal talent whose feel for classic soul music is bone deep... This woman is on fire." – *The New York Times* 



**Morgan James** is a Juilliard-trained singer, actress, songwriter and recording artist in New York City.

As a soloist with orchestras around the world, Morgan has appeared with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Malaysian Philharmonic, Colorado Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Chicago Symphony at Ravinia Festival, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops, Louisville Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, and many more.

Her most recent studio albums *A Very Magnetic Christmas* and *Memphis Magnetic* are full of classic and original soul music recorded to analog tape in Memphis, TN. Other releases include

Reckless Abandon, covers of The Beatles' iconic *White Album* and Joni Mitchell's seminal *Blue*, and two full-length albums with Epic Records: *Hunter* and *Morgan James Live*, a celebration of Nina Simone. Morgan also produced and starred in an all-female concept album of *Jesus Christ Superstar* entitled *She Is Risen*. Her music is available on all streaming platforms.

On Broadway, Morgan was in five back-to-back original companies: *The Addams Family, Wonderland, Godspell, and Motown: The Musical, and Kristin Chenoweth's For The Girls.* 

With Postmodern Jukebox and with her own channel, Morgan's music videos have accumulated more than 250 million views.

For information and updates, please visit: www.morganjamesonline.com.



The **Princeton High School Choir** has an unusually rich tradition of choral excellence that is unique among American high schools. The choir has performed extensively in North America and Europe, touring as representatives of Princeton, New Jersey, one of America's most distinguished communities. One of four performing ensembles, the 78 members of the choir are selected after careful audition of nearly two hundred voices in the high school's choral program.

The foundation of the Choir's repertoire is rich in the study of Western choral music. Its curriculum includes traditional sacred and secular choral music spanning Medieval through 21st-century repertoire, contemporary music, staged opera and operetta productions, and American folk music, Spirituals, and Gospel repertoire. The Princeton High School Choir has a history of collaborating with notable composers, conductors, and guest clinicians and is featured every December with the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Rossen Milanov. The choir hosts a biennial Gospel Festival, led by past guest conductors Raymond Wise, Donald Dumpson, and William Heard.

Notable performances have been with conductor Andrew Parrott on *Tippett's Dance, Clarion Air*; John Harbison, performing his *O Magnum Mysterium*; Vincent Persichetti, singing his Mass for Mixed Voices; Peter Maxwell Davies, premiering his *Veni Sancte Spiritus*; Roger Sessions, premiering his Mass; and Frank Lewin, premiering and recording his Mass for the Dead in memory of Robert F. Kennedy. Maurice Duruflé conducted the choir in a performance of his Requiem in 1971. In 1963, Gian Carlo Menotti invited the choir to perform at his Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy and Zoltán Kodály conducted the choir for the International Association of Choral Directors in Budapest. Additional performances of note have been at the ACDA Regional and National Conventions, the White House, and the Washington National Cathedral.

The choir has received numerous awards and honors, including first prize at the 1994 Festival of Gold in Washington, D.C., second prize at the 1984 International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, and the "Best in Class" designation at the 1981 convention of the American Choral Directors' Association in New Orleans.

## JOIN US! Carol Sing-Along

#### Joy to the World!

Joy to the world, the Lord is come; let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

#### **Deck the Halls**

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la la la la la. 'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la, la la la la. Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la, la la la, la la la. Toll the ancient yuletide carol, Fa la la la la, la la la.

#### God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentlemen; let nothing you dismay. Remember, Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray. Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

#### Hark! The Herald Angels

Sing Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled! Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem! Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King!

#### Silent Night

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.

#### Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh, over the fields we go laughing all the way: "ha, ha, ha!" Bells on bob-tail ring, making spirits bright; what fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight. Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way; oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh, hey! Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way; oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh.

#### Oh Come, All Ye Faithful

Glory to God; Glory in the highest! Oh, come let us adore Him. Oh, come let us adore Him. Oh, come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

#### Jingle Bells (reprise)

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way. Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way.

## Happy holidays!

## **MUSICIAN ROSTERS**

#### **Princeton High School Choir**

Vincent Metallo, Director Sarah Pelletier, Associate Director

**Emily Alena** Theo Balavoine Bronwyn Bastock Elliott Becker Peeler Syra Bhatt Shumona Bhattacharjya Ryan Bole Sebastian Bongiovi Owen Brown Bengu Bulbul Edward Cao Nora Chen Sarah Chen Anderson Chiang Katya Chikunova Vivian Clayton Brady Collier Elli Collins Phineas Collins Alexis Colvin Louise Demoncheaux Sofia DiGioacchino Dante DiGiulio Henry Doran Reva Doshi **Rica Eleches-Lipsitz** 

