

Welcome Yuletide

A Midwinter
Celebration

December 14, 15 & 16 2001



A Holiday Pageant to Drive the Dark Away



Chorus

Montserrat Archbald
 Dominic Baird
 Bart Bales
 Addie Berard
 Erin Berard
 Susannah Berard
 Norah Dooley
 Ferron Dooley Fairchild
 Julia Dooley Fairchild
 Louise Doud
 Carol Flandreau
 Paul Flandreau
 Jan Frazier

Diana Herrera
 Thomas W. Hutcheson
 Julie Jonassen
 Barbara Kasper
 Dale Kowacki
 Rose Regina Lawrence
 Saralinda Lobrose
 Jinny Mason
 Alan McArdle
 Laura McDonough
 Fred Momaney

Rob Olmsted
 Carol Pike
 Liza Ramlow
 Robert Ramlow-Sachs
 Andrea Rogers
 Geoffrey Rogers
 Lewis Scott
 Tom Shattuck
 Liz Smith
 Dorothea Sotiros
 Andrea Tarr
 H. Martin Wobst

Children

Hattie Love Archbald
 Frances Archbald
 Grace Berard
 Chelsea Bland

Meghan Devine
 Rosalie Dooley
 Fairchild
 Cody Doud Ross
 Simon Doud Ross
 Eva Kowacki

Joli Lobrose
 Risa McGovern
 David Ramlow-Sachs
 Angus Rogers

Musicians

Roger Cartwright - Melodeon, Concertina
 Patty Devine - Recorder
 Thomas W. Hutcheson - Fiddle
 Michael Pattavina - Banjo
 Geoffrey Rogers - Guitar, Mandolin

Juggler Meadow Morris Men

Roger Cartwright
 Thomas W.
 Hutcheson
 Wendell Hale
 Kelley Jr.

Craig Marden
 Alan McArdle
 David Nixon
 Geoffrey Rogers
 Mark Skinder

Jonathan Tauer
 David True
 Ken Wildman
 Chris Yerlig

Production Staff

Producers - Jinny Mason & Alan McArdle
Co-Directors - Diana Venman and Andrea Tarr
Choral Music Director - Bill Venman
Instrumental Music Coordinator - Geoffrey Rogers
Children's Chorus Directors - Louise Doud & Patty Devine
Publicist - Louise Doud
Technical Director - Steve Morgan
Stage Manager - Janet Mankowsky
Set and Light Crew - The company
Light Crew/Board Operator - Denton J. Smith, III
Set Design - Linda Stark
Costume Design - Marsha Smith
Costume Crew - Marsha Smith, Gail Villeneuve, Glenys Lemere
Production Assistance - Sally Venman
House Manager - Rick Rabe
Hair and makeup - Patty Devine
Set Construction - Steve Morgan, Lewis Scott, Linda Stark
Props - Andrea Tarr
Rehearsal Accompanist - Julie Jonassen
Poster Design - Soren Mason Temple
Program Design - Soren Mason Temple, Alan and Jinny
Publicity Photography - Rick Rabe

Co-produced by the company and the Shea Theater

Special Thanks To:

Valley Light Opera
 Bay State Perennial Farm
 St. James Episcopal Church
 The Textile Company
 Hampshire Shakespeare Company
 UMass Fine Arts Center
 The Blue Willies Border Ballet

Part One

The Bellman's Song (Traditional) - Bart

Morning Prayer - Chorus

Written by Thomas J. Denton for the 1936 Denson Revision of *The Sacred Harp*

Brightest and Best – Women

Traditional Appalachian carol

Welcome Yule – Alan and Chorus

15th Century carol for the season, arranged by Sydney H. Nicholson

I Saw Three Ships – Children

Traditional English children's song, arranged by Marshall Barron

Fellsway (David Gay) - Chorus

A contemporary contemplative shape note composition.

The Shortest Day – Andrea T.

Written by Susan Cooper and used by permission of Revels, Inc.

Yule Log Processional – The Furry Day Carol* - Chorus, Musicians

Traditional English carol. Touch the Yule Log with a holly leaf and make a wish for the New Year. Everyone is invited to sing along with us. Turn the page!

Come and I Will Sing You – Liz, Michael and Chorus

A traditional counting song for the twelve days of Christmas. Everyone is invited to sing along with us. Turn the page!

