



**International
Voices**Houston

The Gift of Music



Mark Vogel
Artistic Director

MATCH
Midtown Arts &
Theatre Center
Houston
3400 Main Street

SATURDAY
December 18th
7pm

SUNDAY
December 19th
7pm



FUNDED IN PART BY
THE CITY OF HOUSTON
THROUGH
HOUSTON ARTS ALLIANCE



Sing with us!

Auditions held 3 times a year:
August - January - April
Tenors and Basses Needed!



Scan to visit our Auditions page

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Musical Leadership	2
International Voices Houston Members	4
Supporters	6
About the Program	8
<i>The Gift of Music</i> Concert Program	9
Lyrics and Translations	10
International Voices Houston Leadership	16

Special thanks to our rehearsal host



and our performance venue

MATCH

MUSICAL LEADERSHIP

Mark Vogel, Artistic Director



Since arriving in Houston in 2014, Mark Vogel has established himself in this city's vibrant musical culture as a performer, conductor, and educator. In addition to his position as Artistic Director of International Voices Houston, he is also Professor of Music at Lone Star College-North Harris, and Music Director at Congregation Beth Israel and the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston. Other positions have included Choir Director at Lone Star College-University Park, Interim

Artistic Director of the Woodlands Chorale, and music instructor at the Kinkaid School and St. Pius X High School. He is also known for his creative piano performance-lectures, given at such venues as San Jacinto College and the UT Health and Science Center.

His extensive musical training includes a Master's degree in piano performance from Manhattan School of Music studying with Ruth Laredo, and a Bachelor's degree in piano performance from the University of Iowa studying with Rene Lecuona.

Mark moved to Houston from Washington, D.C., where for nine years he was an active music director and pianist, performing at such venues as the Kennedy Center, Strathmore Concert Hall, National Cathedral, Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center, and the Library of Congress. He has performed with ensembles including Washington Master Chorale, the Fairfax Chamber Ensemble, Washington Men's Camerata, Aurora Opera, the Washington Ballet Orchestra, the Army Chorus, Woodley Ensemble, Vienna Choral Society, and more.

MUSICAL LEADERSHIP

Paul Butt, Accompanist

Paul was born in Alaska, grew up in Oregon, and now lives in Houston. He began studying music seriously when he was awarded lessons from the American Guild of Organists in High School.



Paul attended Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and graduated with a degree in piano performance. He moved to Houston to attend Rice University and graduated with a Master's degree in organ performance.

Paul has played for choirs on tour in Ireland, France, Austria, and most enjoyed playing for choral events at St. Patrick's, Dublin, and Notre Dame and La Madeleine, Paris. He has been a musician for Lutheran, Methodist, Christian Science, Presbyterian, Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ, and Episcopal churches.

Paul is presently organist at First Methodist Houston. He has been accompanying International Voices Houston since 2007.

INTERNATIONAL VOICES HOUSTON

International Voices Houston is a multicultural choir in Houston, Texas, that inspires, educates, and brings joy to its audiences through world music. We perform international choral works in their unique styles and languages. We celebrate our cultural diversity as part of the greater Houston community through our collaborative environment of camaraderie, learning, and growth.

SOPRANO I

Mariah Almack	USA
Carly Cappozzo	USA
Morgane Fournier	France
Hazel Heddings	USA
Yue Jiang	USA
Jenny Jou	Taiwan
Beverly Ladnier	USA
Lindsay Reilly	USA
Karen Saylor	USA
Emily Smith	USA

SOPRANO II

Judith Forbes	USA
Sally Goodroe	USA
Yessica Krozal	Poland
Carolyn Leap	USA
Doreen Lee	Taiwan
Bonnie Milne	USA
Mary Rethwisch	USA
Rita Saylor	USA
Susan Steinhardt	USA
Natalia Todorova	Russia

TENOR

John Clement	USA
Michael Madrid	USA
Alexander Martinez	USA
James McGehee	USA
Ben Sutton	USA
Nicholas Ytuarte	USA

