



# VOICEMAIL

October 2011

## New Christmas CD

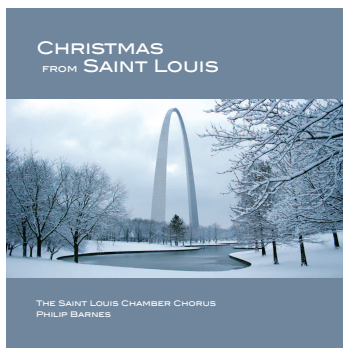
A long awaited companion to our popular CD *A Chamber Christmas* will be released in October. The beautiful cover art of the Arch in snow was by local photographer **Reggie Victor**, and complements the wintry scene in Forest Park used for *A Chamber Christmas*.



Daniel Ruder, Philip Barnes, and Gary Cole at a recording session

*Christmas from Saint Louis* is part of a series of seasonal CDs issued by the British label, Regent Records, one of the most respected 'niche' labels for choral music. This release marks the third collaboration between Regent Records and the SLCC—the positive and fruitful relationship continues.

Regent's chief producer **Gary Cole** flew to St. Louis from England earlier this year and braved our bitter February weather for a series of four sessions. He came to capture the distinctive sound and unusual repertoire of our choir; and with the help of recording engineer **Daniel Ruder**, the results are just stunning. The collection, a blend of familiar carols like *Away in a Manger* with new songs written expressly for the Chamber Chorus in the past few years, is bound to be a favorite for the holiday season.



New Christmas from Saint Louis CD

Found worldwide through various websites and retail outlets, this new disc is also available directly from the SLCC office, or to save shipping costs CDs can be purchased at any upcoming concert.

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# Message from the President

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the opening concert of the 56th season of the St. Louis Chamber Chorus. This season promises to continue the inspired programming and high level of artistic excellence that have earned the Chorus recognition as St. Louis' premier *a cappella* choir. We are delighted to return to the St. Louis Abbey, a favorite venue, to present today's concert, *A City's Song*, the first of our six choral Tributes of this 2011-2012 season.

If you are a returning season subscriber we welcome you back and acknowledge with much appreciation your ongoing support of the Chorus and its mission. If you are a new subscriber we are delighted that you have joined us for the season. If you have not purchased a subscription to all six concerts in our season please consider doing so. As a subscriber you will receive a savings over the cost of individual tickets, a preview letter from Artistic Director Philip Barnes, reserved seating at each concert and ticket exchange privileges. Finally, since we are an itinerant chorus and the number of people who can attend each concert is limited by the space at each venue, only subscribers are guaranteed seats. You will find this of particular benefit at our December 18 and

February 19 concerts, which will be held at the St. Vincent de Paul Chapel and the Schlafly Tap Room, respectively. We are offering two performances of the December 18 concert, at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. so that more people will be able to attend, but we will have a very limited number of seats to make available to the general public for the one performance at the Tap Room, which promises to be a rousing good time.

You can purchase a subscription, individual concert tickets and compact discs on our website, [www.chamberchorus.org](http://www.chamberchorus.org), where you will also find a great deal of interesting information about the St. Louis Chamber Chorus. We're also happy to send you eye-catching email reminders about our concerts. Please see one of the staff at the ticket sales table to have your email address added to our list.

Our next concert, titled *A Mentor's Memory*, will take place on Sunday, November 20 at the 560 Music Center in University City, and I look forward to seeing you there.

*Barbara Uhlemann*  
SLCC President

## Previewing Concerts I and II

This is to be a season of unusual "pairings," from the natural to the provocative, but throughout we'll be looking at texts, and how best to reflect and enhance them through music. We begin by considering a medieval hymn in praise of the heavenly city—Jerusalem—set by various composers, and we complement it with paeans for two other notable cities, Venice and Riga.

Then, in November, we pay our first visit to Washington University's 560 Music Center—the former St. Louis Conservatory of Music—to explore how we remember and celebrate our mentors. We trace a series of Continental tributes, from Gombert recalling Josquin, who in turn recalls Ockeghem, to that composer's lament for Binchois. More recently, a chain of British tributes begins with Parry and ends with Howells. Such intricate connections will be unraveled in the first of our pre-concert discussions, given at 2:30 pm and featuring Washington University professors, **Craig Monson** and **Hugh Macdonald**. This weaving of talk and music certainly supports the Chorus's mission, "not merely to entertain, but to educate and inspire," and follows last spring's presentation at the 'Rock' Church that was so well received.

*Philip Barnes*

## Meet the Singers — Kate Glass

Kate was raised outside Detroit, Michigan in the cities of Royal Oak and Birmingham. From her elementary years, she recalls music being a part of her life. There were regular piano students in their home and her family attended St. James Episcopal Church with its strong commitment to musical liturgy. Her parents both sang in the choir and Kate joined the children's choir at age 7, moving onto its high school choir and ultimately to the adult choir that sang every Sunday.

At 14, Kate took private singing lessons, focusing on art songs and musical theater. She performed with her high school choir and in several high school musicals, as well as a community theater production of *The Sound of Music*.

