

# Moscow Oratorio Society

+ 14<sup>th</sup> Season + Christmas Charity Concert 2006 + 14<sup>th</sup> Season+ Christmas Charity Concert 2006



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## PART ONE

### THE MESSIAH

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

## PART TWO

### TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS

#### A Merry Christmas

Traditional carol, arr. Arthur Warrell,  
orchestrated by R. Saigin

#### Away in a Manger

Tune by W.J. Kirkpatrick,  
orchestrated by R. Saigin

#### Carol of the Bells

Peter J. Wilhousky, M. Leontovich,  
orchestrated by R. Saigin

#### Deck the Hall

Welsh Traditional, arr. John Rutter,  
orchestrated by R. Saigin

#### Ding Dong! Merrily on High

16th c. French tune, arr. Charles Wood,  
orchestrated by K. Bodrov

#### Gesu Bambino

F. H. Martens, P.A. Yon,  
orchestrated by R. Saigin

#### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn, orchestrated by K. Bodrov

#### Joy to the World!

G.F. Handel, arr. John Purifoy,  
orchestrated by K. Bodrov

#### O Come, All Ye Faithful

Arr. David Willcocks, orchestrated by K. Bodrov

#### Ne Plach, Rakhyle

Arr. M. Skorika, orchestrated by R. Saigin

#### Oy, V Erusalimi Rano Zadzvonili

Ukranian carol, arr. Ya. M Yatsynevich,  
orchestrated by K. Bodrov

#### V lesu rodilas' yelochka

Arr. I. Gorskiy



## MOSCOW ORATORIO SOCIETY

**Conductor** ALEXANDER TSALIUK

**Accompanist** ZOYA ABOLITS

**Soloists:** LUDMILA SHILOVA (Soprano)  
VALENTIN GUTOV (tenor)  
MICHAEL RUBANOV (baritone)

## MUSICA VIVA ACADEMIC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

**Artistic Director** ALEXANDER RUDIN

### Choir:

Marina Aydina, Elena Averyanova, Valentina Angarkhaeva, Mikhail Andzelevich, Yevgeny Astafurov, Christine Bodt, Irina Bubukina, Ekaterina Bakulina, Karl Bauer, Yulia Berestneva, Yekaterina Bogdanova, Karina Bolan, Svetlana Bykova, Maria Chibisova, Rosemary Chiejina, Maria Chiglintseva, Andrei Demin, Jerome Dewald, Oksana Doulina, Alla Dragan, Celestina Emene, Laura Emmett, Michelle Evans, Valmai Evans, Tatiana Feodoritova, Isabelle Francois, Elizabeth Gardiner, Roy Gardiner, Sergei Georgievsky, Elena Grebnnikova, Natalia Gorina, Valentine Gutov, Veronique Habipi, Anne Jullian, Irina Karchevskaya, Petra Kochendorfer, Serafima Konyashina, Maria Krokhina, Chloe Lowe, Tatiana Mashanova, Heide Mehring, Valentina Mitrokhina, Tamara Mukmanova, Larisa Nikishina, Maureen O'Donohue, Harriet Noonan, Valerie O'Neill, Alexndra Ozimek Nikolai Oskin, Sergei Pershin Vladimir Poleyev, Larisa Potamanova, Mikhail Ratmansk, Irina Rodenkova, Mikhail Rubanov, Yekaterina Rumina, Olesya Ryasichenko, Roman Saigin, Astrid Sallstrim Rykova, Irina Safonova, Lyudmila Sarycheva, Maria Saulus, Marina Selina, Debjani Sengupta Tatyana Semonova, Caroline Serek-Hanssen, Dmitry Shendalev, Natalia Sidorovskaya, Natalia Sopova, Carol Sorrenti, Olga Suetina Viktoria Tatarinova, Jan Thompson, Anastasia Tokareva, Halina Tokareva, Benjamin Tschukalov, Olga Tunik, Maria Van Dun, Cynthia Vehrencamp, Irina Vershinina, Maria Vetryak, Kenji Yamashita, Olga Zhilaeva.

## MOSCOW ORATORIO SOCIETY

Founded in 1993, the choir has established an annual tradition of performing Handel's 'Messiah' during Advent. Under the direction of Alexander Tsaliuk, the Oratorio Society has grown and changed, undertaking new and exciting musical projects. The choir has sung a wide repertoire ranging from Bach and Handel to Mussorgsky, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Poulenc and Bernstein. It aims at presenting to Moscow's Russian and expatriate audience a balanced choice of well-known and little-known musical compositions.