ALTO I

Isabelle Ganz	USA
Birnur Guven	Turkey
Diana Guzman	Colombia
Kat Hastings	USA
Lesley Kellet	United Kingdom
Elyse Kizer	USA
Maite Leal	Brazil
Leslie Moore	Canada
Jennifer Parrish	USA
Suzanne Rickles	USA
Teran Smith	USA
Sue Tsai	Taiwan
Bonnie Vegiard	USA

ALTO II

Samiye Ardic	Turkey
Antoinette Boecker	USA
Lorraine Kristal	USA
Eta Paransky	USA
Caroline Petrin	USA
Wendy Rodewald	USA
Dale Thomas	USA
Lisa Tynan	USA

BARITONE

Jeff Basen-Engquist	USA
Thorpe Butler	USA
Steve Buza	Tanzania
Gary Edmondson	USA
Clemente Mathis	USA
Andrew McDiarmid	USA
Jon Naylor	USA

BASS

Anthony Adam	USA
Jean-Louis Breux	France
Philip Edwards	USA
Brendan Emig	USA
Henry W. Jones III	USA
Sung Kim	Korea

VIRTUAL SINGERS

SOPRANO

Suzanne Drummond	Scotland
Aileen Gerla	Ireland
Sabrina Harris	USA
Ksenia Krylova	Russia
Marion Leduc	France
Jael Miller	USA
Grete Norquist	USA
Rosemary Pachter	USA
Maria Paz Pickens	Chile
Laverne Smith	USA
Olivia Song	China
Ashabari Sprenger	India

ALTO

Sowmya Balasubramani	India
Catherine Bedel	France
Samantha Branch	USA
Magdalena Cuevas	Mexico
Emily Deakins	USA
Sheri DeBruijn	Canada
Dinah Godwin	USA
Hannah Gorska-Woodson	Poland
Frances Johnson	USA
Minoo Moghimi	Iran
Susan Nerlove	USA
Maria Alice Papanicolau	Brazil
Loyce Washington	USA

TENOR

Gunnar De Bruijn	Canada
Griff Godwin	USA
Ken Jacob	India
Martin Kagan	South Africa
Arturo Martinez	Mexico
Antonio Rodriguez	Spain

BASS

Didier Bedel	France
Steve Colvin	USA
Padmanabha Iyengar	India
Esteban Papanicolau	Brazil
Brad Pingel	USA
Roger Siemens	USA

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Jonas Arvidsson
Tom Cole
Steve Colvin and Frances Johnson
Gunnar and Sheri De Bruijn
Adiaha Franklin
Griff and Dinah Godwin
Eileen Gu
Ken Jacob
Olivera Jankovska
Martin Kagan
Nancy Kerby
Ralph Krog
Kelly Levitt
Renata Lyons
Randi Martin
Barbara W McKinley
Marnie Medina
Emily Medley
Silje Nordas
Lee-Ann Notice
Rosemary Pachter
Esteban and Maria Alice Papanicolau
Joshua Peter
Leslie Rognstad
Luis Roche-Uson
Mia Schep
Roger and Geneva Siemens
Laverne Smith
Anna Tseng

SUPPORTERS

Become part of our growing family of supporters! To contribute, audition, or join our email list, please visit us online at voiceshouston.org.

RECURRING GIFTS

Anthony Adam
Henry Jones
Doreen Lee
Randi Martin
Barbara McKinley
Lindsay and Duane Reilly
Mark Vogel
Steve Yocom

