



Laura Hawley, *artistic director*
Kim Cousineau, *collaborative pianist*

FAMILY CONCERT!

Saturday, NOVEMBER 20, 2:00PM

King's University Atrium, 9125-50 St, Edmonton

Friday, NOVEMBER 26, 7:00PM

YouTube Premier (online performance)

THE RELUCTANT DRAGON



PROGRAM

THE KING'S CHAMBER SINGERS

Melanie Turgeon, *conductor*
Rigen Rendón, *assistant conductor*
Kim Cousineau, *collaborative pianist*

Otche Nash (*The Lord's Prayer*)
Nikolai Kedrov

O Tannenbaum (*O Christmas Tree*)
Ernst Anschütz
Arranged by Rigel Rendón
Rigel Rendón, *Assistant Conductor*

Like a River in My Soul
Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by Tim Osiek
Edited by Dan Forrest
Kim Cousineau, *Pianist*

DA CAMERA SINGERS

Laura Hawley, *artistic director*
Kim Cousineau, *collaborative pianist*

The Reluctant Dragon
John Rutter (b. 1945)
The music for this piece has been donated by Michelle Andrews
Kimberley Denis – *The Girl*
Taylor Fawcett – *The Dragon*
Michael Kurschat – *St. George*
Len Ratzlaff – *Narrator*

AUDIENCE CAROLS

Deck the Hall
Old Welsh Air

Jingle Bells
J. Pierpont

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane

DA CAMERA SINGERS



Since its inception in 1961, Da Camera Singers has upheld a strong presence in the Alberta choral community and proudly holds the distinction of being Edmonton's longest-standing chamber choir. The choir's musical programming encompasses Western choral concert music from the Renaissance to the 21st century, including oratorios, choral works with orchestras and instrumental ensembles, works with piano, and a cappella works; presenting concerts that feature a range of music from beloved masterworks of the choral canon to newly premiered pieces by Canadian and Edmonton-based composers, and supporting the creation of new art through commissioning.

In addition to their own annual three-concert season, Da Camera Singers collaborates regularly with professional and amateur groups in the Edmonton community, including the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Alberta Baroque Ensemble, Pro Coro Canada, i Coristi Chamber Choir and A Joyful Noise; and the choir has performed under the direction of such esteemed conductors as Bernard Labadie, Ivars Taurins, and William Eddis. In March 2012, Da Camera Singers, as well as many alumni singers from the choir, celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a presentation of Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana".

Da Camera Singers has been broadcast nationally on CBC, and has toured throughout Canada, the United States, and parts of Europe. In the summer of 2015, they completed two week tour through parts of Austria, Hungary and Slovakia, which included a concert in St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna. Among their recordings is the only commercially available recording of Eulogies (2009) by renowned Canadian composer and former ESO composer in residence, John Estacio. In 2013, Da Camera released a collection of 20th and 21st century Christmas Carol arrangements entitled Kings and Shepherds featuring the music of Jonathan Dove, Ola Gjeilo and Jake Runestad.

In 2019, Laura Hawley was appointed as artistic director, joining the ranks of the esteemed conductors who have led Da Camera, including John Brough, Laurier Fagnan, Ardelle Ries, Mark Sirett, and Mel Unger. This year, Da Camera celebrates its 60th anniversary!

DA CAMERA SINGERS ROSTER

Artistic Director

Laura Hawley

Collaborative Pianist

Kim Cousineau

Soprano

Beth Schuld

Cheryl Krueger

Clair Gibson

Elizabeth Stolte

Gillian Brinston-Kurschat

Juliet Bryce

Karen Onizaki

Maria Pottle

Olivia Albert

Wendy Legaarden

Wendy Vanderwel

Alto

Barb Sabo

Cara Robertson

Cathy Grant

Elize Erasmus

Guylaine Lefebvre-Maunder

Maria Rosvick

Michelle Andrews

Shannon Kolotyluk

Susan Doyle

Tenor

Colin Pierce

Isabela Ramos

Rigel Rendon

Russ Wilkinson

Sean Gleason

Tim Wong

Bass

Alto Lo

David Fast

Frank Thede

Gary Krueger

Werner Erasmus

LAURA HAWLEY, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Laura Hawley is a Canadian conductor, composer, pianist, and educator known for her creative musical leadership and artistic programming, community engagement, distinctive compositional style, and passionate advocacy for Canadian choral art.



