CSUSB PRESENTS

CHAMBER Singers



CSUSB

CSUSB PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS

11.5.2026 at 12 Noon

Performing Arts Center

CHAMBER SINGERS
LESLEY LEIGHTON, CONDUCTOR
ALASTAIR EDMONSTONE, COLLABORATIVE PIANIST
NOVEMBER 5, 2026 @ NOON
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Program

Glory (Selma).....Stephens/Lynn/Smith
arr. Mark Brymer

Jalonis Taylor, *tenor*
Isaiah Bailey, *rapper*

Schindler's List (Schindler's List).....Pripetshok/Shel-Zahav
arr. Emily Crocker

Abby Metzger, *violin*
Theme from Schindler's List | Jerusalem of Gold

Circle of Life (The Lion King).....John/Rice
arr. Keith Christopher

Columbia, Mi Encanto (Encanto).....Miranda
arr. Mac Huff

Jocelyn Correa-Arellano, *mezzo-soprano*

Remember Me (Coco).....Anderson-Lopez/Lopez
arr. Roger Emerson

Bridget Boyd, *contralto*

Home Alone (Home Alone).....John Williams

Nicholas Mundo, *baritone*

7M7
7M7A
7M7B
10M5
11M4

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas

Chamber Singers

SOPRANO
Brianna Abbott
Samantha Bustos
Mireyli Corrales
Parisa Daneshvar
Tannis Harper
Day Honore
Meagan Lawson
Mai Leon
Aamiyah Mallery
Abby Metzger
Vala Miller
Alannah Mora
Wendi Shaffer

TENOR
Jefry Alonso
Luis Alvarado
Cristian Alonzo
Rhyan Canales
Angel Calvillo
Jonathan Lee
Lucas Martinez
Gabriel Orozco
Max Razo
Joshua Ruiz
Raine Schiessel
Mikey Sosa
Jalonis Taylor
Bryan Teapila
Cristian Torres
Kendell Williamson

ALTO
Bridget Boyd
Jocelyn Correa-Arellano
Odyssey Gregoire
Stephanie Giron-Gonzelez
Sunny Gunn
Elisha Harris
Frankie Loyd
Erica Martinez
Mersiah Menchaca
Hazel Mendez
Vanessa Miranda
Jessica Paez
Finn Perez
Allie Schafer
Vanessa Valle
Mystery Zuniga

BASS
Isaiah Bailey
Gabe Cruz
Overath Espinosa
Cesar Garcia
Isa Martinez
Nicholas Mundo
Ethan Nickell
Daniel Nunez
Tony Noble
Matt Ortega
Andres Ramos
Jorge Sanchez
Jason Villalobos

Program Notes

The theme of this concert was chosen as it is of particular interest and is in part the research area of Dr. Leighton, who has recorded more than 130 film soundtracks, including some that are on this concert! Most of the octavos on this concert were purchased from JW Pepper and are arrangements of the music heard on the soundtracks; however, the music from *Home Alone* is the actual score from John Williams studio sessions, which is why the music is listed by a slate number instead of any kind of title. Occasionally composers will also add a title to it, but the main thing we see is a number with letters, such as 3M7, etc. The first number represents the physical reel number of the film – back in the day movies were split onto separate reels that were 10-20 minutes in length, they follow this still today and break up the "reel numbers" despite the fact that most films are digital now, but we keep the scoring stage traditions of reel numbers. The letter designates what the cue is, so in the case of soundtrack recording the letter is always "M" for "music." If the sound is an effect such as sound coming from a radio or tv on screen, it will be an "S" for "source." The final number is the sequential order of the music cues, so a number like 7M7 would be 7th reel, Music, 7th cue. If a composer, and they do, writes two versions of a cue, you will see something akin to 2M5b so that the entire project does not need re-numbering.

