

# PROGRAM

15

## Velvet Shoes

Ruth Elaine Schram

A simple and beautiful setting of an Elinor Wylie poem, sung by the women of the choir.

## Oh Radiant Light

Alissa Plant and Anmarie Jezorski

The director and president of the Cumberland Singers teamed up this season to compose an original piece for winter.

## Winter Light

Zbigniew Preisner, Linda Ronstadt and Eric Kaz  
arr. Jackie O'Neill

From the motion picture *Secret Garden*.

## Auld Lang Syne

trad. Scottish tune/Robert Burns  
arr. James Gossler

And we've made it through fall, Christmas and winter, arriving at the New Year. This song, penned in the 1700's, is often sung at midnight on New Year's Eve and at memorial events.

## A Merry Christmas

trad. West Country English carol  
arr. Arthur Warrell

Mmmm, figgy pudding...



## Thank you

for attending the Cumberland Singers *Autumn to Auld Lang Syne* concert today. We truly appreciate and enjoy our audience!  
Please join us after the program for a reception.

12

# PROGRAM

## Blow, Winds of Fall

Greg Gilpin

Welcome to our concert. We open with an original modern choral setting of a poem by John Parker. For many people, the best time of year is when autumn starts to move in, leaving behind the oppressive heat and bringing the energizing fresh air and beautiful colors.

## Try to Remember

Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones  
arr. Jay Althouse

*Solo: Ed Bittner*

*Ensemble: Ed Bittner, Susan Johnson, Linda Tschopp, Russ Matthews, Lisa Lyons*

*Bass: Paulette Matthews*

From the long-running musical *The Fantastiks*.

## Autumn Leaves

Joseph Kosma and Johnny Mercer  
arr. Deke Sharon

*Ensemble: Amy Braun, Miriam McMechen, Susan Johnson, Jenna Raniowski, Paulette Matthews, Becky Noll, Ron Flory, Russ Matthews, Tom Longenecker, Nate Crowther, Jim Nagy, Ed Bittner, Lindy Mack*

This jazz standard was originally in French, with poetry written by Jacques Prévert. The English words were written by Johnny Mercer in 1949, and the song has been recorded numerous times by groups and individuals and for several films.

## Fields of Gold

G. M. Sumner  
arr. Roger Emerson

*Solos: Amy Braun, Jim Nagy*

*Bass: Paulette Matthews*

This popular love song evokes images of late summer evenings and autumn harvest.

## I Saw Three Ships

trad. English carol  
arr. Russell Robinson

In reading a bit about this traditional holiday carol, I found that it has almost infinite verses and just as many interpretations. What does the *three* stand for? Three ships of Columbus? Three wise men? The three virtues of faith, hope and charity? Or possibly none of the above. I like to think of this piece as a children's Christmas lullaby, simple and sweet.

# PROGRAM

## Past Three O'Clock

trad. English carol  
arr. Eugene Butler

*Ensemble: Steph Hoot, Anmarie Jezorski, Karen Volles, Linda Tschopp, Kathy Kline, Barb Ward, Tina Moyer, Ron Flory, Bob Fake, Connie Shover, John Succa, Ed Bittner, Jim Nagy*

Also known as the *Carol of the Town Watchman*, this is, again, a traditional carol using the number three, and it happens to have way more verses than we will sing today. My favorite of the verses found goes like this: *Cheese from thy dairy, bring it for Mary. And not for money, butter and honey.*

## Huron Carol

trad. French folk song  
arr. Ed Henderson

Originally, this carol was written in 1641 to an old French tune by Jesuit priest Jean de Brebeuf, who was working as a missionary in Sainte-Marie in Canada among the Hurons. The English lyrics were written in 1926 by Jesse Edgar Middleton. Its intent was to tell the nativity story with words and concepts familiar to the Hurons at the time, and it even uses the Algonquian name for God, Gitchi Manitou.

## Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

trad. carol  
arr. Jeff Funk

*Solos: Bob Fake, John Succa, Nate Crowther, Bruce Smith*

This traditional carol is sung today by the men of the choir with a bit of call and response.

## What Child is This

trad. English tune  
arr. Donald McCullough

A glorious arrangement of this well-known tune, also known as *Greensleeves*.

~Intermission~

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## It's Christmas Eve

R. G. Rhoades

An original holiday choral anthem by Randy Rhoades, a local musician who composes, teaches music lessons and performs throughout the central PA area.

## Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson and Mitchell Parish

*Sleigh Bells: Paulette Matthews*

A beloved song, recorded by everyone from the Mormon Tabernacle Choir to Ella Fitzgerald to the Spice Girls.

## The Christmas Waltz

Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn  
arr. Pete Schmutte

*Bass: Paulette Matthews*

## A Musicological Journey Through the Twelve Days of Christmas

Craig Courtney

An original, to say the least, take on a familiar carol. Whether you're the snobbiest of music snobs, a listener only, or somewhere in between, this journey through styles of western music from past to present is good fun.

### 1. A Partridge from 6th Century Rome

*Solo: Ron Flory*

### 2. Two Turtle Doves from 15th Century France

*Ensemble: Jenna Raniowski, Miriam McMechen, Ron Flory, Nate Crowther*

### 3. Three French Hens from 16th Century Italy

### 4. Four Calling Birds from 17th Century Italy

### 5. Five Gold Rings from 18th Century Germany

### 6. Six Geese a-Laying from 18th Century Austria

### 7. Seven Swans a-Swimming from 19th Century France

### 8. Eight Maids a-Milking from 19th Century Germany

### 9. Nine Ladies Dancing from 19th Century Austria

### 10. Ten Lords a-Leaping from 19th Century Italy

### 11. Eleven Pipers Piping from 19th Century Russia

*And finally (drum roll, please...)*

### 12. Twelve Drummers Drumming from 19th Century United States of America