She is the artistic director of Da Camera Singers (Edmonton), conductor of ChandraTala (Edmonton), founding artistic director of Hypatia's Voice Women's Choir (Ottawa, 2015-2019), pianist/singer with the Canadian Chamber Choir, and co-founder of the Sonic Timelapse Project. Laura has worked with a wide variety of community-based choral and orchestral ensembles across North America. She is a founding pianist and associate conductor of the Cantiamo Choirs of Ottawa, and was their composer-in-residence from 2003-2017, and from 2007 to 2018 she was Director of Music at St. John's South March Anglican Church.

Laura has been steeped in choral art since childhood, and her compositional output demonstrates an ongoing interest in writing for all artists from the developing chorister's voice to the professional choral ensemble. She is currently composer-in-residence with Halifax Camerata Singers. Her works have been commissioned, performed, and recorded by many fine choirs including Canadian Chamber Choir, Pro Coro Canada, Elektra Women's Choir, Vancouver Youth Choir, Cantiamo Choirs, and Toronto Children's Chorus. Laura's works are published by Oxford University Press, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Rhythmic Trident Music Publishing, Cypress Choral music, Silent Dawn Music Publishing, and on www.laurahawley.ca.

Ms. Hawley has taught piano, theory, conducting, and composition in her private studio and at Carleton University (Ottawa), University of Ottawa, and Concordia University, Edmonton.

KIM COUSINEAU, COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

Kim received a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Victoria, and studied privately with Anna Cal, student of Russian pianist Pavel Egorov. He is an alumnus of Opera Nuova's collaborative pianist program and has studied at the Franz Schubert Institute in Baden, Austria. Kim has worked as a



an *ÉpÉtiteur* and music director for numerous organizations including Pacific Opera Victoria, Opera Nuova, Mercury Opera, Mayfield Dinner Theatre, MacEwan Theatre, and Concordia University of Edmonton. He is in high demand as a choral accompanist, collaborating with many groups including Da Camera Singers, Chronos Vocal Ensemble, Vocal Alchemy, Joyful Noise, Ante Meridiem, and student ensembles at both Concordia and King's Universities. In 2012, Kim was the recipient of the BC Choral Federation's Joyce O. Maguire Award for outstanding long-term service as a choral accompanist. In addition to his work with choirs, Kim freelances as a vocal coach and studio pianist in the Edmonton area.

KIMBERLEY DENIS, MEZZO

Kimberley Denis is known for her energy and enthusiasm both on stage and off, and is sought after as a soloist, vocal coach, choral clinician, and adjudicator for voice and choir. Upon completion of both a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Music degree at Mount Allison University, she returned to Alberta to complete Masters degrees in both choral conducting and vocal performance.



Vocal credits include starring in a year-long tour with Up With People, as well as productions of Jason Robert Brown's song cycle *Songs for a New World*, as Cathy in *The Last Five Years*, and as Kate in *Kiss Me, Kate!* She is also a core member in the alto section of Edmonton's professional choir, Pro Coro Canada and has toured extensively as a singer with the world percussion duo, Jamani. In addition to her stage work, she has a flourishing voice studio at her own music school – the Purple Door Music Academy. She has conducted a wide variety of ensembles and presently directs Shumayela (a choir for treble and changing voices for singers between the ages of 11 and 16) with the Kokopelli Choir Association and the Lynne Singers (a non-auditioned adult community ensemble). In addition to her work as a singer, teacher, conductor and adjudicator, she arranges pieces for choirs.