Today the Moscow Oratorio Society is a non-profit choral society composed of members of the foreign diplomatic and business communities and of many Russian nationals. All of them are amateur singers, whatever their level of musical competence, united by a love of music and a desire to sing beautiful compositions. The choir welcomes new members at the beginning of each season.

Next spring season will start in mid January 2007. For inquiries please contact:

Carol Sorrenti: 8 910 446 57 11  
Alexander Tsaliuk: 163 33 14

Email: carol@irex.ru

Web: [www.moscoworatorio.com](http://www.moscoworatorio.com)



**ALEXANDER TSALIUK**

is a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory, where he received a PhD in choral conducting under Professor Kulikov, Director of the Conservatory. He also has a PhD in symphonic opera conducting from the Jewish State Academy. In addition to directing the Moscow Oratorio Society, Alexander Tsaliuk is conductor of the Moscow Male Jewish Choir, the "Hasidic Cappella", which he co-founded in 1989. Under his direction, this award-winning choir -- whose repertoire includes Jewish liturgical and classical music, as well as Jewish and Russian folk music -- has given hundreds of acclaimed performances in the CIS, Western Europe, and Israel. In 1994, Alexander Tsaliuk took on the role of conductor and artistic director of the Oratorio Society. Since then, his unfailing commitment, energy, and artistic vision have provided a unique and vital source of continuity for a group that is, by its nature, always changing.

**MUSICA VIVA ACADEMIC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

The Musica Viva Chamber Orchestra was founded in Vladimir in 1978 by the violinist and conductor Victor Kornachev. Alexander Rudin took over as conductor in 1988.

Alexander Rudin studied the cello under Lev Yevgrafov and piano under Yury Ponizovkin at the Gnesin Institute of Music, graduating in 1983, and conducting under Dmitry Kitaenko at the Moscow Conservatory, graduating in 1989. At present Mr. Rudin is a professor at the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory. He has been president of the charitable foundation "Musical Assemblies" since 1993.

The Orchestra performs a wide repertoire of music, from West European and Russian music of the XVII - XVIII centuries to pieces composed at the end of the XX century. Since 1989, Alexander Rudin and Musica Viva have held a yearly summer international chamber music festival called "Music Assemblies". Musica Viva has participated in several international festivals.



## GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

1685 – 1759

G.F. Handel was the consummate 18<sup>th</sup>- century traveler, artist and entrepreneur. He was an independent and strong-willed individual, and although he was approached several times by royal patrons with offers of the post of court composer, Handel was hesitant about *settling down* professionally until he was offered a position commensurate with the status he felt he deserved.

Born in Halle, Germany, Handel grew up under the watchful eyes of his parents; while his mother nurtured his musical gifts, Handel's father tried to dissuade him from pursuing a dubious occupation. Following brief, unsuccessful studies at the local university, Handel traveled to Hamburg and then on to Italy where he met important individuals who greatly influenced his musical future, such as the composers/musicians, Arcangelo Corelli and Domenico Scarlatti, and numerous members of royalty. Following his fruitful Italian tour, he returned north of the Alps after accepting the appointment of court composer to the Elector of Hanover. He quickly followed this up with two extended visits to London, where he finally settled and which he eventually considered home (becoming a British subject). Coincidentally, the same Elector of Hanover subsequently became King George I of England, following the death of Queen Anne. Handel lived a full and productive life. Yet, life was not easy for him. At various times, he was severely criticized by the English social establishment for his artistic output -- some considered his religious works profane.

For example, Handel's most famous work, "Messiah", was enthusiastically received following its première in Dublin, while it became the subject of great controversy following its London début. Furthermore, he suffered bouts of anxiety and depression and possibly strokes -- some have theorized that he suffered lead poisoning of the central nervous system because of his imbibing of cheap port! During the later years of his life he experienced progressively debilitating cataracts and the ensuing operations to restore his vision left him completely blind. (It is of interest that the last English oculist to treat Handel, John Taylor, also unsuccessfully cared for J.S. Bach).

"WHETHER I WAS IN MY BODY  
OR OUT OF MY BODY  
AS I WROTE IT I KNOW NOT.  
GOD KNOWS."

George Frideric Handel  
on composing the Hallelujah Chorus



## BECOME A SPONSOR OF THE MOSCOW ORATORIO SOCIETY

Sponsorship of the Moscow Oratorio Society provides many valuable opportunities for Moscow-based companies. The concerts draw large audiences of some of Moscow's most influential public and commercial leaders (the 2002 Winter concerts alone were enjoyed by six Ambassadors from the US, UK, Canada, Germany, Austria and Chile with their families, not to mention dozens of some of the key expat and Russian business leaders).