I normally write specific notes about each piece we are singing, but for this concert, I'm not going to do that, and am instead going to talk about my experience having sung on some of these films, which I dare say, might be more interesting! I sang on both *Frozen* and *Frozen* 2, which were recorded chorally at Eastman Soundstage (WB) and Capitol Records Studio A. It was a choir of about 40, and we worked with Christophe Beck who wrote the orchestral score and ultimately most of the cues that we sang. For most scores, we are on cans with click track, facing the booth, backs to the screen; on playback we can turn and see the scene we just recorded. In the case of both *Frozens* it was fairly painless and quick, each completed in, if memory serves, four hour sessions.

Now, *The Lion King* (2019) was a different story! This was a HUGE choir of 80+ which these days is very rare. Back in the 90s it happened periodically, but because of the cost, it has become quite infrequent to have a large choir on a soundstage. But for *Lion King*, we did. Hans Zimmer was in the booth, and we were on cans and click, and seriously stuffed uncomfortably on the old school risers

which occupy the Sony soundstage (Barbara Streisand Soundstage). Most of the time we are on the large wedge style risers, but for that gig, it was old school risers, yuck! But, we did have some laughs, and that was the gig when I met Anthony Parnther! He was literally standing not far away from me, and big dramatic voices always find the other big dramatic voices! There was a lot of music, and we were there for five 8-hour days, which is practically unheard of in today's world of music.

Hans Zimmer wrote the orchestral score and much of the music we sang, although some of the music was written and sung by Lebo Morake and Elton John. Lebo was at most of our sessions to coach us to get the sound they were envisioning. It was one of the more fun sessions I've sung, and definitely the most lucrative of any! "The Circle of Life" was super fun because Lebo sang his solo parts in a quick read down of the score – what a joy he is!

Home Alone...this was one was actually recorded before my time! I'm ancient, but this is from the 80s, ha! I started recording session work in 1990, so I missed this one; however, John Williams has a particular way of working that is different from anyone else with whom I have recorded films. Most of the time we are on cans and click, but John does not record that way. He records it free with the orchestra and chorus together, live, and he conducts his own sessions as he knows exactly how he envisions the score to align with the film action. The first film I recorded with him was *Hook* which was actually my Taft-Hartley* in Screen Actor's Guild, which is the union that represents singers in film and television. The very first scene we recorded (we actually just went in order!) was the scene in which Robin Williams walks up the staircase at Wendy's house, before he sees the mural of the ship and pirate in the kid's room. We would record the cue, John would yell "playback," we would turn around and watch and listen. We must have recorded that cue 30 times. Finally, when John aligned it the way he wanted and we turned and watched, there was a gasp in the room at one point, and John yelled "Print that one!"

Every December, singers from CSUSB sing the chorus parts from *Home Alone* at Walt Disney Concert Hall for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's live-to-screen presentation of the film. There is a live orchestra and chorus, and it is conducted by film composer and conductor David Newman. It's pretty fun to see the film screened with the music performed live – I encourage everyone to come this year (Thanksgiving Friday and Saturday) and check it out!

*Taft-Hartley is referring to the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 which impacts right-to-work states and limits union power by banning a "closed shop" environment; it also impacts modern collective bargaining. In California, it allows anyone to work within SAG without being a member; however, if you are not a member, you do not benefit from the healthcare and pension that SAG can and does provide its members, you also have limited access to residuals if you are not a union member. I joined SAG immediately following *Hook* as you cannot just join SAG, you have to have a job in the union or have completed a job in the union – in that way SAG is still to this day a "closed shop."