TAYLOR FAWCETT, TENOR

Taylor Fawcett is a versatile singer and multi-instrumentalist with experience across a variety of genres. Taylor's "commanding romantic tenor" (gigcity.ca) is regularly heard as a featured soloist with symphony orchestras, opera companies, and musical theatre companies. Recent operatic roles include Desi in *Indians on Vacation* (Edmonton Opera), The Lover in *Il Tabarro* (Pacific Opera Victoria), Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi*, and Beppe in *I Pagliacci* (Pop Goes the Opera!). Operetta and Musical Theatre roles include Frederic in *Pirates of Penzance* (ECHO Players), Tony in *West Side Story* (Festival Players), and Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd* (Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre). Taylor's orchestral performances as featured tenor soloist include a tour of Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's *Mass in C-minor, Requiem, and Solemn Vespers*, and Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil (Vespers)*.



Taylor's diverse musical career also includes engagements as a session vocalist in studio recordings and live engagements, lending leading vocals to performances with Six Minute Warning and Tenore, and supporting vocals to The Tenors. Taylor arranges, produces and performs as a member of VOLARE TENORS, "Canada's fastest growing 'popera' group".

Upcoming engagements include singing Parpignol in *La Boheme* with Edmonton Opera and a "VOLARE TENORS: A not so silent night", a Christmas tour with VOLARE TENORS.

MICHAEL KURSCHAT, BASS

A baritone with vibrant and soothing vocal qualities, Michael's voice holds strong command in the works of Bach, Mozart and beyond. He has been described as having 'poetic bite,' being heard in concert halls across Alberta and Canada. Originally from northern BC, Fort St. John, Michael has always been an active singer in and around his community of St. Albert, Alberta. Michael Kurschat received his Bachelor of Music degree from The King's University College in 2000 a Master of Music degree in choral conducting in 2003 and an After Degree in Education in 2011 from the University of Alberta.



As a baritone Michael has studied with Elizabeth Raycroft, Paul Grindlay, Leonard Ratzlaff, and Laurie Fagnan. He has been heard as a concert

soloist in many of Bach's works including the St. John Passion and B Minor Mass. He has commanded the stage singing Handel's Messiah, Haydn's Creation, and Vaughan Williams' Five Mystical Songs, with groups including Da Camera Singers, i Coristi Chamber Choir, Pro Coro Canada, Richard Eaton Singers, Alberta Baroque Ensemble, Calgary's Kantorei Choir and the Kelowna Community Chorus. On several occasions he has been heard on the CBC Radio 2 program Choral Concert with Pro Coro Canada. He has been featured as a soloist with Pro Coro Canada in the Canadian Choral Celebration project produced by Soundstreams in Toronto and in Pro Coro Canada's Good Friday at the Winspear concert series singing Arvo Pärt's Passio. He has been a core member and regular soloist with Pro Coro Canada since 2000 and has established himself as an anchor member. His smooth, powerful voice leads him to be in constant demand as a chorister and soloist.

TIM YAKIMEC, ACTING AND MOVEMENT COACH

Tim Yakimec, recently retired as General Director for Edmonton Opera, is thrilled to help animate this wonderful piece with the Da Camera Singers. Having been involved in the Edmonton Arts scene since 1981, he has participated in so many projects as producer, director, actor, and teacher. He was Producer and General Manager of The Leave it to Jane Theatre for over 20 years, and moved into stage management helping productions get to the stage with Edmonton Opera, Citadel Theatre, Hawaii Opera Theatre, Hong Kong Opera, Canstage (Toronto), and The Atlantic Theatre Festival. As Production Stage Manager for the 2005 Queen's Commonwealth Stadium visit, he was also instrumental with the planning of the major events for the Alberta 2005 Centennial. He has a soft spot for choral works, as he taught that and instrumental music in public schools alongside his work in theatre and Opera.