Contradance

The North Wind Doth Blow* - Children

Traditional children's song.

Story – The Selfish Giant Fred and the children

Adapted by Fred from a story by Oscar Wilde.

Kentucky Wassail - Bart, Chorus

Another Appalachian tune.

Stick Play - Children

Mummer's Play – Janet, Alan, Rob, Liza, Jinny, Fred

Praise of Christmas - Chorus, Musicians

Traditional late 17th - early 18th century English text and melody.

Intermission

Part Two

Apple Tree Wassail** – Liz, Carol P., Jan, Geoff and Tom H.

Traditional wassail.

Hunting the Wren – Bart, Dale, Fred, Rob, Alan

English wrenning song.

How Many Miles To Boston - Children

Another children's song, this time from New England.

Story – “The Two Pine Cones” - Norah and the Children

Adapted from a Finnish folk tale. With special thanks to Lester Scafidi, librarian extraordinaire.

Jump, Jim, Joe – Children

A children's game song.

Oken Leaves - Chorus

17th Century English round by Thomas Ravenscroft.

The Birds - Our "bird girls" and chorus.

Based on a traditional Czech carol.

Nowell Sing We – Paul and Carol F.

The oldest song in this year's program, dating from the 15th century.

Dark The Night (Canon Owen Jones) – Chorus

A Welsh Carol.

Lullay My Liking – Jan and Chorus

A masterpiece of carols, from the 15th century. Arranged by Gustav Holst.

Abbots Bromley Horn Dance - Juggler Meadow Morris Men

An ancient ceremonial dance from a village in Somerset, England first recorded over 600 years ago.

Evening Song* - Children

Carol - Chorus

A rousing version of “While Shepherd Watched” from the shape note tradition. From *Northern Harmony*.

Simple Gifts (Elder Joseph Brackett) - Bart, Chorus, Tom H. and Geoff

A Shaker Song. Everyone is invited to sing along with us. Turn the page!

The King** - Chorus

The wren is the king in this traditional carol from Pembrokeshire, South Wales.

The End – after which we invite you to join us in a farewell round -

The Road is Calling (written by John Krumm)

Everyone is invited to sing along with us. Turn the page!

The Final End

All songs traditional, except where noted.

* Arrangement by Bill Venman

** Arrangement by Thomas W. Hutcheson

The Yule Log Processional – The Furry Day Carol

God bless the master of this house
And all that are there in-a
And to begin to Welcome Yule
With mirth now let us sing-a!

Chorus: With hal and toe, sing merry-o,
With hal and toe sing merry!
With hal and toe, sing merry-o,
With hal and toe sing merry!

Women: Come bring with a noise my merry, merry boys
The Christmas log to the firing.
Men: While my good dame bids you be free
And drink to your hearts desiring!

Chorus

So now is come our joyful feast
Let everyone be jolly.
Each room with ivy leaves is dressed
And every post with holly!

Chorus

Come and I Will Sing You

One is one and all alone -
Come to me dilly come dally come dilly alone and ever shall remain so

Two are the Chrissymas babes in green
Three are the three that's in Bethlea
Four the carolers at the door
Five are the oxen standing by
Six are the six that never did mix
Seven the shiners up in the sky
Eight of them are the filly-shine white
Nine of them's Aunt Mary Ann
Ten are the Ten Command-i-ments
Eleven, eleven all gone to heaven
Twelve the followers all in a row

Simple Gifts - Chorus

When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn, will be our delight
'Til by turning, turning we come round right.

The Road is Calling

The road is calling,
The leaves have fallen.
It's back to home,
Our travels are all done.





Notes from the Producers

For seventeen years Welcome Yule has marked our journey through the darkest time of the year into the brighter days to come. This year, with the world turned upside down in so many ways, it is imperative for us to celebrate the old rituals to remind us that better days will return. The sun may rise later each day, the cold of winter may creep into our hearts, but with the magic of song, dance and story telling we can come together as neighbors and friends and face the future with more joy and less fear.

Within the Company of Welcome Yule we have developed a tight knit community. Together as friends, we take great pleasure in presenting a show that warms the hearts of families in the Pioneer Valley. We assure you that if we can sing, laugh and share joy, this year, and every year, the sun will return, bringing longer days and warming our hearts.

Wassail!



Alan and Jinny

