

presents .

O Night Divine

Songs of the sky and the season

Direction: Lee Carter Piano: Sara-Lynn Hutchison

Organ: Jennifer Loveless

Friday, December 5, 2025

7:30 pm

Woodroffe United Church, Ottawa



860 Bank Street Ottawa, Ontario K1S 3W3 613.231.6331



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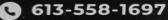


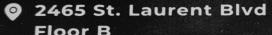
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Nepean Choir



Good evening and welcome to Nepean Choir's 52nd winter concert!

Our music tonight turns our thoughts upward to the heavens. At a time of year when half our day is spent under the night sky, it's a view that's pretty hard to miss! And so we celebrate the mystical starscape, the placid moon, the constellations that have guided and inspired for millennia, and the cozy nostalgic feelings the classic nocturnal carols and seasonal songs bring out so well.

We're delighted to be joined again by Jennifer Loveless on the organ this evening. In addition to playing with the choir, and thrilling us with Eugene Gigout's *Rhapsodie sur des Noels*, Jennifer will be playing selections from Hans Zimmer's *Interstellar*, about which the original recording organist, Roger Sayer, said this:

I think it's such a breath of fresh air. It gets away from this idea that the organ is something that just plays hymns and leads the congregation. Of course it does do that, but as you and I know, the organ, particularly when it's in a building with fine acoustics, can capture almost every emotion possible. To put it bluntly, it's an orchestra in a box. It has all colors you need from an orchestra. And it's the sort of instrument that people have the wrong idea about. Here, we're showing that it can live and breathe in the 21st century. It can tell a story; you don't need words.

Tonight, we tell stories with and without words, and sometimes even with the spectacular celestial photography of local astrophotographer Gabriel Dornier! His photos of deep space have moved thousands across the continent, and we're happy to have him here with us tonight.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our next major concert, *Better is Peace*, on May 22nd at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre, as we again combine with Chelsea's Castenchel Choir, The NHS Choirs, Bass Matthew Li, Mezzo-soprano Gabriela Comeau-Gort, and members of the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra to present Pulitzer Prize winner Caroline Shaw's 2019 secular oratorio inspired by the Golden Records on the Voyager spacecraft, *The Listeners*, and Sir Karl Jenkins' powerful *L'homme armee: A Mass for Peace*, which has been performed over 3000 times worldwide since its first performance 25 years ago. Join us for what will be a thoughtful, moving, and uplifting experience!

Thank you for being here with us tonight, and for the ongoing support of our friends and families! We hope you all have a healthy and happy Holiday Season and wish you all the best in the New Year!

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Nepean Choir

Lee Carter, Director Sara-Lynn Hutchison, Collaborative Pianist

SOPRANO	ALTO
Stephanie Barrett	Michelle Berry
Sophia Bossert	Heather Blumenthal
* Elizabeth Bryson	Marilyn Campbell
Abby Caplan	* Jackie Clark
Tanya Chang	Hilda Cleary
Kayla Clark	Wendy Collins
* Cassi Coelho	Mary Ellis
Meaghan Cunningham	* Margaret Fritz
Kathryn Farmer	Chalanna Gibson
Theresa Fournier	Glenna Gray
* Deanna Giles-Vail	Gwenolyn Guth
Jesse Husk	Nadiya Herasym
Susan Isaac	Martha Hynna
Maureen Kavanagh	Dongmei Li
Stephanie King	Shaoning Lu
Pat Lee	Sandra McKenny
Sylvia McDonald	Mara Lee McLaren
Laurie McKnight	Shannon Mooney
Kumiko Murasugi	Heather Moore
Susan Nishi	Joyce Mortimer
Maxine Passer	Marjory Patterson
Patricia Russell	Lynn Payton
Liz Snelling	Christine Perrault
Alyson van Beinum	Sheila Powell
Chiyo Watanabe	Kim Sandziuk
Brigette Yedema	Rachael Steiginga