KATE RYAN, ACTING AND MOVEMENT COACH

Kate Ryan is a director, educator, and actor. Performing credits include *Fun Home* (Plain Jane Theatre); *Mary Poppins*, *Measure for Measure* and 13 seasons of *A Christmas Carol* (Citadel Theatre); *The Light in the Piazza* (Theatre Calgary); *Oklahoma*, and *The Sound of Music* (Mayfield Theatre). Kate teaches acting with Citadel Theatre's Young Company, University of Alberta's Opera Program and MacEwan University's Theatre Arts program. Directing credits include *Crescendo*, *Working*, *A New Brain*, *It's a Bird*, *It's a Plane*, *It's Superman* (Plain Jane Theatre); *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Forever Plaid*, *All Shook Up* (Mayfield Theatre); *Assassins* (Citadel's Young Company); *Into the Woods* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (MacEwan University); *The Magic Flute* and *L'Elisir D'Amore* (U of A Opera). She has also staged for Edmonton Opera's Valentine's Gala and The Edmonton Sterling Theatre Awards. It has been a delight working with Laura and this wonderful company of artists. Enjoy!



DR. MELANIE TURGEON

Melanie Turgeon began studying conducting at the age of 16, under the tutelage of Wolodymyr Kolesnyk, former conductor of Kyiv State Opera and Ballet Theatre. She holds a Doctor of the Musical Arts Degree in Choral Music from the University of Illinois, plus she has had the pleasure of studying with numerous fine conductors over the years.



Dr. Turgeon is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at The King's University in Edmonton, Alberta. She has conducted many choirs and ensembles and has presented research at several academic institutions and conferences both in Canada and internationally. Melanie has also toured extensively with her choirs, including three very successful European tours. In addition to her role at King's, Dr. Turgeon is a member of the Eparchial Liturgical Commission, where she is responsible for the incorporation of liturgical music into various publications for the Ukrainian Catholic Church. She has organized and taught workshops for educating cantors and has created several resources and publications for this purpose, most recently a 250-page publication on the Divine Liturgy. From 2002-2018, she served as Music Director and Cantor at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Edmonton.

In 2010 Melanie founded Kappella Kyrie, an auditioned choir primarily devoted to Slavic sacred music. She is honored to have gained national recognition with Kappella Kyrie in the 2019 and 2015 Choral Canada National Competition by placing 1st in 2019 and 2nd in 2015 in the Pan-Cultural Traditions Category. Melanie is heavily involved with the Ukrainian Art Song Project. She enjoys serving on the faculty for the Ukrainian Art Song Project's Summer Institute in Toronto.

THE CHOIRS OF KING'S UNIVERSITY

The King's University Music Department in Edmonton, Alberta has an outstanding program that includes three performing choral ensembles: King's Chamber Singers, King's Cantorum, and King's Alumni and Community Chorus. Since 2002, The King's choral program has gained momentum under the full-time leadership of Dr. Melanie Turgeon. Every year they perform at least one major concert, and also enjoy participating in worship services at King's and beyond campus. The choirs have served the community in a variety of ways, including caroling at the Stollery Children's Hospital and Edmonton Institution. They have also collaborated with numerous local ensembles such as The Edmonton Youth Orchestra, Pro Coro Canada, Shumayela, Dnipro Ensemble, Mission Hill Brass, Strathcona String Quartet, Orchestra Borealis and Kappella Kyrie.

King's Cantorum and Chamber Singers have toured extensively within Canada. In 2011, the Chamber Singers embarked on their first international tour to Germany. It resulted in great audience enthusiasm and appreciation from Heidelberg to Berlin for their program of Canadian choral music. In May 2014 they toured to Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary with Kappella Kyrie Slavic Chamber Choir. This tour program presented an outstanding assortment of Ukrainian repertoire, including several contemporary Ukrainian works, balanced with a variety of Canadian and American selections from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. To acknowledge the 10th Anniversary of The King's Community Chorus, all three choirs toured to The Netherlands in May 2018. Their next tour will be to Carnegie Hall in 2023.

