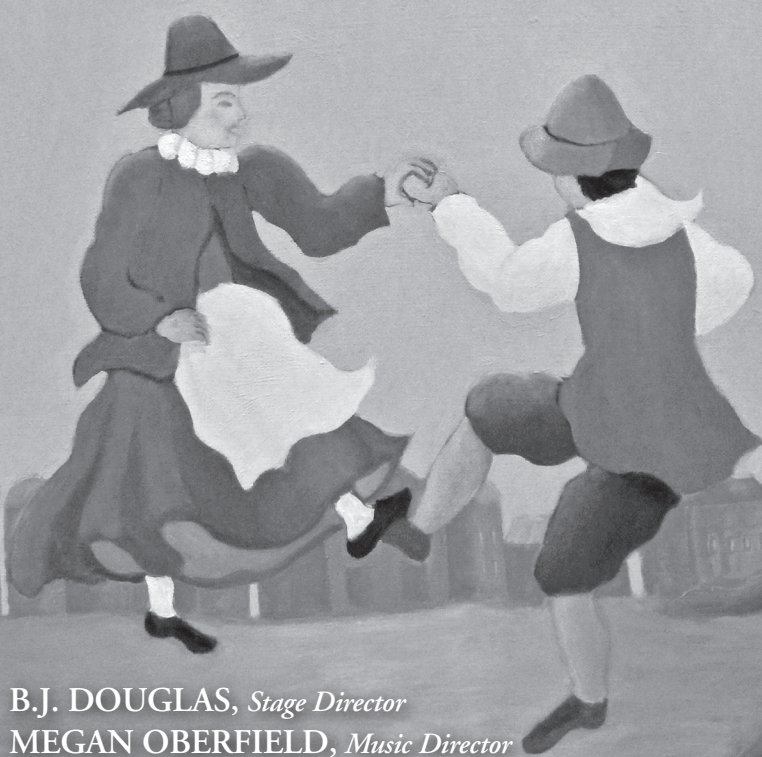


PUGET SOUND
REVELS *presents*

THE CHRISTMAS REVELS[®]



B.J. DOUGLAS, *Stage Director*
MEGAN OBERFIELD, *Music Director*

A celebration of the **WINTER SOLSTICE** — with traditional
music, dance and drama — this year set in an English village

Featuring **TONY CURRY**

2018 PERFORMANCES:

Saturday, December 15, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

Sunday, December 16, 1:00pm, 5:30pm (*ASL interpreted*)

Tuesday, December 18, 7:30pm

Wednesday, December 19, 7:30pm

RIALTO THEATER, Downtown Tacoma





Over 25 YEARS of REVELING

Welcome, welcome to *The Christmas Revels*. We're back in jolly old England this year (mid 17th century) after last year's wonderful pilgrimage in Northern Spain. This year's show took shape last spring as B.J. Douglas (*director extraordinaire*) became intrigued and delighted by several old folk tales. Inspired by these tales, she and Megan Oberfield (*music director extraordinaire*) put song, dance, and story to work for us, so we can now all gather together in the Rialto as a celebrating community. We celebrate with hilarity, because laughter binds us together. We celebrate with song because songs can carry our sorrows and joys, fears and exultations. They can move us, transform us, or simply make what is hard bearable. They announce our humanness. We celebrate with stories because the world is made of stories, not atoms,* don't you know? So, we share them, carry them, treasure them – all to keep our hearts sturdy and to let them renew us, so we can renew our community and our world. And so we celebrate, this year, and every year...

WELCOME YULE!

*from poet Muriel Rukeyser

If *The Christmas Revels* and our other events enliven your year, there's a fellow to thank for that. From 1992 until now, he has nurtured Puget Sound Revels along in more ways than will fit in this little box (even a big box couldn't do the job). **THANK YOU, LUTHER BLACK.** Thank you for standing so steadfastly and clearly for community, celebration, and traditions of song, dance, and story.



