



Baltimore Musicales

presents

Songs of Celebration

featuring

Claire Galloway, soprano

Min Jin, tenor

Michael Manganiello, baritone

Thea Tullman Moore, soprano

Christianne Rushton, mezzo-soprano

Jennifer Simone Smith, soprano

Ismar Gomes, cello

Ceylon Mitchell II, flute

and

Patricia McKewen Amato, piano

What is a **Musicale**?

mu·si·cale *noun* \,myü-zî-'kal\
[French *soirée musicale*, literally, musical evening]

(1872) : a social entertainment with music as the

leading feature. A musical gathering or concert, typically small and informal.

Eight years ago, as a relative newcomer to Baltimore, I organized our first musicale at the First Christian Church in Roland Park. I wanted to create an opportunity for artists and music-lovers to come together in an informal setting to share music and poetry. In 19th century Europe, this kind of gathering typically took place around the piano in someone's living room. Friends and neighbors would spend an evening performing "art songs"—musical settings of poetry—that were composed in many different languages and required a sensitive collaboration between singer and pianist.

Because I couldn't possibly fit everyone in my living room, these concerts were the next best thing! Since 2014, we have performed over 80 unique programs of art songs, opera, musical theater, and vocal chamber music featuring a rotating roster of nearly 100 professional singers and instrumentalists. We couldn't be more thankful for the community we have built through these shared musical experiences.

This afternoon we are delighted to celebrate with friends, family, and neighbors, and we are grateful to Reverend John Ballenger and everyone at Woodbrook Baptist Church for welcoming us into this sacred space. Each piece on today's program was selected by the artists to honor their own cherished holiday traditions and to lift spirits through song—a true reflection of the joy, wonder, and hope that this season brings.

We're so glad you're here.

Thea Tullman Moore
Founder and Executive Director

The First Noel	Traditional English Carol Arr. David Chase	Blow, blow thou winter wind	Roger Quilter (1877-1953)
	<i>Ensemble with Ismar Gomes, cello</i>	Snow	Hyo Geun Kim (b. 1960)
O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion (from <i>Messiah</i>)	George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)		<i>Min Jin</i>
	<i>Christianne Rushton</i>	Snowflakes	Margaret Ruthven Lang (1867-1972)
He shall feed His flock (from <i>Messiah</i>)	George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) Arr. K. K. D.	Simple Gifts	Aaron Copland (1900-1990)
	<i>Jennifer Simone Smith, Thea Tullman Moore, Claire Galloway, Christianne Rushton</i>		<i>Michael Manganiello</i>
Christbaum Die Hirten	Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)	Quando el rey Nimrod	Ladino Folksong Arr. Richard J. Neumann
	<i>Jennifer Simone Smith</i>	Ocho Kandelikas	Traditional Hanukkah Folksong Arr. Randa Kirshbaum
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella	Traditional French Carol Arr. Mark Burrows		<i>Claire Galloway</i>
	<i>Ensemble with Ceylon Mitchell II, flute</i>	Ma'oz Tzur	Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)
Wiegenlied	Bernhard Flies (1770-1851)	Oseh Shalom	Debbie Friedman (1951-2011) Arr. Mark Bloom
O, my deir hert	Herbert Howells (1892-1983)		<i>Michael Manganiello</i>
A Slumber Song of the Madonna	Samuel Barber (1910-1981)	O Holy Night	Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)
	<i>Christianne Rushton</i>		<i>Min Jin</i>
Il neige	Hermann Bemberg (1861-1931)	The Work of Christmas	Dan Forrest (b. 1978)
Le marchand de marrons	Reynaldo Hahn (1874-1947)		<i>Ensemble</i>
	<i>Claire Galloway</i>	Deck the Hall	Traditional Carol
			<i>Ensemble</i>