THE KING'S CHAMBER SINGERS ROSTER

Soprano

Anna Beukes
Liana DePoe
Naomi Oommen
Emily Reitsma

Alto

Coryn Bajema
Raina Cornelsen
Kathleen
VanderPloeg

Tenor

Rigel Rendón
Noah Ruxton

PROGRAM NOTES

The Reluctant Dragon, in its original form, is a children's story by Kenneth Grahame, first published in 1898 in a collection of his stories called Dream Days. On one level it is a charming tale about a dragon who prefers writing poetry to fighting; on another level it is an allegory about prejudice and reconciliation - a children's story for grown-ups, rather like the same author's Wind in the Willows. The piece was originally written as an 'entertainment' for The King's Singers (six male voices) and the City of London Sinfonia to perform at a Christmas concert.

Today's version for choir and piano has been a delight to prepare, especially to present as our first concert production since all things "choir in person" stopped in March 2020. We've had SUCH FUN; the cheeky interactions between the characters, the cleverness and hilarity of the music, playing around with movement - it's been delightful to start up again with something so lighthearted after a long and challenging time apart. On a deeper level, though, the story touches on many things we have faced in the past number of months; the dangers of stereotyping, how people handle fear, how they react to those who may be different - even turning to violence - we see this in the attitude of the townspeople who get caught up in gossip and false stories and want the dragon killed before they even know anything about him. At the same time, through the relationship that builds between the girl and the dragon, St George (who is sent to kill the dragon) comes to learn that really this nice dragon just wants to share his poetry and live a peaceful life near the lovely village. Today, these themes of friendships, breaking down social barriers, seeking understanding, and a willingness to "begin again" and "try another way" resonate with special meaning.

We are delighted to share this wonderful work with you, and are excited to offer the fun family concert as the first production of our 60th anniversary year! Whether you're watching in person or online, thank you for joining us. 'entertainment' for The King's Singers (six male voices) and the City of London Sinfonia to perform at a Christmas concert.

TEXT AND TRANSLATIONS

THE RELUCTANT DRAGON – John Rutter

No. 1: PROLOGUE

Narrator: This is the story of a girl, a saint, and a dragon. It happened one Christmas-time long ago, when the world was different, and there were more dragons about than there are nowadays; although nothing much has really changed. People are still people, good and bad; Boys are still boys; and you can still find the occasional dragon. Listen, and you'll see what I mean.

Chorus: Once upon a time, a time long ago;
dream days and dragon days when life was full of magic,
There lived a shepherd and his daughter all alone.
Each day and every day the shepherd watched his sheep;
Each day and every day the girl sat reading and dreaming:
Reading myths and legends of the wonders of the world.
Knights in shining armour bearing banners all unfurled;
Tales of elves and goblins and the spirits of the woods;
Monsters in the sea and monsters on the land, and dragons!
How she longed to meet a real, fierce, fiery dragon!
A fire-breathing, fearsome, fabulous, fairy-tale,
Scaly, taily, green-bodied, red-eyed dragon.

No. 2: NARRATION

Narrator: And sooner than expected her chance came. One night the shepherd came home all of a tremble. 'It's all up with me! ' he exclaimed. 'Never more can I go Up on them there downs! You know that cave up there? Well, I saw this creature sticking halfway out of the cave. As big as four cart horses and all covered with shiny scales! ' The girl yawned. 'It's all right, father... Don't you worry. It's only a dragon. He won't give us any trouble. I'll go up there and have a talk with him. ' So, after tea, she did.

No. 3: CHORUS

Out through the cottage door and skip across the yard
went the girl with her head full of dragons breathing hard.
Up along the village street and down beyond the inn:
At last her chance had come for real adventure to begin.
Up across the hillside all crisp and frosty white:
Down the winding woodland path the girl ran swiftly through the night
to the secret hiding place, the fearsome fiery dragon's lair;
What adventure, what excitement, feels like magic in the air!
Now at last she'll know the answers to a plethora of puzzles:
Does the dragon say his grace and such before he chews and guzzles?
Does he use a table napkin or a knife and fork and spoon?
Does he wash his claws and whiskers carefully when he dines at noon?
When he tries to eat an ice-cream does his fiery breathing melt
All the ice and cream and send it trickling down his scaly pelt?
If he sniffs at plants and flowers does he make the blossoms droop?
Does he singe his hair and whiskers when he blows upon his soup?
By the time the girl had reached the highest point among the hills
she was dreaming all of dragons and their instant damsel grills:
Do they kill before they grill or do they like to hear the screams
of their gently roasting victims spitted right along their seams?
And in case you all are thinking that this subject's done to death!
Well, don't worry, we shall stop now cause we've all run out of breath.