THE CHRISTMAS REVELS®

***No photos or recording during the performance please.
Persons doing so will be handed over to the hobgoblin.***

PART ONE

1. Overture

Almand from Elizabethan Dance Suite by Anthony Holborne (c.1545-1602), a composer of English consort music during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

SEATTLE BRASS ENSEMBLE

2. Nowel, Owt of Your Slepe Aryse

This anonymous carol with text in Middle English is from a 15th c. manuscript in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (Selden B. 26). It is part of the extensive library of John Selden (1584-1654), an English jurist and scholar.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

VILLAGE NIPPERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

3. Bring Us In Good Ale

A medieval English drinking song based on a the much earlier *Salutation Carol* and extolling the virtues of the English beverage of choice. For the medieval man, convivial drinking was a part of life, and drinks were enjoyed with nearly every meal. In this song, singers jocularly excuse themselves from mutton, beef, and tripe and instead stand firm in their call for their favorite drink. This arrangement is by Shira Kammen.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

4. Three Harks / Hark the Herald Angels Sing

From the singing of the Beeston Methodist Carol Choir (Nottingham, England). The carol is central to tradition, with words by Charles Wesley. Composer of the music is not known. Versions are also sung at Foolow and Coal Aston in Derbyshire, Gotham in Nottinghamshire and Hungarton in Leicestershire.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

VILLAGE NIPPERS

SEATTLE BRASS ENSEMBLE

~ ALL SING ~

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored:
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see;
Hail, th'incarnate Deity:
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail! the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail! the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die:
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

5. We've Been Awhile A-Wandering

... is one of many carols sung by street waits, particularly children, from house to house on Christmas Eve. This tune from Yorkshire is a close variant of the well-known tune for "God Rest You Merry."

VILLAGE NIPPERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

6. A Christmas Carol

Originally a carol was a song for singing and dancing. The tune for this "Christmas Carol" is *Dick's Maggot* from John Playford's *The English Dancing Master*. Maggot describes a particularly insistent tune that 'burrows into your brain' and can't be forgotten. The modern lyrics (*Traveler's Tales*) by Paul Wigmore make it into a true carol.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

VILLAGE NIPPERS

YULE COMEN CHORUS DANCERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS



7. The Marriage of the Frogge and the Mouse

This early version of *Frog Went a 'Courtin'* was first published in 1611 by Thomas Ravenscroft (c. 1588-1635) who is known for his rounds and catches, and for his early compilations of British folk music. The story has roots in an Aesop fable and has enjoyed much embellishment and variation over its 500+ year lifespan.

VILLAGE NIPPERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

AIDA LOWIN, *Frog*, ALLISON CARLISLE, *Mouse*

JOSIE CRANE, *Rat*, BENJAMIN TOEWS, *Drake*, JESSIE WHEELER, *Cat*

8. Holly and His Merry Men

This late medieval text was set to music by John Fleagle. In many songs and poems, holly and ivy carry on a debate to determine who rules. The victor differs from song to song.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

VILLAGE NIPPERS

9. Toss the Pot

Another from Thomas Ravenscroft. Beer or ale was customarily served in ceramic pots. So, saying "toss the pot" was slang for drinking. A "tossipot" was a person who copiously 'tossed back' such pots of beer.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

DEBBIE BIRKEY, LOREN KELLEY, AMANDA FRANZMAN,

GEORGE EDMAN, BRIAN FRANZMAN, MARK O'KELLY, *Soloists*

10. Jolly Old Hawk

An unusual variant of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," we present this traditional song as sung by the Waterson family of Yorkshire. At a pub gathering, this forfeit song could be a test of one's quickness and memory – a mistake might cost the singer a round of beer!

YULE COMEN MEN

11. Ballet de Village by Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1689 – 1755)

Bodin de Boismortier was one of the first composers to have no patron. He made a fortune engraving and publishing his own music for almost every combination of instruments. This rondeau was originally written for two hurdy-gurdies or bagpipes. The English court adopted the French penchant for pretending to be "rustic".

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

12. Lord of Misrule

At our Revels, as in medieval times during the Feast of Fools, a Lord of Misrule is chosen from the "common folk" to preside in the topsy-turvy fashion over the celebration.