The concerts are an excellent opportunity to introduce new products and services or a new company to the Russian market, to solidify one's customer base, or enhance a corporate profile. For a one-time contribution, the sponsoring companies will receive the benefits listed below *at both* the Moscow Oratorio Society Spring and Winter 2007 concerts.

*Benefits (commensurate with giving levels)*

- Company banner/sign placed prominently in the concert halls
- Distribution of company brochures and materials at the concerts
- Company name and logo in the printed program
- Company name and logo on the posters advertising the concerts
- Company thanked publicly in the welcoming remarks at the concerts
- Company logo placed in the Moscow Oratorio website
- Company noted in print advertisements for the concerts (pending approvals)
- Complimentary tickets to the concerts

Please contact Carol Sorrenti 8-910-446-57-11 for more information

## Making Contributions

Sponsorship contributions can be made as follows:

- (a) to the Moscow Oratorio Society in any form convenient to you,
- (b) directly to the beneficiary of the contribution (for example, the orchestras), or
- (c) directly to the International Women's Club as a direct donation on our behalf.

We will be pleased to discuss these possibilities further at your convenience. Please feel free to contact us at [carol@irex.ru](mailto:carol@irex.ru) or by telephone at 8-910-446-57-11





# The Messiah

George Frideric Handel

## 1. Symphony

## 2. Recitative for Tenor

Comfort ye, comfort ye, My people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isaiah 40 : 1-3)

## 3. Air for Tenor

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low; the crooked straight and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40 : 4)

## 4. Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (Isaiah 40 : 5)

## 7. Chorus

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. (Malachi 3 : 3)

## 9. Air for Alto and Chorus

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God! Arise, shine, for thy Light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. (Isaiah 40 : 9; Isaiah 60 : 1)

## 12. Chorus

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9 : 6)

## 14. Recitative for Soprano

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. (Luke 2 : 8)

## 15. Recitative for Soprano

And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2 : 10-11)

## 16. Recitative for Soprano

And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying: (Luke 2 : 13)

## 17. Chorus

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men. (Luke 2 : 14)

## 18. Air for Soprano

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen. (Zechariah 9 : 9-10)

## 21. Chorus

His yoke is easy, and his burden is light. (Matthew 11 : 30)

## 42. Recitative for Tenor

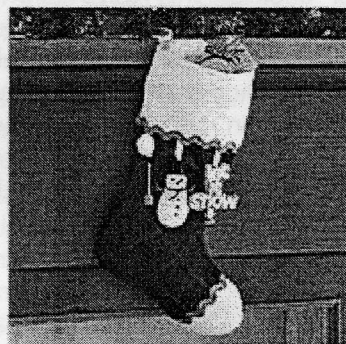
He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision. (Psalm 2 : 4)

## 43. Air for Tenor

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. (Psalm 2 : 9)

## 44. Chorus

Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. (Revelation 19 : 6) The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. (Revelation 11 : 15) King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. (Revelation 19 : 16)



## TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS

### A Merry Christmas

*We wish you a Merry Christmas;  
We wish you a Merry Christmas;  
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year.  
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;  
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New  
Year.*

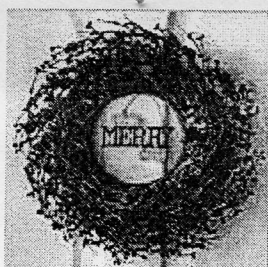
*Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;  
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;  
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding and a cup of good  
cheer  
We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some, so bring some  
out here*

The tradition of carolers being given Christmas treats for singing to wealthy members of the community is reflected in this sixteenth century English Christmas song. In case you're wondering, figgy pudding is a winter dessert, made from figs, with butter, sugar, eggs, milk, rum, apple, lemon and orange peel, nuts, cinnamon, cloves and ginger.

### Away in a Manger

*Away in a manger,  
No crib for His bed  
The little Lord Jesus  
Laid down His sweet head*

The words to this carol were first published in 1885 in a Lutheran Sunday school book. This gave rise to the misconception that the lyrics were written by Martin Luther himself. In fact, the author is unknown. The tune was written in 1895, and is one of 3 tunes that these words are sung to - this tune is the most common in the US.



### Carol of the Bells

*Hark how the bells,  
Sweet silver bells,  
All seem to say,  
"Throw cares away"  
Christmas is here,  
Bringing good cheer,  
To young and old,  
Meek and the bold  
"Ding, dong, ding, dong."*

Legend says that at the stroke of midnight on the night Jesus was born every bell in the world rang out in his honor. "Carol of the Bells", based on an old Ukrainian motif, and probably springs from that legend. Written by Ukraine's most popular composer, the song, also known as "Ukrainian Carol", has increasingly become a part of the celebration of Christmas in the United States.