Kate attended DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana and studied voice for four years. She sang soprano with all three of the University's choirs, including the DePauw University Chorus (similar to the size of SLCC). During her junior year, she studied abroad at Oxford University in England where she joined an *a cappella* women's group called the "Oxford Belles" and studied voice with an English tenor. She spent most Sunday evenings at Evensong in Christ Church and Madgalen Colleges. Between her Episcopal background and falling in love with the sound of an English men and boys choir, her future path to the St. Louis Chamber Chorus was unfolding.

With England fresh in her mind, Kate's senior-year music project was a lecture-recital discussing and performing works by English composers setting English poetry. Kate ultimately double-majored in Music and English Writing with a minor in French. The summer following graduation she performed in nine shows over the course of eleven weeks with the College Light Opera Company on Cape Cod.

At this time, Kate had just met her future husband **Todd**, also a DePauw grad, who was in his third year of medical school at St. Louis University. Not knowing in which of five cities he would "match" with his residency, Kate applied to a variety of graduate programs. When Todd called to let her know he would be completing his residency in the St. John's Mercy OB/GYN program, Kate enrolled in Washington University School of Law!

During law school from 1998 to 2001, Kate had the opportunity to take lessons with **Jolly Stewart** (and most recently with her husband **John Stewart**). She also joined the St. Louis Symphony Chorus. After law school graduation, she auditioned for the St. Louis Chamber Chorus. She had heard of the choir when she first moved to St. Louis, but was concerned that she wouldn't have time to meet its demands before finishing law school. Kate says she was thrilled to obtain an offer as an alternate! "I still clearly remember singing *Mary Madgalen*, by **Sasha Johnson Manning**, during my first concert with the choir. It was as if I were back in college again, surrounded by serious, challenging and beautiful music."



Kate Glass

Although singing with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra had been an unbelievable experience, Kate says "singing with a choir devoted to *a cappella* music felt like home. Little did I know the extent of the challenges ahead! The many languages, difficult rhythms and precarious entrances have given me great respect for the singers by whom I am surrounded. In the process, my vocal and musical skills have significantly improved." Kate says she received a great education from Philip's meticulous attention to the history behind

the music and knows it is a blessing to be part of a choir always striving to reach such high standards.

Ten years and three children later, Kate is still proud to be a member. Kate and Todd will celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary this year. Having taken time off from practicing law to run the household, Kate finds the Chorus a welcome diversion from her otherwise hectic life. **Justin** is now a 7-year-old second-grader, **Tyler** is a 5-year-old kindergartner and 3-year-old daughter **Vida** is a preschooler. Kate will always associate her pregnancies with the various Chamber Chorus seasons when the children were born, especially the one concert each of those years closest to her due date!

Kate, as one of the new co-librarians, looks forward to her new role and learning how the choir acquired such an incredible library. And she will put some of her lawyerly attention-to-detail skills back to work!

*Gill Waltman*

# Noteworthy Notes

## New Recording Engineer

Meet our new recording engineer, **Daniel Ruder**—you may have seen him monitoring his sophisticated equipment at our recent concerts. **Barry Huffker**, our former sound guru, introduced him to us.

Daniel graduated from Webster University in 2006 with a BA in Audio Production. He met Barry Huffker there. They are kindred spirits in their insistence on audio fidelity. Daniel joined the faculty at Webster in 2007, where working with students and building relationships with faculty and staff has been a highlight of the past five years.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Daniel has been interested in music since childhood. His mother's love of Motown instilled a sense of rhythm and groove that he takes with him into every musical project. He was never a vocalist, but started playing guitar at age 11 and has added drums and piano to his instrumental repertoire since then. Daniel has no interest in music made with commercial interests above artistic ones. He tends to listen to whatever he is working on. Music is his greatest love, but he has interests in other disciplines like industrial and furniture design, typography, and woodworking.

Daniel has been recording music since he was a teenager, and at Webster he honed his skills and expanded into working with live sound, location recording, and post-production work for film and video. The majority of his audio work is studio recording, but his love of live recording has really grown since starting with the Chamber Chorus. After Barry's introduction, he recorded his first concert last November at Shaare Emeth. His recordings were of such high quality that he was invited back to record the remainder of the 2010-2011 season, including the upcoming Christmas CD. Working with the Chorus has been enlightening and educational for Daniel. Although his exposure to

## Annual Picnic

We had a great turnout for the annual picnic, which was held at the Windegger Shelter in Tilles Park on August 27th. After weeks of temperatures in the high 90s, the heatwave broke just in time for us to enjoy ourselves in perfect picnic weather. We all look forward to our annual picnic as a great way to become acquainted with the new singers and with the Board members, and to catch up with each other after our summer hiatus. Many thanks to soprano **Kathleen Mead**, her husband **Steve**, and son **Ethan** for helping to set up the picnic site. And many, many thanks to soprano **Jill Clayton** and her husband **John**, and to soprano **Jamille Stolarski** and her husband **Ben** for grilling our burgers, hot dogs, and chicken to perfection!

*Mary Chapman*

chamber music was limited, the Chorus has inspired him to further his knowledge of it. He has worked with all sorts of musicians, but says that working for, and listening to, the Chamber Chorus perform has been an incredibly enjoyable experience for him that he hopes will continue for a long time.



Recording engineer Daniel Ruder with some of his sound equipment

For more information about concerts, tickets or auditions:

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