13. Apple Tree Wassail

This wassail ritual, performed by firelight, ensured new growth in the fruit trees. Bits of bread, dipped in old cider were affixed to the branches and the roots well watered with the same. Singing and dancing was punctuated with loud banging noises and shouts to drive away evil spirits. This variant from Somerset reflects the early origin of the *carol* which involved taking hands and singing while dancing in a ring around a bush or tree. Arranged by Alice Parker for Revels.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

VILLAGE NIPPERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

14. Green Growth the Holly

King Henry VIII, however notorious in other aspects of life, was an enthusiastic patron of the arts, and a poet and composer in his own right. This song is attributed to him and has multiple sets of lyrics for specific occasions. The tune comes to us from a British Museum manuscript dating to 1515. Arrangement by Shira Kammen.

VILLAGE NIPPERS

YULE COMEN CHORUS

ANNA SMITH, JESSIE WHEELER, *Soloists*

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

DEBBIE BIRKEY, MATT BOYCE, SOPHIE CLEMENTS, SARAH COMER, *Ensemble*

15. Ruffy Tufty

This melody with dance instructions for sets of two couples was published by John Playford in his *English Dancing Master* (1651), but was dropped from the editions after the first volume. Ruffy-Tufty is an early 17th century term meaning rumbustious, boisterous, rough, tough. However rambunctiously the dance was once danced, it seems to have been smoothed by time and interpretation.

YULE COMEN CHORUS DANCERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

16. The Weardale Fairies – Part One

Our version of an old English folk tale collected by Sybil Marshall in her award-winning book, *Everyman's Book of English Folk Tales*.

TONY CURRY

SARAH COMER

KELSEY BOYCE

CLAIRE KELLER-SCHOLZ

17. Sleep, Fleshly Birth

Text was written by an unknown poet for Henry, Prince of Wales, who tragically died in 1612. Music composed by Robert Ramsey (c. 1590-1644).

YULE COMEN CHORUS

18. Lord of the Dance

Part one closes, as it does every year, with Sidney Carter's contemporary lyrics to the Shaker song "Simple Gifts." The choreography by Jonathan Morse, Martin Graetz, and Carol Langstaff, is a compilation of Morris steps from various Cotswold village traditions.

MARK O'KELLY, *Singer*

LOREN KELLEY, ANN VANDERPOOL-KIMURA, *Dancers*

SEATTLE BRASS ENSEMBLE

~ ALL SING & DANCE! ~

Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

INTERMISSION

(15-minutes)



PART TWO

19. Abbots Bromley Horn Dance

This ritual dance for good luck in the hunt is to this day danced annually in the little village of Abbots Bromley, England. It is believed to be the oldest folk dance in Britain. Carbon dating of the reindeer antlers used in Abbots Bromley dates them to 900 CE, about the time of the Danish invasion. Its four supernumerary characters – the Folk Fool, the Man-Woman (Maid Marian), the Hobby Horse, the Boy Archer – link it with the mumming traditions of Christmas.

BRAD CLOVEN, GEORGE EDMAN,

CARL TOEWS, *Maid Marian*

BRIAN FRANZMAN, LOREN KELLEY,

BENJAMIN TOEWS, *Boy Archer*

DANIEL NESHYBA-ROWE, MARK O'KELLY

CHASE TAKATA, *Alternate Boy Archer*

MATT BOYCE, *Fool*

BEN NEUBAUER, *Vielle*

ISAAC BRANDT, *Hobby Horse*

STEVEN NESHYBA, *Dance Coach*

20. She Weepeth Sore in the Night

"She weepeth sore" by William Lawes (1602-1645) is based on texts from the Lamentations of Jeremiah, but it is thought that Lawes may have been inspired by the citation of this particular passage during an outbreak of the plague in London in 1626.

MEGAN OBERFIELD, MARK O'KELLY, *Soloists*

YULE COMEN CHORUS

21. The Weardale Fairies – Conclusion

22. Wassail Carol from Gloucestershire

Coming from the Anglo-Saxon “wes hal,” the word wassail means “be whole” - a greeting for good health! The wassailers travelled from house to house singing, with a wassail cup their hosts were expected to fill.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

SEATTLE BRASS ENSEMBLE

23. Nowel Syng We Bothe Al and Some

A medieval processional carol with beautiful early English lyrics, found in the Selden B. 26 Manuscript at the Bodleian Library. A tribute to its popularity at the time is that it is also found in a number of other 15th c. manuscripts.