Dianne Turner Elizabeth Vavasour Grace Veenema Wendy Warburton

TENOR

Colin Borgal David Fewtrell Allan Kearney * Don McMaster Phil Nagy * Sandra Pilgrim Bill Tyson Peter Veselovsky

BASS

Kaja Cerveny Barth Curley * John Duvernet Ingo Hessel Don McLaren Vic Nishi * Daniel Noebert Rob Summerby Paul Whynacht

Our thanks to:

Master of Ceremonies Concert Production **Fundraising Coordinator** Publicity, Poster Design **Tickets** Programme, recording Webmaster

Jim Burant Glenna Gray Colin Borgal Kim Sandziuk Sandra McKenny, Susan Isaac, Vic Nishi Don McLaren Allan Kearney

^{*} On leave

Nepean Choir

Director: Lee Carter has been Artistic Director of Nepean Choir since 2018 and is in his 12th season as Artistic Director for Castenchel Choir based in Chelsea, QC. Mr. Carter continues as a full-time performing arts teacher at Nepean High School in Ottawa. In addition to being Regional Coordinator for the CRMF Choral Music Festival, Lee has also conducted workshops for CAMMAC Ottawa-Gatineau, and other choirs in the National Capital Region. Lee is the current Artistic Director for the BIIMA Choral Retreat, held in Breno, Italy every other summer.



Lee believes in bringing the most music to the most people and is committed to collaborative music making with diverse performers. He also loves bringing new choral music to light and has commissioned and premiered new works from several

Canadian composers.

Lee lives in Aylmer, QC with his wonderful wife, three beautiful children, and their good dog, Hank the Tank. When he's not musicking, Lee enjoys good food, puttering in his pollinator garden, and going backcountry camping.

Collaborative Pianist: Sara-Lynn Hutchison holds a Master of Music degree in Accompanying and Chamber Music from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor of Music in Performance from the University of Toronto. Sara-Lynn has accompanied numerous choirs including the Laurentian University Choir, Amabile Choirs of London and the Shenandoah Valley Children's Chorus in Virginia. For over ten years, Sara-Lynn was the full-time pianist and coach at St. Mary Choir School in London, Ontario. A certified teacher, Sara-Lynn (OCT) is



an elementary school teacher at Arch Street Public School in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board.

Guest Artist

Organist: Jennifer Loveless is the Titular Organist at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica in Ottawa and is an Associate Performance Faculty

Member (Organ Studies) at Carleton University. As a soloist and collaborative artist, Jennifer has performed across Canada and Europe and has been broadcast on Classical FM, CBC Radio, Espace Musique, and on CTV and CBC television. She holds a master's degree in Organ Performance from McGill University, an Artist Diploma in Piano Performance from Concordia University, and an Associate Diploma in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music.



Nepean Choir would like to thank Woodroffe United Church for the use of its facilities for the presentation of this evening's concert.



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Programme

Cornfield Chase (from the **Interstellar Suite**)

Hans Zimmer

Jennifer Loveless, organ

The Darkest Midnight in December

William Devereux / Stephen Main

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks / R Vaughan Williams

Anang (A Star)

Andrew Balfour Don MacDonald

Ave Maris Stella

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Jane Taylor / arr Daniel Elder

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Nahum Tate / Este's Psalter Eugene Gigout

Rhapsody sur les Noels

Jennifer Loveless, organ

Northern Lights

Ola Gieilo Kathleen Nicely / Jacob Narverud

Lunar Lullaby All Through the Night

Harold Boulton, arr William Averitt

Intermission

Still, Still, Still Austrian Carol, Marilyn Keith, Alan Bergman, arr Norman Luboff