Texts & Translations

Glory
Lyrics by John Legend and Common
[Chorus]
One day when the glory comes
It will be ours, it will be ours
One day when the war is won
We will be sure, we will be sure
Oh glory
(Glory, glory) Ohh (Glory, glory)

[Verse 1]
Hands to the Heavens, no man, no weapon
Formed against, yes glory is destined
Everyday women and men become legends
Sins that go against our skin become blessings
The movement is a rhythm to us
Freedom is like religion to us
Justice is juxtapositionin' us
Justice for all just ain't specific enough
One son died, his spirit is revisitin' us
True and livin' livin' in us, resistance is us
That's why Rosa sat on the bus
That's why we walk through Ferguson with our hands up
When it go down we woman and man up
They say, "Stay down", and we stand up
Shots, we on the ground, the camera panned up
King pointed to the mountain top and we ran up
[Chorus]
One day when the glory comes
It will be ours, it will be ours

One day when the war is won
We will be sure, we will be sure
Oh glory (glory, glory)
Ohh (glory, glory)

[Bridge]
Now the war is not over, victory isn't won
But we'll fight on to the finish, and when it's all done
We'll cry glory (glory), oh glory (glory), oh (glory, glory)
We'll cry glory, oh glory, oh (glory, glory)

[Verse 2]
Selma is now for every man, woman, and child
Even Jesus got his crown in front of a crowd
They marched with the torch, we gon' run with it now
Never look back, we done gone hundreds of miles
From dark roads he rose, to become a hero
Facin' the league of justice, his power was the people
Enemy is lethal, a king became regal
Saw the face of Jim Crow under a bald eagle
The biggest weapon is to stay peaceful
We sing, our music is the cuts that we bleed through
Somewhere in the dream we had an epiphany
Now we right the wrongs in history
No one can win the war individually
It takes the wisdom of the elders and young people's energy
Welcome to the story we call victory
The comin' of the Lord, my eyes have seen the glory
[Chorus]
One day when the glory comes
It will be ours, it will be ours
One day when the war is won
We will be sure, we will be sure
Oh glory
(Glory, glory)
Oh (glory, glory)
Oh glory
(Glory, glory)
Yeah (glory, glory)

[Outro]
When the war is won, when it's all said and done
We'll cry glory, oh glory (glory, glory)

Schindler's List
Lyrics are from a Traditional Yiddish song
ON THE HEARTH

On the hearth, a fire burns,
And in the house it is warm.
And the rabbi is teaching little children,
The alphabet.

See, children, remember, dear ones
What you learn here
Repeat and repeat yet again,
"Komets-alef: o!"*

Learn, children, with great enthusiasm.
So I instruct you;
He among you who learns Hebrew pronunciation faster -
He will receive a flag.

Learn children, don't be afraid,
Every beginning is hard;
Lucky is the one has learned Torah,
What more does a person need?

When you grow older, children,
You will understand by yourselves,
How many tears lie in these letters,
And how much lament.

When you, children, will bear the Exile,
And will be exhausted,
May you derive strength from these letters,
Look in at them!
*"Komets-alef: o!" - The sign under the Aleph is O.

Jerusalem of Gold
Lyrics and Music by Naomi Shemer

But when I come to count your praises
And sing Hallel to you
With pretty rhymes I dare not crown you
As other poets do,
Upon my lips is always burning

Your name, so dear, so old:
If I forget Yerushalaim
Of bronze and light and gold …

Yerushalaim all of gold
Yerushalaim, bronze and light
Within my heart I shall treasure
Your song and sight.

Back to the wells and to the fountains
Within the ancient walls
The sound of horn from Temple's mountain
Again so loudly calls,
From rocky caves, this very morning
A thousand suns will glow
And we shall go down to the Jordan
By way of Jericho.

Yerushalaim all of gold
Yerushalaim, bronze and light
Within my heart I shall treasure
Your song and sight.

Circle of Life
Lyrics by Tim Rice

Nants ingonyama bagithi baba
There is a lion, they said, father
Sithi uhm ingonyama
We say hum lion

Nants ingonyama bagithi baba
There is a lion, they said, father
Sithi uhhmm ingonyama
We say uhmmm lion

Ingonyama
Lion
Siyo Nqoba
We are victorious

Ingonyama
Lion

Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (asana)
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
A lion and a spotted tiger

From the day we arrive on the planet
And, blinking, step into the sun
There's more to see than can ever be seen
More to do than can ever be done
There's far too much to take in here
More to find than can ever be found
But the sun rolling high
Through the sapphire sky
Keeps great and small on the endless round

It's the circle of life
And it moves us all
Through despair and hope
Through faith and love
'Til we find our place
On the path unwinding
In the circle
The circle of life

Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
A lion and a spotted tiger
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)

Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)
Ingonyama nengw' enamabala (se-to-kwa!)