2021 DONORS

Constance Acosta
Amazon Smile
Lisa Arnold
Bank of America Matching Gift
on behalf of Adam Loveless
James Barham
Jaynee Beach
Glen Carter
Patricia Clogston
Ashley Day
Patricia Denson
Nancy Edwards
Emerson
Irvin Gerber
Peter Gingiss
Isa Ginsberg
Greater Twin Cities United Way
Caroline Hendryx
Stacey Hoppenstein
Houston Arts Alliance
Interfaith Ministries
Sara Jacobson
JP Morgan Chase Matching Gift
on behalf of Ken Jacob
Mitra Kia
Maria Korn-Michael
Adam and Jennifer Loveless
Douglas Markham
Elvira Marrero
Kathleen Miller
Lisa Pollard
Collette Robichau
Carolyn Ross
Deborah Rotter
Shell Matching Gift Program
Eileen Shinn
Lawrence Stern
Terry Stierman
Jeanne Stinchcomb
Linda Udelhoven
Anita Woods
Sharon Yonkee



**FUNDED IN PART BY
THE CITY OF HOUSTON
THROUGH HOUSTON ARTS ALLIANCE**

GIVING TUESDAY 2021 DONORS

Tony Adam
James F Andrews
Samiye Ardıc
Susie Askanase
Scott Avant
Jeff and Dr. Karen Basen-Engquist
Antoinette Boecker
Carly Cappozzo
Terry and Bev Cappozzo
Glen Carter
Scott Chmiel
Meryl Cohen
Thomas R Cole
Steve Colvin and Frances Johnson
Emily Deakins
Gunnar and Sheri De Bruijn
Sarah Dietrich
Peter Egan
Gary Edmondson
Catherine Edwards
Nancy Edwards
Ramez Farag
Judith Forbes
Fredı Bleeker Franks
Stuart Gaylor
Eileen Gu
Oguzhan Guven
Helen Hastings
Kat Hastings
Hazel Heddings
Brad Hill
Warren and Marsha Holleman
Karen Hurwitz
Pamela Kellet
Vera Kellet
Sung Kim
Bruce Krell
David Lamden
Isabel Martinez Leal
Maite Martinez Leal
Carolyn Leap
Shirley Leith
Rona Lesser
Isabelle Lipschutz
Joni Lipkowitz
Adam and Jennifer Loveless
Randi Martin

Nancy McCreary
James F McGehee
Barbara McKinley
Beverly McPhail
Bonnie Milne
Suzanne Mitchell and Richard Zansitis
Jon Naylor
Susan Nerlove
Richard Orton
Rosemary Pachter
Janet Pozmantier
Christine and Joseph Procido
Glenda Elaine Redworth
Robert and Nancy Reid
Lindsay and Duane Reilly
Wendy Rodewald
Rodney Roth
Rita Saylor, Karen Saylor,
Thorpe Butler
Joshua Septimus
Ned Sheats
Barbara Shepard
Geneva and Roger Siemens
Nancy Smith
Teran Smith
Ashabari Sprenger
Susan Steinhardt
Katie Stewart
Dale Thomas
Natalia Todorova
Lisa Tynan
Anthony Udelhoven
Wendy Van Syckle
Bonnie Vegiard
Mark Vogel
Philip Wood
Anonymous Donors

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Our title song, "The Gift of Music" asks the question:

If you could have any gift, any treasure, then what would it be?

Well, for this choir, the answer can be found within this evening's program of beautiful melodies that we hope will deliver our gift of music to you. Indeed, music is a gift - a gift that we appreciate more than ever after the past two years of being away from this concert stage. But our choir has remained strong, venturing into new territory with virtual concerts featuring artistic collaboration that occurred without ever being together in the same room at the same time. We are grateful for the wonders of technology that allowed us to continue to make music, but it never compared to being together in person, singing with our dear friends at our side.

This evening's program begins with the soothing sounds of the Austrian carol, "Still, Still, Still." Consider this to be a warm hug from the choir, welcoming you back, and reminding you that this choir is "still" here. We continue with "Fum, Fum, Fum" the dazzling carol from Spain celebrating the 25th of December (veinticinco de diciembre). Next, we visit Nigeria, with a pair of songs delivered in the Yoruba language. "Mojuba" honors those who have passed, while "Betelehemu" celebrates new life, singing of the babe in Bethlehem. Continuing with that theme, the delightful Venezuelan carol, "El Burrito Sabanero," sings of a donkey's journey to Bethlehem.