Heidi Engelbert Etienne Garcia Anika Hadap Maya Halcomb Valere Hansen Konrad Hedges James Huang Jaiden Jain-Edwards Lisa Jin Patrick Kenah Andrew Kim Jack Kolano Ellie Kovalick Avery Madison Alexander Margulis Judah Marks Arya Martin Sarai Martinez Salinas Phineas McCulloch Avery McDowell Rachel McInerney Cassiopeia Mitova Catalina Molina Milan Molina Vita Moss-Wang Aidan O'Beirne

Simon Obregon Annesofie Otte Simryn Patel Kayla Resnick James Reynolds Rowan Robinson Leah Rose-Seiden Zhengisbek Rysbekov Reed Sacks Victor Shen Raima Srivastava Jenna Stucky Jia Lai Tao Luca Teo Maya Todorov Abhi Tripathi Lillian Tuliszewski Aishwarya Vedula Aaron Vonvorys Alex Woodbury Brina Yang Aaryana Yenuga Noa Zacks Anton Zelov Matthew Zhang Eva Zizak

#### **Princeton Symphony Orchestra**

Rossen Milanov, Edward T. Cone Music Director, ENDOWED IN PERPETUITY

**Kenneth Bean,** Georg and Joyce Albers-Schonberg Assistant Conductor, ENDOWED IN PERPETUITY

December 16, 2023 John Devlin, conductor

#### **VIOLIN I**

Cal Wiersma\*\* *Concertmaster The George W. Pitcher Chair,* ENDOWED IN PERPETUITY Matthew Hakkarainen *The Yvonne Marcuse Chair, in memory of Mark M. Rutzky* Erica Tursi Cheng-Chih Kevin Tsai Justus Ross Margaret Banks Abigail Hong Jeremy Lap Hei Hao

#### **VIOLIN II**

Qianru Elaine He\*\* *The B. Sue Howard Chair* Jeremiah Blacklow Christine Wu Diana Dohyung Kim Tiffany Chang Cameron Chase

#### VIOLA

Michael Davis\*\* *The Harriet & Jay Vawter Chair* Chieh-Fan Yiu Kevonna Shuford Torron Pfeffer

#### CELLO

Ari Evan\*\* *The Julian Grant & Peter Lighte Family Chair* Elizabeth Loughran Iona Batchelder Talia Schiff

#### BASS

John Grillo\* *The Stephanie & Robert Wedeking Chair* Dan Hudson Sam Zagnit

#### FLUTE

Hae Jee Ashley Cho\*\* *The Lunder/Ezekowitz Family Chair* Hilary Jones

#### OBOE

Rita Mitsel<sup>\*\*</sup> *The Cynthia & Rob Hillas Chair* Mekhi Gladden

#### **CLARINET**

Pascal Archer\* *The Richard J. & Neil Ann S. Levine Chair* Gi Lee

#### BASSOON

Brad Balliett\* *The Cynthia & Rob Hillas Chair* Hanul Park

#### HORN

Jonathan Clark\*\* *The Dr. Michael L. Barnett Chair* Steve Sherts Sara Cyrus Rachel Nierenberg

#### TRUMPET

Jerry Bryant\* *The Donna & Donald Deieso Chair* Tom Cook Kenny Leeper

#### TROMBONE

Mike Lormand\*\* *The David A. Tierno Chair* Lars Wendt *The Lor & Michael Gehret Chair* James Rogers

#### **TUBA**

Jonathan Fowler\*

#### TIMPANI

Jeremy Levine\* The Anne VanLent Chair

#### PERCUSSION

Phyllis Bitow\* *The Lunder/Ezekowitz Family Chair* Jeff Sagurton Eric Borghi

#### **PIANO/CELESTE**

Cyrus von Hochstetter\*\*

#### **ELECTRIC BASS**

Jeffrey Carney\*\*

#### HARP

Karen Tay\*\* Anonymous Chair, given by a PSO friend in honor of all parents Named musician chairs are made possible through meaningful gifts to the Orchestra's endowment and innovation funds.

The Princeton Symphony Orchestra is a member of the League of American Orchestras.

- \* Principal player
- \*\* Guest principal player

Pur Annual Gala Save the Date! SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, April 13, 2024 2024 GALA Saturday, April 13 princetonsymphony.org/gala-2024

Join us for an evening of scandalous fun at beautiful Jasna Polana!

To join the invitation list, please contact Audrey by December 20 at ayeager@princetonsymphony.org.

All donations and sponsorships benefit the PSO's many concerts and community events, its flagship Princeton Festival and PSO BRAVO! education programs.

For details, visit princetonsymphony.org/gala-2024