It's the circle of life
And it moves us all
Through despair and hope
Through faith and love
'Til we find our place
On the path unwinding
In the circle
The circle of life

Colombia, mi Encanto
Lyrics by Carlos Vives

Colombia
Colombia
party night
Noche de fiesta

Everyone comes to celebrate
Todos vienen a celebrar

party night
Noche de fiesta

Everyone comes to enjoy
Todos llegan para gozar

keep dancing
Sigue bailando

Happy in my paradise
Contento en mi paraíso

and revealing
Y revelando

Miracles on every floor
Milagros en cada piso
Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto
Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

That I always fall in love with your charm
Que siempre me enamora tu encanto

Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

May you continue to bless your charm
Que sigas bendiciendo tu encanto
Colombia
Colombia

Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto
opening doors
Abriendo puertas

The morning is coming
Va llegando la madrugada

They are still open
Siguen abiertas

And the coffee sneaks into the house
Y el café se cuela en la casa

happy song
Canción alegre

So that good wins over evil
Para que gane el bien sobre el mal

don't wake me up
No me despierten

This seems like a real dream
Que esto parece un sueño real
Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

That I always fall in love with your charm
Que siempre me enamora tu encanto

Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

Your charm continues to bless you
Te sigue bendiciendo tu encanto
Colombia
Colombia

Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto

(Ah-eh-ah-eh-ah-eh)
(Ah-eh-ah-eh-ah-eh)

Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto
Colombia, I adore you so much
Colombia, te adoro tanto

Your name has a charm
Tu nombre tiene un encanto

From Bogotá to Palenque
De Bogotá hasta Palenque

I left with all the people
Me fui con toda la gente

Colombia, such a beautiful land
Colombia, tierra tan bella

mother nature
La madre naturaleza

Gave you a way of being
Te dio una forma de ser

Colombia stays, my favorite place
Colombia stays, my favorite place
Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

That I always fall in love with your charm
Que siempre me enamora tu encanto

Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

Your charm continues to bless you
Te sigue bendiciendo tu encanto

And the thing is that I love you, Colombia, so much.
Y es que a ti, Colombia, yo te quiero tanto

That I always fall in love with your charm
Que siempre me enamora tu encanto

Colombia, I love you so much
Colombia, te quiero tanto

Your charm continues to bless you
Te sigue bendiciendo tu encanto
Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto

Charm
Encanto

Remember Me
Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Rober Lopez

Remember me, though I have to say goodbye
Remember me, don't let it make you cry
For even if I'm far away, I hold you in my heart
I sing a secret song to you each night we are apart
Remember me, though I have to travel far
Remember me each time you hear a sad guitar
Know that I'm with you the only way that I can be
Until you're in my arms again, remember me

Que nuestra canción no deje de latir
Sólo con tu amor yo puedo existir (recuérdame)
Que nuestra canción no deje de latir
Sólo con tu amor yo puedo existir (recuérdame)
Si en tu mente vivo estoy (recuérdame)
Mis sueños yo te doy
Te llevo en mi corazón y te acompañaré
Unidos en nuestra canción contigo ahí estaré
(Recuérdame)
Si sola crees estar (recuérdame)
Y mi cantar te irá a abrazar
Aún en la distancia, qunca vayas a olvidar
Que yo contigo siempre voy
Recuérdame