KELSEY BOYCE, MATT BOYCE, BRAD CLOVEN, HEATHER URSCHEL,

NICK DUPONT, NICOLE MULHAUSEN, *Soloists*

YULE COMEN CHORUS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

24. Dame Get Up and Bake Your Pies

A dance-game in the tradition of the medieval carol, this tune, which could be found in many parts of England by the 18th century, is related to “Greensleeves” and is said to have originated much earlier.

VILLAGE NIPPERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

25. Up and Down

Another round from the Ravenscroft collections. The words are spoken by Puck in Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

VILLAGE NIPPERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

26. Now Is Yule Comen

A strange Medieval carol where Christmas and New Year are referred to as beings, and the narrator says if you aren’t happy about Christmas, he hopes you fall in a ditch. Arranged by Shira Kammen.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

JACOB BREEDLOVE & BEN NEUBAUER, *Soloists*

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

27. Dances by Anthony Holborne

Three dances – *Heigh Ho Holiday*, *The Choice*, and *Muy Linda* – by Holborne who was a highly esteemed composer in his own day. A recording of one of his most famous dances, *The Faerie Round*, was sent into space on Voyagers 1 and 2. He died of a cold.

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

28. Dargason

Another English country dance from Playford’s *The English Dancing Master*.

YULE COMEN CHORUS DANCERS

TWIMBLE TUNESTERS

29. 12 Days of Christmas

A traditional English “forfeit” carol.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

VILLAGE NIPPERS

SEATTLE BRASS ENSEMBLE

~ ALL SING ~

On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

A partridge in a pear tree.

Seven swans a-swimming...

Two turtle doves...

Eight maids a-milking...

Three french hens...

Nine ladies dancing...

Four calling birds...

Ten lords a-leaping...

Five gold rings...

Eleven pipers piping...

Six geese a-laying...

Twelve drummers drumming...

30. Dona Nobis (Grant Us Peace)

The origin of this melody is unknown. It is a round for peace.

THE WHOLE COMPANY

~ ALL SING ~

1. 
Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem,

2. 
Do - na no - bis pa - cem,

3. 
Do - na no - bis - pa - cem,


Do - na - no - bis pa - cem.


do - na no - bis pa - cem.


do - na no - bis pa - cem.

31. Mummers Play

A version of the traditional mummers play, which celebrates the rites of fertility, death and rebirth. The sword dance and ritual execution survive from a time when the death of the hero or "Year King" was considered necessary to ensure fertility. The "lock" formed by the dancers' swords symbolizes the sun and the cutting down of the old so the new can spring to life.

THE ALL-OUT-OF-SORTS MUMMERS

STAB-IN-THE-DARK SWORD TEAM

SEATTLE BRASS ENSEMBLE



32. This Day Christ Is Born

This appears as *A Carol For Christmas Day* in William Byrd's (c. 1539-1623) *Psalms, Songs and Sonnets: some solemne, others joyfull, framed to the life of the Words: Fit for Voyces or Viols of 3, 4, 5, and 6 parts*, printed at London in 1611.

YULE COMEN CHORUS

33 Shortest Day

Written for Revels by author Susan Cooper in 1977, this poem is part of every *Christmas Revels* throughout the country.

MARK O'KELLY

~ ALL SHOUT: WELCOME YULE! ~

34. Sussex Mummers Carol

Traditionally sung by the Christmas Mummers in the Horsham district of Sussex, England, this carol has become a *Christmas Revels* tradition. It provides the final moment of singing each year in all the *Christmas Revels* performances across the country. The brass arrangement is by Brian Holmes, with descant and final verse harmonization by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

THE WHOLE COMPANY

~ ALL SING ~



God_ bless the Mas - ter_ of this house with_
God_ bless the Mis - tress of this house with_
God_ bless your house, your chil - dren too, your_



hap - pi - ness be - side; Where - e'er his bo - dy
gold chain round her__ breast; Where - e'er her bo - dy
cat - tle and your__ store; The Lord in - crease you



rides or__ walks, his God must be his
sleeps or__ wakes, Lord send her soul to
day by__ day, and send you more and



guide, __ his God __ must __ be __ his guide.
rest, __ Lord send __ her __ soul __ to rest.
more, __ and send __ you __ more __ and more.