"A lamp that kept on burning, a miracle, they say..." These words from "The Chanukah Song (We Are Lights)" celebrate the eight nights of the Jewish holiday, and they also speak to the enduring spirit of our singers who have stayed resilient during these past two difficult years. Next, a small group of singers remind us of the precious gifts that we all enjoy, when they sing:

*'Tis a gift to be hopeful, 'tis a gift to be true.
'Tis a gift to find the joy that lives in you.
And when you find your voice, when you sing your song,
You give others the courage to sing along.*

The first virtual recording that we made in 2020 was our own original, multilingual arrangement of "Dona Nobis Pacem," affirming our commitment to "peace" no matter what language you speak. It is truly a gift to be able to sing this special song, in person, for you this evening. Next, we travel to the wintery landscape of northern Asia/Europe, with the Russian-inspired "The Sleigh," followed by an instrumental delight from the Russian masterpiece, The Nutcracker.

Our program begins to come to a close with a song that melds our virtual work with our return to the concert stage. "Thankful" was recorded in May of this year, combining the talents of over 120 musicians, including singers from all over the world, as well as the talented instrumentalists from the Texas Medical Center Orchestra. And this song of gratitude takes us back to our theme, as we close with music that celebrates this "Gift of Music" that we are so grateful for.

*May your soul have the gift of music,
May your heart be inspired with song;
Every day that you spend with music
Is the best day, the best new day of the year.*

Mark Vogel, Artistic Director

THE GIFT OF MUSIC CONCERT PROGRAM

International Voices Houston

Mark Vogel, Artistic Director

Paul Butt, piano

Jeff Gleason, percussion

Grace Liao, violin

Still Still Still

Austria

Brendan Emig, soloist

Austrian Carol

arr. Norman Luboff

Fum, Fum, Fum

Spain

Catalan Carol

arr. Earlene Rentz

Mojuba

Nigeria

Yoruban folk song

Betelehemu

Nigeria

by Via Olatunji and Wendell Whalum

arr. Barrington Brooks

El Burrito Sabanero

Venezuela

by Hugo Blanco

arr. Cristi Cary Miller

The Chanukah Song (We Are Lights)

by Stephen Schwartz and Steve Young

arr. Ryan Nowlin

Dona Nobis Pacem

Traditional

arr. Mark Vogel

Simple Gifts

Traditional Shaker Song

arr. Mark Burrows

*Tony Adam, Mariah Almack, Brendan Emig, Kat Hastings, Jenny Jou, Yessica Krozel,
Michael Madrid, Alexander Martinez, Clemente Mathis, Jennifer Parrish,
Dale Thomas, Nick Ytuarte*

Trepak (Russian Dance) from *The Nutcracker*

Russia

Paul Butt & Mark Vogel

by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

arr. E. Langer

The Sleigh (À la Russe)

by Richard Kountz

arr. W. Riegger

Thankful

by Carole Bayer Sager, David Foster and Richard Page

arr. Mark Hayes

featuring The Texas Medical Center Orchestra

Libi Lebel, conductor

with soloists: Jael Miller, Didier Bedel, Carly Cappozzo, Yue Jiang and Lindsay Reilly

The Gift of Music

Michael Madrid, soloist

by John Rutter

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

by Eddie Pola and George Wyle

arr. Alan Billingsley

Still Still Still

Sung in English and Austrian

Still, still, still,
one can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping,
Holy Star its vigil keeping,
Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.

Still, still, still,
weil's Kindlein schlafen will!
Die Engel tun schön jublieren,
Bei dem Kripplein musizieren.
Stille, stille, stille,
Weil's Kindlein schlafen will.

*Still, still, still,
for the little child wants wants to sleep!
The angels are making beautiful music,
celebrating the little child
Still, still, still,
for the little child wants to sleep.*

Dream, dream, dream
of the joyous day to come.
While guardian angels without number
Watch you as you sweetly slumber.
Dream, dream, dream
of the joyous day to come.