No. 4: THE MEETING

Narrator: And sure enough, just outside a small but comfortable cave in the hillside,
a dragon lay stretched out, purring contentedly.
The girl approached...

Girl: Good evening, dragon.

Dragon: Good evening, good evening, good evening!
Can you think of a rhyme for 'moon'?

Girl: How about 'June'?

Dragon: Splendid, splendid, splendid! I've tried 'Baboon', 'pontoon' and 'macaroon' but they all lack something...

I'm a poet you see. Would you like to hear one of my early efforts?

Huff, little dragon through your little baby nostrils,

Huff, my little scaly one, and light papa's cigar.

Snort, little fellow, with your little baby dragon snout,

Blowing steamy bubbles through your honey in the jar.

What do you think?

Girl: Well, yes...

Dragon: Mind you, I also cultivate a more contemporary style:

Here's a passage from my Three Quintets:

Seething pitch and betting slips

Coagulate the battleships...

But hark! What do I hear in the distance?

Villagers: We want the dragon! Scrag 'im, do 'im, chop 'is 'ead off!

We want the dragon! Scrag 'im, spike 'im, cut 'is froat!

We got St. George and 'is 'orse and sword and buckler;

When St. George 'as done wiv 'im, 'E won't be worth a groat!

We want the dragon! 'E's bin plunderin', and pillagin'

We want the dragon! 'E's bin scorching all the crops!

St. George 'll spike the perisher, the awful scaly ravisher;

St. George 'll swoosh 'is great big sword an' thump 'im round the chops!

Dragon: Oh how uncouth, how vulgar!

How unutterably awful! And it doesn't even rhyme!

But who is this?

St George: Saint George, at your service! The hour of reckoning has come, sir! Never more shall you wreak your terror upon these poor simple folk!

What weapons do you choose?

Dragon: Weapons, dear fellow? None, dear boy!

Can't fight, won't fight! Anyway, why must I be defeated?

St George: Because it's in the story!

No. 5: TRIO

St George: I say, old boy, look here, old chap, you've got to do your stuff,

It's not British, it's not pukka just to sit there in a huff;

So pull yourself together, man, and strike a stoic pose!

I have read the Army manual and I'll show you how it goes.

Dragon: Army manual! Stoic poses! Stuff and nonsense! Don't you see?

I'm a literary dragon; not a drop of fight in me.

All my Sturm and Drang is pantomime; I wouldn't hurt a fly.

If you're going to cut up rough then I'll just sit down here and cry!

Girl: Stupid dragon! Can't you think of what a noble sight there'd be:

Nostrils flaring, scales a-flashing, armour glinting, banners waving,
don't you see?

St George: It's a case of King and Country, do or die,

Show the flag: With a gin and T. To brace you it'll soon be in the bag!

Every chap with any feeling feels a quivering of his lips

When the fighting is all over and the foe has had his chips.

All: But what shall we do?

Dragon: I've no wish to fight you.

St George: And frankly, old chap, I don't want to fight you either!

All: So what shall we do?

Girl: Why don't you rig the fight?

Dragon and St George: Why don't we rig the fight?

Girl: That's right!

Dragon and St George: Yes, why don't we rig the fight?

What a splendid idea! But how?

Girl: Oh, let me show you!

No. 6: THE PLAN

Chorus: With a one and a two and over to you!

Girl: First he waves his spear around,

St George: Yes, I wave my spear around,

Dragon: Ah! He waves his spear around; Oh, how aesthetic!

Girl: Then his charger paws the ground,

St George: Yes, me charger paws the ground,

Dragon: Ah! His charger paws the ground; My, how athletic!