WELCOME YULE!

THE PLAYERS

Yule Comen Chorus

Debbie Birkey
Kelsey Boyce*+^
Matt Boyce*+^
Cindy Brandt*+^
Isaac Brandt* §^
Tanya Carter* §^
Ruth Chaffee*^
Sophie Clements*+^
Brad Cloven*+^ §
Sarah Comer*+^
Nick Dupont, *Mayor*
George Edman*+^ §
Amanda Franzman +^
Brian Franzman*+^
Claire Keller-Scholz*+^
Loren Kelley*+^ §, *Sword*
Dance Coach
Bob Matthews

Twimble Tunesters

*Playing: hurdy-gurdy, bass rebec,
viola da gamba, schryarpfief,
krumhorn, recorder, krumhorn,
vielle, violin, viola*
Jacob Breedlove, *musician and
puppet maker*
Esther Saulle
Ben Neubauer
Denali Williams, *percussion*

Nicole Mulhausen^
Daniel Neshyba-Rowe*+^
Megan Oberfield*+^, *Song*
Leader

Mark O'Kelly, *Thomas**+^
Kati Perez
Grace Rawsthorne*^
Shirley Schultz*+^ §
Laura Strong*^
Rosemary Sissel*+^
Carl Toews ^
Heather Urschel
Ann Vanderpool-Kimura*
Jackie Walton* §
** Dancers for Dick's Maggot
+Dancers for Ruffy Tufty
^Dancers for Dargason
§ Stab-in-the-Dark Sword Team*

Seattle Brass Ensemble

Paul Evans, *tuba*
Laurie Heidt, *horn*
Michael Leavens, *trumpet*
Ben McDonald, *trumpet*
Ryan Wagner, *trombone*
Denali Williams, *timpani*
Paul Bert, Christine Osness,
ASL Interpreters

Village Nippers

Gretchen Bonea
Katie Brandt
Allison Carlisle
Josie Crane
Hanna Grinstead
Ingrid Grinstead
Satoko Kimura
Aida Lowin-Thomas
Mia Matos
Katie McCarter
Lula Sissel
Anna Smith
Chase Takata
Benjamin Toews
Eleanor Veeck
Jessie Wheeler

All-Out-of-Sorts Mummies

Tony Curry, *Doctor*
Matt Boyce, *Johnny Jack*
Cindy Brandt, Katie Brandt,
Benjamin Toews, Chase
Takata, *Dragon & Tail*
Brian Franzman, *St. George*
Bob Matthews, *Father Christmas*
Carl Toews, *Room*

Supernumeraries

Caroline McCarter, *Fairy*
Maya Crane, *Hobgoblin*

Guest Artist

Tony Curry



PRODUCTION TEAM

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Megan Oberfield..... Music Director
Gail Thomason..... Stage Manager
Julia Collier..... Assistant Stage Manager
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Stephanie Poire..... Costume Assistants
Sass Ruthven, Christie Smith..... Stitchers
Martin Christoffel..... Set Designer
Mark Thomason..... Lighting Designer
Arlee Hall..... Props Master & Designer
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Rich Tocher..... Tacoma Arts Live
Production Manager
Ross Mulhausen..... Photographer
Mary Lynn..... Producer

*All stage work is performed by employees
represented by I.A.T.S.E. local 15.*

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We've got plans!

Add your volunteer energy and enthusiasm to an event.

Contact us: psrevels@pugetsoundrevels.org

FEBRUARY/MARCH.....**Online Auction**

MARCH 20**Spring Sing**

Adult and Children's Christmas Revels auditions are in the spring.

If you are interested, make sure we have your email address.

MAY 1**May Day Singing, dancing and flower-crown making at Wright Park**

MAY 11.....**Brunch at Ballroom Square**

JUNE 21.....**Summer Solstice Celebration**

SEPTEMBER 2**Abbots Bromliad**

SEPTEMBER 19**Tacoma Sings on the Bridge of Glass**

OCTOBER**Arts Month Concert**

DECEMBER 14-18**The Christmas Revels**



THANK YOU...