Artist Biographies

Patricia McKewen Amato's extensive operatic experience includes duties as conductor, coach, and collaborative pianist at the AIMS Institute in Graz, Austria, Brevard Music Festival, Aspen Music Festival, Peabody Institute, Cumberland Valley Chamber Orchestra, and the Young Victorian Theatre. She served as assistant music director of the Baltimore Opera Company and music director of its touring company; music director/conductor for Annapolis Opera, Maryland Lyric Opera, Brevard Music Festival, Opera Americana, Washington Savoyards, Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University, and Rep Stage; and assistant conductor/chorus master for Washington Summer Opera and Opera AACC. A versatile pianist, Patricia performs with the Children's Chorus of Maryland, Annapolis Opera, Annapolis Chorale, Baltimore Choral Arts, Baltimore Symphony, Maryland Symphony, Baltimore Opera, Prince George's Opera and Philharmonic, Chesapeake Chamber Opera, Metropolitan Opera and NATS regional competitions. A first place winner in the Houston Chamber Music Society Competition, she made her Lincoln Center conducting debut in 1999 and is recorded on Koch International. Currently Patricia is a vocal coach/collaborative pianist, and music director of Music for the Stage at Towson University, pianist for Annapolis Opera and Children's Chorus of Maryland, and a vocal coach for the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria. She holds a BM from the Catholic University of America (magna cum laude), a Master's of Music from the University of Houston (magna cum laude), and certificates in lieder, opera, and chamber music from The American Institute of Musical Studies, in Graz, Austria.

Scottish-American soprano **Claire Galloway's** theatricality covers the gamut of "palpable pain" and "splendid, funny moments" (B.I.T.R.). This season she is a featured artist with Baltimore Musicales, is the soprano soloist in Brahms's *Ein deutsches Requiem*, and premieres the roles of Mathilde Schechter and Miriam in Arnold Saltzman's *Geniza: Hidden Fragments* with the Chesapeake Symphony Orchestra. Having performed Fiordiligi, Blanche de la Force, Vitellia, Dinah, Contessa, and Donna Elvira, she has also premiered roles in *Friends House* by Steven Crino, Dove's *Mansfield Park* and Frances Pollock's *Stimney*. In 2022, Claire won Second Prize in the International Clara Schumann Competition and in 2021 she was a semifinalist in the Jensen Vocal Competition. She has performed with Lidal North in Oslo, Opera NexGen, Saltworks Opera, Opera Baltimore, Savannah Opera, Bel Cantanti Opera, and Stillpoint Theatre. A recent Fellow at Songfest, the Nordic Song Festival in Sweden, and the Ravinia Steans Music Institute, Claire's innovative recital programing has resulted in the best-attended concert event at the Baltimore War Memorial Arts Initiative.

Dr. Ismar Gomes is a chamber musician, recitalist, baroque cellist, and orchestral player. Recent performances include recitals as a member of Duo Sorolla across the U.S., as well as collaborations with members of the Pittsburgh Symphony, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Emerson, and the Johannes Quartets. A member of the Virginia and Richmond Symphonies, he frequently performs with the Baltimore Symphony. As a baroque cellist, Dr. Gomes is a member of Mélomanie and is a regular guest with several early music ensembles. He has recorded with the Harlem Quartet and recently released two albums with Mélomanie, as well as live recordings of works by Larry Nelson, Mark Hagerty, and others. He currently serves as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Cello at Gettysburg College, and recently presented masterclasses at Georgetown, Towson, and Duke Universities. Ismar attended the Peabody Conservatory, studying with Alison Wells and Amit Peled. He earned his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from Stony Brook University, under the tutelage of Colin Carr.

Dr. Min Jin has a versatile and wide-ranging career as a leading operatic tenor, recitalist, conductor, and voice professor. Praised for his easy lyricism, emotional intensity, and extraordinary top notes, Dr. Jin has delighted audiences throughout the world. His virtuoso singing has taken him to many major concert halls, such as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. His opera performances include the leading tenor roles in *La bohème*, *Rigoletto*, *Carmen*, *Otello*, *La Rondine*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Manon*, *Werther*, and several other roles with the New Jersey State Opera, Ann Arbor Opera, Aspen Opera, Rochester Mercury Opera, Dicapo Opera, NY Touring Opera, Academic Opera, Mannes Opera, Eastman Opera, PoHang Opera, and Kwangju City Opera. He has also performed with numerous orchestras throughout the world. Dr. Jin currently works as an Associate Professor of Voice at Towson University in Maryland.

Praised for their enviable resonance, crystalline diction, and stylistic prowess, vocalist **Michael Manganiello** focuses their solo and ensemble work on breaking down established preconceptions of identity and artistic expression. Michael is currently pursuing their Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Peabody Institute, where they completed their Master's degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy. In addition to their doctoral coursework, they also maintain a voice studio, and work as a Career Coach at Peabody's LAUNCHPad, working collaboratively with students to reach their professional and artistic goals. Michael graduated from SUNY Fredonia in 2012, where they earned concurrent Bachelor's degrees *cum laude* in Vocal Performance and Dance, with a minor in Visual Art/New Media. Michael is a member of the Somatic Voicework Teachers Association, and the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and was a participant in the Baroque Opera Workshop through the Institute for 17th Century Music at Queens College, Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute, ARTEK Madrigal Madness, and Training Transgender Voices at Opera Programs Berlin.