If you close your eyes and let the music play
Keep our love alive, I'll never fade away
If you close your eyes and let the music play
Keep our love alive, I'll never fade away
If you close your eyes and let the music play
Keep our love alive, I'll never fade away
Remember me, for I will soon be gone
Remember me and let the love we have live on
And know that I'm with you the only way that I can be
So, until you're in my arms again
Remember me

Que nuestra canción no deje de latir
Sólo con tu amor yo puedo existir (remember me)
Que nuestra canción no deje de latir
Sólo con tu amor yo puedo existir (remember me)

7M7
Lyrics by John Williams

Somewhere in my memory
Christmas joys all around me
Living in my memory
All of the music, all of the magic
All of the family, home here with me

7M7A
Lyrics by John Sullivan Dwight

Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

So let by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here came the wisemen from Orient land.
The king of kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

7M7B
Lyrics by Leslie Bricusse

Star of Bethlehem shining bright
Bathing the world in heavenly light
Let the glow of your distant glory
Fill us with hope this Christmas night

Star of innocence, star of goodness
Gazing out since time began
You who've lived through endless ages
View with love the age of man

Star of beauty, hear our plea
Whisper your wisdom tenderly
Star of Bethlehem, set us free
Make us a world we long to see

Star of Bethlehem, star up high
Miracle of the midnight sky
Let your luminous life of heaven
Better our hearts and make us fly

Star of happiness, star of wonder
You see everything from afar
Cast your eye upon the future
Make us wiser than we are

Star of gentleness, hear our plea
Whisper your wisdom tenderly
Star of Bethlehem, set us free
Make us a world we long to see

7M7C
Lyrics by Mykola Leontovych

Hark how the bells, sweet silver bells
All seem to say, "Throw cares away"
Christmas is here, bringing good cheer
To young and old, meek and the bold
Ding-dong, ding-dong, that is their song
With joyful ring, all caroling

One seems to hear, words of good cheer
From ev'rywhere, filling the air
Ding, dong, ding
Ding, dong

Oh, how they pound, raising the sound
O'er hill and dale, telling their tale
Gaily they ring while people sing
Songs of good cheer, Christmas is here

Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas

Ding Dong, Ding Dong

10M5
Lyrics by Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane

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 Yuletide gay;
From now on, our troubles will be miles away.

And have yourself a merry little Christmas now...

11M4
Lyrics Traditional English carol 16th Century

We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas
And a happy new year!

11M4A
Lyrics by John Williams

Candles in the window
Shadows painting the ceiling
Gazing at the fire glow
Feeling that gingerbread feeling

Precious moments, special people
Happy faces, I can see

Somewhere in my memory
Christmas joys all around me
Living in my memory
All of the music, all of the magic
All of the family, home here with me

End titles: Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Lyrics by Leslie Bricusse

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year
Sing merrily, merrily, loud and strong
Welcome the wintry season

Just follow along with the holiday song
Santa is here again, yes

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

The reindeer fly, if you need any proof
It's merely a matter of reason
Just listen, you'll hear when they land on the roof
Santa is here again, yes

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
It's a magical, miracle, annual, lyrical
Sing along now, sing a song for a Happy New Year

Sing merrily, merrily, loud and strong
Welcome the wintry season
Just follow along with the holiday song
Santa is here again, yes

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the happy season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
It's a magical, miracle, annual, lyrical
Sing along now, sing a song for a Happy New Year

Home Alone Christmas album version:
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

Sing merrily, merrily, loud and strong
Welcome the wintry season
Just follow along with the holiday song
Santa is here again, yes

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

The reindeer fly, if you need any proof
It's merely a matter of reason
Just listen, you'll hear when they land on the roof
Santa is here again, yes

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
It's a magical, miracle, annual, lyrical
Sing along now, sing a song for a Happy New Year

Merrily, merrily, loud and strong
Welcome the wintry season
Just follow along with the holiday song
Santa is here again, yes

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for a Happy New Year

Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
Sing a song for the glorious season
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas
It's a magical, miracle, annual, lyrical
Sing along now, sing a song for a Happy New Year