People who volunteer – you know who you are – are the lifeblood of a small non-profit (Puget Sound Revels, for instance!), but more importantly as these big-hearted folks add time, energy, talent and enthusiasm to various worthy enterprises they build up our whole community. Thank you all for increasing the circle of community as you enable Puget Sound Revels to enliven the community with traditions of song, dance, and story. Many people listed below have helped in multiple ways - hauling, singing, organizing, stuffing, welcoming, decorating, dishwashing, building, cooking, selling, setting up and tearing down, handwriting and more.... Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you to Puget Sound Revels' board members – a more impressive stout-hearted bunch of joy-flingers there never has been. Thank you to: Carrie Alger, Cynthia Anthony, Barbara Ball, Kay Balston, Gail Berry, Debbie & Paul Birkey, Luther Black, Nelwyn Brady, Sharon Bruhn, Maggie Brunger, Mary Lynn Buss, Lynnette & Kessa Claire-Woldt, Colleen Carmean, Mary Liz Chaffee, Ruth Chaffee, Martin Christoffel, Brad & Susan Cloven, Julia Collier, Mike & Kathy Collier, Patti & Ron Cummins, Martha Curwen, Theodora & Chloe Drescher, Lisa Dreyer, Michael Dryfoos, Megan Dykeman, George & Laura Edman, Helen Edwards, MariClaire Eastabrooks, Robin & Stacy Evans-Agnew, Julie Flann, Brian & Amanda Franzman, Hal Geiersbach, Lena Gibson, Karen Goettingling, Stephen Graef, Liesel Graef, Arlee Hall, Deborah Hammond, Nicola Hewitt, Chantal Hulet, Ilga Jansons, Dana Johnson, Emlyn Jones, Loren Kelley, the whole Kimura Family, Steve and Natalie LaBerge, Carolyn Lewis, Martha Lynn, Rikki McGee, Karl & Andrea Michelbach, Richard & Ruth Moore, Kay Nichols, Kim Nichols, Koreena Nunez, Matt & Megan Oberfield, Sandra Olsen, Shawna Ozzvic, Mary Perkins, Kendra Petkau, Mary Kay Quinlan, Lynn Raisl, Tess Roberts, Chris Roe, Susan Schorlemer, Kathy Schuknecht, Shirley Schultz, Mary Shaffstal, Jan Sigurdson, Ron Simons, John Simpkins, Christie Smith, Monty Smith, Sharman Smith, Susan Smith, Laura Strong, Karen Sudderth, Barbara Toews, Ron & Lois Trapp, Susan Troxell, Heather Urschel, Lissa Valentine, Ann Vanderpool-Kimura, Hans Van Dusen, Kimber VanGoda, Debbie Walker, Rae Wartelle, Frances Wartelle, Jana Wennstrom, Chris Wright, Yoshiko Yamamoto, Harlan Zinck.

Thanks to Tacoma Opera for a props loan; to Kathy Grant Davis for a ton of PR help, to Mary Liz Chaffee for office help year round! To Ron Trapp for nourishing the cast all through the fall. Thank you to Belina Interiors for set pieces; thank you Belina Interiors/Paul Birkey, Edman Company/George Edman, and Dale Chesnut for rolling stock. Many thanks to Tacoma Arts Live for all their support of the arts in our community – a special tip of the hat to the box office! Thank you to our sister Revels organizations for all sharing, encouragement and support; and to Revels, Inc. for caring about the Revels community across the country.



Over 25 YEARS of REVELING

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MISSION STATEMENT: *To build community through the arts using traditional music, dance, and drama drawn from many cultures. We offer theater productions, singing opportunities, seasonal celebrations, and educational opportunities for all ages. To learn more, go to pugetsoudrevels.org*

Founded in 1992, we license the name *The Christmas Revels* from Revels, Inc. (Watertown, MA). Companies exist in: Boulder, CO; Hanover, NH; Houston, TX; Oakland, CA; Portland, OR; Tacoma, WA; Santa Barbara, CA; Washington, DC.