Fum, Fum, Fum

Sung in Spanish

Veinticinco de diciembre
Fum, fum, fum
Como un sol nació Jesús
Radiando luz, radiando luz
De María era hijo,
Un establo fue su cuna
Fum, fum, fum

*Twenty-fifth of December
Fum, fum, fum
Like the sun Jesus was born
Radiating light, radiating light
He was the son of Mary,
A stable was his crib
Fum, fum, fum*

Venid, venid pastorcitos
Fum, fum, fum
Venid, con la pandereta
Y castañuelas al portal
Y adorad al del cielo
Que ha aparecido en suelo
Fum, fum, fum

*Come, come shepherd boys
Fum, fum, fum
Come, with tambourines
And castanets to the Nativity
And adore the one from heaven
That appeared on earth
Fum, fum, fum*

Mojuba

Sung in Yoruba

Mojuba eff'feiku,
mojuba eff'feiku.
I kuo, I kuo,
ayentila tijo baegungun.

*Hearing the ancestors' voices
on the gentle winds and
going across the river of death
to dance before the council of elders.*

Betelehemu

Sung in Yoruba

Awa yi o ri Baba
gbo-jule.
Awa yi o ri Baba
fehenti.

*We are glad that we have a
Father to trust.*

*We are glad that we have a
Father to rely upon.*

Nibo la bi Jesu,
Nibo la-gbe bi-i

*Where was Jesus born?
Where was He born?*

Betelehemu ilu ara,
Nibe labi Baba o daju

*Bethlehem, the city of wonder.
That is where the he was born.*

I-yin, I-yin, I-yin, nifuno,
Adupe fun o, Adupe fun o,
Adupe fun o jo-o-ni, Baba oloreo.

*Praise, praise, praise be to Him.
We thank Thee, we thank Thee,
We thank Thee for this day,*

I-yin fun o Baba, I-yin fun o Baba,
I-yin fun o Baba anu,
Baba toda wasi.

*Gracious Father.
Praise, praise, praise be to Thee,
Merciful Father.*

El Burrito Sabanero

Sung in Spanish

Con mi burrito sabanero
voy camino de Belén.

Si me ven, si me ven,
voy camino de Belén.

Con mi cuatrico voy cantando
mi burrito va trotando.

Si me ven, si me ven,
voy camino de Belén.

*With my savannah donkey,
I am on my way to Bethlehem.*

*If they see me,
I am on my way.*

*With my little guitar, I go singing.
My little donkey goes trotting.*

*If they see me,
I am on my way.*

Tuqui Tuqui Tuqui Tuqui
Tuqui Tuqui Tuquita.

Apúrate mi burrito
que ya vamos a llegar.

Tuqui Tuqui Tuqui Tuqui
Tuqui Tuqui Tuquita.

Apúrate mi burrito
vamos a ver a Jesus.

*Clip clop, clip clop,
clip clop, clip clop.*

*Hurry up, little donkey.
We'll get there already.*

*Clip clop, clip clop,
clip clop, clip clop.*

*Hurry up, little donkey.
We are going to see Jesus.*

The Chanukah Song (We Are Lights)

A lamp that kept on burning, a miracle they say;

But the world has kept on turning, are there miracles today?

Ev'ryone who lights the candles has a but of ancient spark;

We are miracles lighting up the dark.

We are lights, lights of mem'ry, remembering times long gone.

We are glowing, growing miracles.

We are lights, we are lights.

We are lights shining on and on.

A row of burning candles shines light upon your face,

Linking you and me and all of us to a far off holy place

But the blazing of the candles is not the only light.

Look at all of us shining here tonight.

We are lights, lights of mem'ry, remembering times long gone.

We are part of the Chanukah miracle. We are lights, we are lights.

We are lights shining on.

