LOS ANGELES CHILDREN’S CHORUS,
LED BY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR FERNANDO MALVAR-RUIZ,
PRESENTS UNIQUE TWIST ON BRITTEN’S BELOVED A CEREMONY OF CAROLS
IN FEATURED HOLIDAY CONCERT ON
LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC’S “SOUNDS ABOUT TOWN” SERIES

Sunday, December 8, 2019, 7:30 pm
Walt Disney Concert Hall

Concert Marks Work’s Disney Hall Premiere and Features Harp Virtuoso Cristina Montes and LACC-Commissioned World Premiere by Juan José Colomer

The Los Angeles Children’s Chorus (LACC), led by Artistic Director Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, rings in the season with A Ceremony of Carols, one of Benjamin Britten’s most beloved works, in the sparkling acoustics of Walt Disney Concert Hall as part of the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s prestigious “Sounds About Town” series on Sunday, December 8, 2019, 7:30 pm, at Disney Hall. Considered a masterpiece for treble voices and set to a range of medieval texts written for the Advent season, the carols each have their own identity and color, creating a delightful sense of discovery as the timeless masterpiece unfolds. Malvar-Ruiz adds a unique twist to A Ceremony of Carols, interspersing between its 12 movements accompanying works that link musically or thematically, including the LACC-commissioned world premiere of Silent Ceremony by award-winning Spanish composer Juan Colomer. Harp virtuoso Cristina Montes Mateo joins the chorus as special guest. The program is performed without intermission. (No children under six years old will be admitted.)

Among the other companion works are Swedish composer Jan Sandsrom’s ethereal 1990 choral arrangement of Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming; National Medal of Arts recipient Morten
Lauridsen’s quintessential setting of *O Magnum Mysterium*; Ola Gjeilo’s stunning soundscape *Tundra*, set to lyrics by Charles Anthony Silvestri that reflect the barren and beautiful Norwegian mountain plateau where the composer's father was raised; and Ėriks Ešenvalds breathtaking *Stars*, a setting of words by Sara Teasdale composed in 2011 for choir and water-tuned glasses. Other works to be intermixed include Neil Ginsberg’s festive arrangement of the Hebrew folk song *Hine Ma Tov*; Spanish composer Josu Elberdin’s *Salve Regina*; Ruth Boshkoff’s arrangement of the Venezuelan folk song *Niño Lindo*; Shawn Kirchner’s arrangement of the French Provençal carol *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella*; Brahms’ *Geistliches Lied*, Op. 30; and Craig Hella Johnson’s arrangement of *I Love You/What a Wonderful World*.

“I can’t think of a more perfect setting to perform *A Ceremony of Carols* than Walt Disney Concert Hall during the holidays,” says Malvar-Ruiz. “To hear children’s voices raised in song there, especially during the Christmas season, is pure sonic delight. LACC’s contemporary commentary on the work is intended to build a unique, joyful and uplifting experience centered around a piece that has been a staple for the holidays since its creation.”

Six of LACC’s choirs are featured in the program, including the Concert Choir, Chamber Singers and Mixed Choir, under the direction of Malvar-Ruiz; the Young Men’s Ensemble led by Dr. Steven Kronauer; the Intermediate Choir, led by Mandy Brigham; and the Apprentice Choir, led by Interim Conductor Eric Lifland.

Tickets are $17, $34 and $45. For tickets and information, visit [www.lachildrenschorus.org](http://www.lachildrenschorus.org) or call (626) 793-4231. Walt Disney Concert Hall is located at 111 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

**Los Angeles Children's Chorus** (LACC), widely recognized for its agile bel canto sound and artistic excellence, has been lauded as “hauntingly beautiful” (*Los Angeles Times*), “astonishingly polished” (*Performances Magazine*) and “one of the world’s foremost children's choirs” (*Pasadena Star News*). Founded in 1986 and led by Artistic Director Fernando Mulvar-Ruiz, who began his tenure in August 2018, LACC presents its own concerts and regularly performs with such organizations as LA Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Master Chorale and Jacaranda. The Chorus serves 400 children ages 6 to 18 from in seven choirs – Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Mixed Chamber Choir, Young Men's Ensemble, Intermediate Choir, Apprentice Choir and Preparatory Choir – and a First Experiences in Singing program and First Experiences in Choral Singing Ensemble for 6-8-year-olds. LACC, recipient of Chorus America’s 2014 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence, tours internationally, is the subject of three documentaries and has appeared on NBC's “The Tonight Show,” PBS’s “Great Performances,” BBC Radio, Public Radio International's “From the Top” and is featured on John Williams' latest recording, *John Williams & Steven Spielberg: The Ultimate Collection*. [www.lachildrenschorus.org](http://www.lachildrenschorus.org).
WHO:
Los Angeles Children's Chorus
A Ceremony of Carols
Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, Conductor/Concert Choir/Chamber Singers/SATB Choir
Mandy Brigham, Conductor/Intermediate Choir
Eric Lifland, Interim Conductor/Apprentice Choir
Dr. Steven Kronauer, Conductor/Young Men's Ensemble
Cristina Montes Mateo, harp
Lyndon Johnston Taylor, violin
Catherine Ransom Karoly, flute
Carolyn Hove, oboe
William Schmidt, organ
Twyla Meyer, piano
Jahyeong Koo, piano

PROGRAM:
BRITTEN A Ceremony of Carols
   Movements from the work to be interspersed with:
   Hebrew Folk Song arr. Neil Ginsberg Hine Ma Tov
JOSU ELBERDIN Salve Regina
PRAETORIUS arr. Jan Sandström Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming
MANNING SHERWIN, ERIC MASCHWITZ arr. Kirby Shaw A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square
MORTEN LAURIDSEN O Magnum Mysterium
Venezuelan Folk Song arr. Ruth Boshkoff Niño Lindo
French Provençal Carol arr. Shawn Kirchner Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella
GYÖRGY ORBÁN Daemon Irrepit Callidus
BRAHMS Geistliches Lied, Op. 30
   arr. Craig Hella Johnson I Love You/What a Wonderful World
OLA GJEILO Tundra
   Ladino Folk Song arr. David Ludwig Camini por Altas Torres (I Have Walked by High Towers)
JOHN DAVID arr. Peter Knight You are the New Day
Slovak Carol arr. B. Wayne Bisbee A cuckoo flew out of the wood
ĒRIKS ESENVALDS Stars
JUAN JOSÉ COLOMER Silent Ceremony (World Premiere)

WHEN:
Sunday, December 8, 2019, 7:30 pm

WHERE:
Walt Disney Concert Hall
111 S. Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012

TICKETS/INFORMATION:
$17, $34 and $45
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program and artists subject to change

11/18/19