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

E. H. Sears, arr Arthur Sullivan

Minuit Chrétien

Cappeau de Roquemaure / Adolphe Adam, arr John Rutter Hans Zimmer

No Time for Caution (from the Interstellar Suite) Jennifer Loveless, organ

Orion

Faith Zimmer / Susan LaBarr Sara Teasdale / Ēriks Ešenvalds

Stars (NOTE: See below) Song for a Winter's Night

Gordon Lightfoot, arr Robin Salkeld

Silent Night

Joseph Mohr / Franz Grüber, arr Dan Forrest

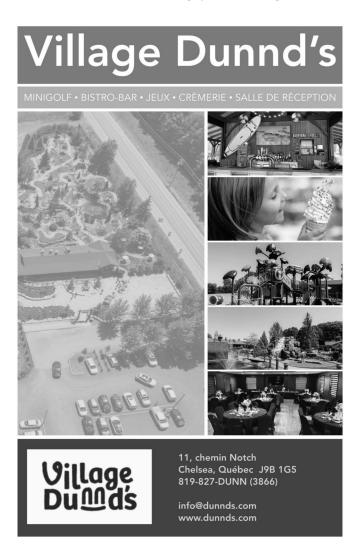
Note: The performance of "Stars" is accompanied by tuned wine glasses, which may cause discomfort for some listeners, including those wearing hearing aids. If you are sensitive to such sounds we invite you to adjust your hearing aids at this time, or to step into the hallway if you prefer, for the duration of the piece.

Our special thanks to Osgoode Properties for sponsoring this evening's program.

Programme Notes



Follow this QR code to see the song lyrics and English translations.





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The Nepean Choir Musical Circle

Become a member of our Musical Circle and be in-the-know about the Nepean Choir. For an annual donation, you can share in the joy of music and receive:

- Calendar of events (by mail or e-mail)
- Acknowledgment in concert programs (if desired)
- Income tax receipt

Consider joining the Musical Circle at one of the following levels:

Eighth Notes: \$20 - \$49	Quarter Notes: \$50 +
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Dotted Whole Note members will receive two complementary tickets to the both of the choir's annual winter and spring concerts. Whole Note members are entitled to two tickets to one of the annual concerts.

Joining the Musical Circle is easy. Simply complete the form below and mail, along with your donation, to:

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To find out more about the Nepean Choir, look for us on Facebook, and visit our website at www.nepeanchoir.ca

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If you'd like to contact us, or receive updates on Nepean Choir events, please e-mail us at:

nepeanchoir+publicity@gmail.com

The Nepean Choir supports the **Kiwanis Music** and **Dance Festival** through the "**Nepean Choir Bernice Oak Award**", which recognizes choral excellence in youth choirs.

COME SING WITH US!

Nepean Choir invites **New Members**

for all sections to join us for our

2025-2026 Season.

Auditions and Open Rehearsals in January 2026

Contact us at

nepeanchoir+auditions@gmail.com or phone 613-406-4389

Nepean Choir rehearses and performs on the traditional unceded and unsurrendered land of the

Algonquin Anishnaabeg.

We hope that our performance tonight properly honours their musical traditions.



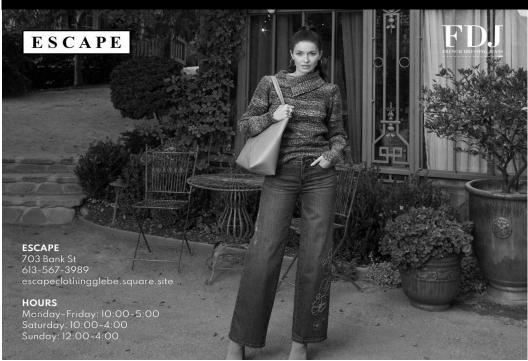


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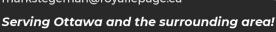
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Better is Peace

Jenkins 'The Armed Man' / Shaw 'The Listeners'

Micux vaut la paix

'L'homme armé' de Jenkins / 'The Listeners' de Shaw

Lee Carter Direction
Nicole Bélecque Piano

Matthew Li Bass

Gabrielle Comeau-Gort Mezzo-soprano

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