Dona Nobis Pacem

Latin: Dona nobis pacem

French: Donne-nous la paix

Hindi: Hamey shaanti pradaan karen

Mandarin: Cìgěi wǒmén hépíng

Translation: *Grant us peace*

Simple Gifts

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free.
'Tis a gift to come down where we ought to be.
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

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

'Tis a gift to be loving, 'tis a gift to be light.
'Tis a gift to be a beacon in the night.
And when you shine your light, it will be a guide,
Leading others to share their own light inside.

'Tis a gift to be hopeful, 'tis a gift to be true.
'Tis a gift to find the joy that lives in you.
And when you find your voice, when you sing your song,
You give others the courage to sing along.

The Sleigh (Á la Russe)

Lightly flying o'er the snow,
With a hey, hah, hah, ho, hah, hah!
With sleighbells ringing ho, hah
Gaily singing, Merrily we go.

All the world a blanket white
Of snow so cold, crisp and light,
With sharp winds blowing, we are going
Onward through the night.

Thankful

Some days we forget to look around us.
Some days we can't see the joy that surrounds us.
So caught up inside ourselves, we take when we should give.

So for tonight we pray for what we know can be.
And on this day we hope for what we still can't see.
It's up to us to be the change
And even though we all can still do more,
There's so much to be thankful for.

Look beyond ourselves, there's so much sorrow.
It's way too late to say, "I'll cry tomorrow."
Each of us must find our truth; it's so long overdue.

Even with our differences, there is a place we're all connected.
Each of us can find each other's light.

The Gift of Music

If you could have any gift, any treasure,
Taste any pleasure, then what would it be?
Search the wide world high and low for an answer,
Over the mountains and down to the sea.

Would you wish for youth and beauty, or wealth to make a show?
Or power and position and strength? Oh no:
For your youth it will vanish, and beauty will fade,
And your wealth and position are all just passing parade.

May your soul have the gift of music,
May your heart be inspired with song;
May the echoes remain in your memory
Like a friendship that lasts your whole life long.
When your joy is the joy of music,
All the magical sounds you hear,
Every day that you spend with music
Is the best day, the best new day of the year.

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

It's the most wonderful time of the year,
With the kids jingle belling,
and everyone telling you, "Be of good cheer."
It's the most wonderful time of the year.

It's the hap-happiest season of all
With those holiday greetings,
And gay happymeetings when friends come to call.
It's the hap-happiest season of all.

There'll be parties for hosting,
Marshmallows for toasting
And caroling out in the snow.
There'll be scary ghost stories
And tales of the glories
Of Christmases long, long ago.
It's the most wonderful time of the year.
There'll be much mistle-toeing
And hearts will be glowing when loved ones are near.
It's the most wonderful time of the year.

INTERNATIONAL VOICES HOUSTON LEADERSHIP

ARTISTIC STAFF

Artistic Director	Mark Vogel
Accompanist	Paul Butt

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lindsay Reilly, President
Tony Adam, Vice President
Doreen Lee, Secretary
Drew McDiarmid, Treasurer
Sowmya Balasubramani
Jeff Basen-Engquist
Alexis Mobley

MEMBERSHIP, AUDITIONS, SECTION REPRESENTATIVES

Membership	Dale Thomas
Auditions Coordinator	Lindsay Reilly
Alto 1 Representative	Birnur Guven
Alto 2 Representative	Lisa Tynan
Bass Representative	Tony Adam
Soprano 1 Representative	Mariah Almack
Soprano 2 Representative	Bonnie Milne
Tenor Representative	Alexander Martinez

ADMINISTRATIVE

Music Librarian	Rosemary Pachter
Music Librarian	Sue Steinhardt
Culture and Community	Sowmya Balasubramani
Social Coordinator	Sowmya Balasubramani
Social Media Coordinator	Alexis Mobley
Website Administrator	Tushar Patel

FINANCE

Finance	Drew McDiarmid
Bookkeeper	Beverly Ladnier



*Global Harmony
made possible by supporters
like you!*



Scan to Support International Voices Houston



International
VoicesHouston

COMING TO MATCH IN 2022

The Road Home

March 11th & 12th

At The Movies:

From Hollywood To Bollywood

June 18th & 19th