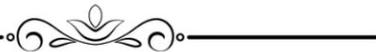
Dr. Ceylon Mitchell II embodies the 21st-century arts leader as a contemporary classical flutist, curator, educator, and entrepreneur. On a mission to celebrate Black and Latinx voices in classical music, his diverse repertoire spans from classical to folk music traditions across the Americas. Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, Dr. Mitchell earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Maryland School of Music, under the tutelage of Dr. Sarah Frisof. He has performed in venues such as Boston's Symphony Hall, the Music Center at Strathmore, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In the United States, Dr. Mitchell has been a featured artist at the National Flute Convention, flute societies and associations, and multiple chamber music series. Recent achievements include the Strathmore Artist in Residence Class of 2021 and a Prince George's County Forty UNDER 40 Award. As a music educator, Dr. Mitchell is a flute faculty member with Levine Music, the Washington D.C. region's preeminent center for music education. A devoted teaching artist, he has served as an ensemble director, sectional coach, adjudicator, and panelist for numerous youth orchestras, programs, and grantmakers.

Praised for her "shining vocal grace" (*Chicago Tribune*), "crystalline voice and natural stage presence" (*The Wall Street Journal*), soprano **Thea Tullman Moore** has delighted audiences in both opera and concert performances. With "exceptional stratospheric ease and timbral sweetness" (*Financial Times*), she performed the role of Lucia in *The Rape of Lucretia* with Chicago Opera Theater and Opera Festival of New Jersey. She was "a lively embodiment of La Musica, who also looks and moves well onstage" (*The New York Times*) in *Orfeo* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Thea also sang the role of Jenny in Phil Hagemann's *Roman Fever* at Lincoln Center, The Assistant in Richard Wilson's *Aethelred the Unready* at New York City's Merkin Concert Hall, and the title role in Seymour Barab's *The Betrothal of Becky Brown* at The Actors Institute of New York. Other roles include Poppea in *The Coronation of Poppea*, Mademoiselle

Silberklang in *The Impresario*, and Flora in *The Turn of the Screw*. Thea has appeared in recital at the Ravinia Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, the Académie musicale de Villecroze in Provence, and in salon recitals offered by opera companies across the country, including Central City Opera and Chicago Opera Theater. She has been a featured soloist in a number of major oratorio works, including Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, Rutter's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Vivaldi's *Gloria*. A native of Chicago, she graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College and received her Master of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music. She is the founder and executive director of Baltimore Musicales.

Mezzo-soprano **Christianne Rushton** has delighted audiences with her engaging presence and versatility on both the operatic and concert stages. Dr. Rushton is a first prize winner of the Canadian National Music Festival, a prize winner at the prestigious Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, a two-time grant recipient from the Canada Council for the Performing Arts, and a winner of the Canada Council's Bernard Diamant Prize in Voice. In recital, she has been a guest artist for the Royal Society of Canada, toured with Debut Atlantic, performed at the Indian River Festival, recorded with the Canadian Chamber Choir and debuted at New York's Alice Tully Hall. Christianne is a professor at Acadia University where she is head of vocal studies and Director of the School of Music. A graduate of the Juilliard Opera Center at The Juilliard School, she received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from SUNY Stony Brook. She recently received an Emerging Leader Award from the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) for her innovation and success teaching voice. Christianne is founder and president of "Discover Your Dynamic Voice", a company that offers coaching to women in leadership.

Soprano **Jennifer Simone Smith** recently made her LA Opera choral debut performing *Omar*, a new opera with libretto and music by Rhiannon Giddens. She has also performed with the Sunday Service Collective, Kanye West's choir, and appeared on the Amazon Prime live concert *The Coliseum in LA* featuring Drake. Jennifer made her Bronx Opera debut covering the role of Alice in Verdi's *Falstaff*. She has also performed at Symphony Space and Scorca Hall as Poppea in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* and at Carnegie Hall as Violetta in *La traviata* with the New York Lyric Opera Theatre. Originally from Baltimore, she has performed at the Hippodrome, the Kennedy Center, Basilica of the Assumption, and with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at the Meyerhoff.



Save the date for our next performance in Towson:

**"A Salute to Sondheim"
Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 3:30 PM
Woodbrook Baptist Church
25 Stevenson Lane, Towson, MD**

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