Girl: Now you let him have a burst '

St George: Right, you let me have a burst,

Dragon: Oh! I'll give him quite a burst; how pyrotechnic!

Girl: Then you both begin to lunge,

St George: Good! We both begin to lunge.

Dragon: Nice! Let's have a jolly lunge ' so stimulating!

Girl: Then he sticks you in the gut '

St George: Wow! I stick him in the gut?

Dragon: What, he sticks me? Tut, tut, you nasty person!

Girl: No, it's just a bag of tricks '

St George: Make it look as though it sticks

Girl: So the crowd 'll get their kicks.

Dragon: I hope you're certain!

Chorus: And now, young lady, take it away!

Girl: (sings scat)

Chorus: Mr. Dragon!

Dragon: (sings scat)

Chorus: And now St. George!

St George: (sings scat)

Chorus: Second half!

Girl: Now you speed it up from there:

St George: Feint and lunge and claw the air,

Dragon: Wave your sword all debonair ' I've got the feeling.

Girl: Make it nasty, make it mean,

St George: Make it start to sort of seem

Dragon: Like we meant it ' what a dream, oh the emotion!

Girl: Then you screw it up to pitch,

St George: Till the crowd begins to itch,

Dragon: For a killing, for a victory, for curtains!

Girl: Yes, but you're the one they want

St George: Spitted neatly through the front!

Dragon: Hope your sword is nice and blunt!

We must be certain!

Girl: Never fear, St George will do it,

St George: Yes there's really nothing to it:

Where's a bit of you with no sensation in it?

Dragon: You could pin me in the wing; see, it's really only skin,

Girl: That's the place, St G., so take it to the limit!

Chorus: The limit, just about the limit!

All: And now we all know what to do. Oooh!

No. 7: TOURNAMENT

Narrator: And not a moment too soon. Already it was time for the tournament to begin, and a crowd of villagers had gathered.

Villagers: We want the dragon! Scrag 'im, do 'im, chop 'is 'ead off!

We want the dragon! Scrag 'im, spike 'im, cut 'is froat!

Master of Ceremonies: Silence, pray silence, ladies and gentlemen!

On my left, the fearsome, fiery dragon!

And on my right, the fearless St George! Right now, gentlemen.

Three rounds of good, clean, fiery combat and may the best one win.

On the word of command...charge!

Round One: No hits; a draw! Round two: take your marks...charge!

St George: Come, fiery fiend, your doom is sealed;

Your fell career is at an end, sir!

Dragon: Seal on, you animated scarecrow!

Come let me roast you like a capon!

St George: My sword your flame shall soon extinguish!

Dragon: It might if you'd the strength to lift it, putrid puppet!

St George: Mangy monster!

Dragon: Feeble, faint-hearted, feather-brained, frivolous, ferret-faced, flea-bitten, festering fool!

Master of Ceremonies: Round two: Dragon wins on points!

Round three, and the last round. Take your marks...charge!

Dragon: Aargh! Alas, I die!

Villagers: Hooray! St George has vanquished the dragon!

Girl: Oh Dragon, are you really hurt?

Dragon: Not a scratch dear boy, didn't I do it well!

Girl: Shush, they'll hear you! Just keep acting...

Villager: Well now, I reckon all this vanquishing deserves a celebration: let's have a banquet!

All: Yes, yes, let's have a banquet!

Narrator: So that night there was a great banquet. I'm not certain if he was

actually invited,
but the dragon went along too, and even took some of his poetry, just in
case anyone asked him to read a little of it. Everyone feasted and drank.

No: 8: BANQUET FUGUE

Chorus: Guzzle, guzzle, guzzle, munch, munch, gobble, gobble,
chomp, pass the salt and the pepper and the mustard
And vinegar and the bread.
There's a fly in my soup!
Well, it won't drink much sir!
Fetch the doctor, I'm feeling rather strange.
Guzzle, guzzle...