### Deck the Hall

*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.*

The music to Deck the Halls is believed to be Welsh in origin and date back to the sixteenth century. In the eighteenth century Mozart used the tune to Deck the Halls for a violin and piano duet. It is thought that the words were written a century later, in the United States, although the author is unknown.

### Ding Dong! Merrily on High

*Ding dong! merrily on high,  
In heav'n the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! verily the sky  
Is riv'n with angel singing.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

This is a secular dance tune that evolved into a Christmas song. The tune first appeared as Bransle l'Officiale in the Orchesographie, a dance book written by Jehan Tabourot (1519-1593). It is written in the Ionian mode, our present day major scale, which at the time represented hedonism and uninhibited enjoyment. The text to Ding Dong Merrily on High was originally in Latin.



## Gesu Bambino

*Jesu Redemptor omnium,  
Quem lucis ante originem,  
Parem paternae gloriae,  
Pater supremus edidit.*

The title of this carol translates as "The Infant Jesus". For the chorus, the composers have borrowed the enormously famous chorus of "Oh come, All ye Faithful", and employed slight rhythmic variations, particularly in the accompanying parts. This carol features a great number of Christmas compilation albums, sung in both Latin and English.

### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn 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 newborn King!"*

This carol was written by Charles Wesley, brother of the founder of the Methodist church, in 1739. He was a somber man, and insisted on solemn music for his lyrics, so it was sung to a different tune initially. The melody we sing today was written over a hundred years later by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) to commemorate the invention of the printing press.

### 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.*

The words to this carol were written by Isaac Watts (1674-1748), the son of a non-conformist so extreme that he was imprisoned twice. The music to the carol is from an idea by G.F. Handel.

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

*O Come All Ye Faithful  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
Born the King of Angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.*

This carol is commonly attributed to John Wade, a Catholic layman and a music teacher, who fled England after the Jacobite rebellion of 1745. The text was originally written in Latin (*Adeste Fideles*). The chant "Why Are We Waiting?", which is frequently performed spontaneously at public gatherings to express frustration at delays, is also sung to the same tune.

### Ne Plach, Rakhyle

*Ne Plach, Rakhyle,  
Zrya chada tsily,  
Ne umirayut, no prebivayut,  
No prebivayut.*

Translating as "Don't Cry, Rachael", this is the second Ukrainian carol on our program this year. It's a haunting Christmas folk song.

### Oi, V Erusalimi Rano Zadzvonili

*Shchedriy vechir, dobriy vechir  
Dobrim ludyam, na zdorovya*

This is also a Ukrainian carol, entitled "The Bells Rang Early in Jerusalem." In it, the male choir recreates the sound of big, deep bells in slow motion, while the female section chimes in like smaller bells, or sleigh bells. The overall effect is animated and cheerful.

### V lesu rodilas' yelochka

*V lesu rodilas' yelochka,  
V lesu ona roslo*

Our final carol is the traditional Russian song "V lesu rodilas' yelochka" arranged by Igor Gorskiy, who will also be playing the piano part.

## IWC ALLIANCE AND CHARITY

Throughout the ten years of its history the Moscow Oratorio Society has maintained close ties with the International Women's Club of Moscow. The IWC has designated the choir an interest group, and has been extremely helpful with publicity, ticket sales and the recruitment of new members. The choir in turn donates the proceeds from its performances to IWC charities, thus ensuring that the funds are properly monitored and used for worthy projects.

The net proceeds from our concerts benefits the International Women's Club (IWC) Charities Group. The IWC administers donations to a great number of small, independent charities that address some of the most crucial needs in Russian society today. This season we have decided to support Cradle, an NGO founded in the city of Ivanovo in 2002.

Cradle aims to reduce the alarmingly high number of children and infants abandoned to orphanages by providing assistance to pregnant women, and single mothers with infants and young children. The women receive medical help and clothing for their families, and some of them are given temporary housing in a shelter that was built in 2004.

Donations administered through the IWC this year will be utilized by Cradle to expand the shelter so that more families are accommodated, and to provide space for vocational training and medical services.

With the funds donated from our Spring 06 concert, Cradle was able to resettle a mother and her two young children. Although formerly living on the streets, the mother and children have now been furnished with a small house in a local village. The mother has been officially registered, and she and her children are now eligible for state benefits. With future donation, we would like to help her and others like her to receive vocational training.

For more information regarding these projects, please contact  
ms. Marcela ten Hoonte at  
[MARCELKATH@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MARCELKATH@HOTMAIL.COM)