No. 9: FINALE

Villagers: 'Ey! Just a minute ' what's the dragon doin' ' ere?
All: I thought St George had slain 'im once and for all.
Cut off his 'ead!
St George: Cut off his head? I can't do that! He's a jolly good chap.
I'll give him a stern talking to: now that should do the trick instead!
Why don't we let bygones be bygones '
turn a new leaf ' make another start?
After all, dragons aren't so bad if you just get to know them a bit;
And besides, it's nearly Christmas...
All: So let's begin again; try another way;
Let's begin again; there's a better way.
Rule a line and start once more;
Learning from what's gone before.
Let's begin again;
Let's find a way to start again.
So can we get it right this time? Possibly.
Another chance in sight? Take things easily.
Is there time to care again;
Time to hope and share again?
Is it all too late?
Too late to try it out again?
The starlight in the skies and the moonlight;
The firelight in your eyes and the candlelight
Ev'ry creature softly bless,
Touching each with tenderness,
Helping us to see,
To see a better way ahead.
The mantle of the night wraps things silently
Nothing mortal shows; let's step carefully.
Make new tracks together,

Walk hand in hand;
And never run and hide;
The paths that we must tread lie side by side.

Narrator: So, at length the banquet ended. They set off up the hill arm in arm, the saint, the boy and the dragon. The lights in the little village began to go out; but there were stars, and a late moon, as they climbed the downs together. Soon they reached the top, and it was time for their ways to part. They stood silent for a moment; then wished each other goodnight; and a Merry Christmas

AUDIENCE CAROLS

DECK THE HALL

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la la la!
'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la la la!
Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la la la la la!
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, Fa la la la la la la!

See the blazing yule before us, Fa la la la la la la!
Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la la la!
Follow me in merry measure, Fa la la la la la la!
While I tell of Yuletide treasure, Fa la la la la la la!

Fast away the old year passes, Fa la la la la la la!
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, Fa la la la la la la!
Sing we joyous all together, Fa la la la la la la!
Heedless of the wind and weather, Fa la la la la la la!

JINGLE BELLS

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bobtail ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight

[Chorus]

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

[Chorus]

Day or two ago
I thought I'd take a ride
And soon Miss Fanny Bright
Was seated by my side
The horse was lean and lank
Misfortune seem'd his lot
He got into a drifted bank
And we, we got upsot.

[Chorus]

Now the ground is white
Go it while you're young
Take the girls tonight
And sing this sleighing song
Just get a bobtailed nag
Two-forty for his speed
Then hitch him to an open sleigh
And crack! You'll take the lead!

[Chorus]

HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Let your heart be light,
From now on, our troubles will be out of sight.
Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Make the Yule-tide gay,
From now on our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days,
Happy golden days of yore,
Faithful friends who are dear to us
gather near to us once more.

Through the years we all will be together
if the Fates allow,
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough,
And have yourself a merry little Christmas
Have yourself a merry little Christmas now.

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Kim Cousineau, *piano*

The Chorister's Songbook

Sunday MARCH 6, 3:00pm

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 10037 84 Ave, Edmonton

Featuring repertoire selected by the members of Da Camera, and the stories behind their selections, including works by Byrd, Gjeilo, Mendelssohn, Rachmaninoff, Tallis, Victoria, Whitacre, and other favourites.

The background of the entire poster is a watercolor illustration of a church dome, rendered in various shades of blue and teal. The dome is the central focus, with architectural details like ribs and windows visible. The style is soft and painterly.

Da
Camera
Singers

Laura Hawley, *artistic director*
Kim Cousineau, *piano*

60th Anniversary
Gala concert!

Sunday MAY 1, 3:00pm

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 10037 84 Ave, Edmonton

Featuring the world premiere of a new commission by Edmonton composer, Stuart Beatch, written for our 60th anniversary! In celebration of singing, our concert program also includes Srul Irving Glick's stunning work Sing unto the Lord a new song for choir and harp. Come celebrate song and raise a glass to 60 years with Da Camera - Edmonton's longest-standing chamber choir!