In the Winter

Dec. 20th 1998
4:00 & 7:00pm

Aurora
Joan Szymko, director
special guest – Judy Fjell

St. Mary’s Academy Auditorium • 1615 SW 5th, Portland


**About Tonight’s Program**

“Ancient story told, renewed with the cold; 
Mystery of light burnt into the night”

- Linda Hirschorn

Each December, many stories are remembered and told: the great Christmas and Hannukah stories; the cosmic story of the Solstice and the movement of our universe; the stories families tell and retell, laugh and cry over when gathered together during the holidays. And then of course there are those classic tales of stage and screen — perennial favorites — that some of us look forward to seeing again year after year. While some find joy in the hustle and bustle and bright lights — others quietly create personal rituals to help them through this season of darkness.

What I love about solstice is that dark is as necessary as light. Nights grow longer and longer until day is almost swallowed... and at that very moment the wheel pivots, and days begin to lengthen, illuminating the dark. It’s an amazing balancing act. During this time of year, I try to experience the natural world’s rhythm and balance within the dark and light of my interior life.

— Anne Rutherford

Tonight, on the eve of the Solstice, Aurora shares an ancient story indeed. It is the winter’s story of death and rebirth, darkness and light; of growing older and finding the wisdom of letting go, thus finding a lightness of being. It is the story of our yearning for good — and of our hopes for peace. A Blessed Holiday Season and Bright New Year to you all!

**Note From CCC President**

No longer can we say the holidays are upon us, because tonight they have arrived! Our hearts are warmed by the glow of Hannukah, Kwaanza, the Solstice and Christmas. What a blessed week! And tonight Aurora adds their light to the festivities. “With light came brilliance into blackness” reads the lyrics from Julie Armstrong and David’s York’s “Return of the Light.” Aurora certainly is a brilliant light as we approach the longest night of the year. I, for one, am glad to be sitting cozily among you as we are gifted with the sound and presence of this incredible choir.

So, sit back, open your hearts and expect to be filled with joy. Take a breath and a moment for yourself. Live in the peace that music can bring. If the holidays are hectic for you, Aurora is just the tonic that you need.

Best Wishes to You and Yours in 1999!

Denise Andersen
President, Concord Council

**CALL 721-0262 TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION.**
CONCORD COMMUNITY OF CHOIRS

Season Update

December
- Mon. 6:30 & 8:00 pm
  CONCORD CHOIR
  Return of the Light
  OMSI Sky Theatre – $10
- Saturday 7:00 pm
  CONCORD CHOIR
  Advent: Amorous Pursuits
  Portland Art Museum
  Portland, OR

February
- Saturday 8:00 pm
  CORO UOMO
  Northwest Composers
  Community Music Center – $10

March
- Saturday 7:00 pm
  ENTIRE COMMUNITY
  CONCORD Celli
  Celtic Dancing & Silent Auction
  Grand Ballroom, Portland Art Museum
  $8 Adults, $5 Kids 15 and under

April
- 10. Sat. 8:00 pm & Sun. 7:00 pm
  SATORI • All Men Sing
  50th Anniversary Concert
  Community Music Center – $10
- 16. Friday 8:00 pm
  CONCORD CHOIR
  In the Garden of Delights
  First Christian Church – $10

May
- 2. Sunday 7:00 pm
  AURORA • As a Woman
  Schnitzer Concert Hall – $12

June
- 6. Sunday 7:00 pm
  AURORA & SATORI
  TITLE, location tba

Peace Through Music

Concord Community of Choirs

Directors
- David York: Artistic / Executive Director
- Joan Szymbko: Choral Director
- Ray Elliott: satori
- Steve Peter: coro uomo
- Mary McCarty: Chrysals Concert Choir
- Denise Andersen: Chrysals Celebration Singers

Volunteer & Staff Support
- Melinda Jepson, finance; Gail Murphy, bulk mailing; Chris Korsgaard & Ellen Morrison, database; Sherrie Van Hine, voicemail

Council
- Denise Andersen - President, Christina Blount, Paul Ciri, Lori Flowers, Susan Freidel, Marylyn John, Ron Marshall, Linda Meier, Lark Ryan, Shawn Smith, Kat Stiebey, Sherrie Van Hine, Jean Wright

If you would like to receive information about the Concord Community of Choirs and our 1998-99 season, please sign our mailing list in the lobby.

We do not sell or trade our mailing list.

Concord Community of Choirs 1998-99 Contributors

Contributions received as of December 5, 1998

Patrons ($1000 or more)
- Denise & Steve Andersen
- Dana Buch & Barry Mayor
- Chris Korsgaard
- Anonymous (2)

Benefactors ($500-$999)
- Pataye Simpson
- Anonymous

Sponsors ($250-$499)
- Sue Jensen in memory of her mother, Lee McCoy
- Kathy M. Lee
- Ellen Morrison
- Anne Ruthford & Ron Grigge
- Kate Schuyler

Donors ($100-$249)
- Sue Johnson
- Noreen L. Smith
- John Roggenlcamp

Friends ($5-$99)
- Jean Andrson
- Donna Bell
- Bradley Bloom
- Susan Maria Bloom
- Patricia B. Bollin
- Sheryl Booth
- Paul Ciri
- Corky Corwight
- Cristi Daggen
- Dennis Deming
- Cameron Denney
- Cheryl Dorlouneaux
- Patricia Dillon
- Ann Dudyce
- Kaye Exo
- Victor Fox
- Susan Freidjer
- Laura Frizzell
- Rozell & Sea Gilmore
- Myra Glaser
- Jeffy & Emily Gottfried
- Maralee Greene
- William & Sally Hersh
- Arlene Hills
- George Hustead
- Susan Kuder
- Kathleen Kelley & Aron Faegre
- Theresa Koenig
- Anne Kolibaba

Support through Music

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Concord Community of Choirs

P.O. Box 2636
Portland, OR 97208-2636
Judy Fjell’s performing career began as a teenager when she picked up a guitar at a garage sale, learned a few chords and began entertaining folks in her small Montana home town with favorites from the “Hootenanny!” radio program. She majored in art at St. Olaf College in Minnesota then later moved to Oregon where she spent her days teaching music to elementary school children and her evenings performing with friends at local coffeehouses.

In the mid-70s, inspired by the women’s music movement and encouraged by a close poet friend, Judy began to write songs. Enthusiastic response to her sense of humor and political incisiveness led to the creation of Honey Pie Music which has produced and distributed seven Judy Fjell albums.

Her career continued to grow with a move to California in 1982 and nationwide performances at folk and women’s festivals, children’s concerts, high school assemblies, college coffee houses and a variety of religious and political conferences.

In 1990 Judy’s career took another direction when she was inspired to found the Napa Valley Women’s Chorus. She is now actively engaged in choral directing and has arranged dozens of songs for women’s voices, including many original compositions. She has appeared in concert as a performer/arranger and workshop leader with many choruses throughout the West. In June of 1996 she directed a Southern California concert tour of 85 women which honored Judy Chicago’s Dinner Party exhibit at UCLA/Hammer Museum with a program of music celebrating the strength and power of women. In 1998 she will begin rehearsals with the Montana Women’s Chorus.

In 1998 she is still actively writing political and personal songs as well as works for women’s choruses. She has now come full circle, residing with her partner, Cassandra (and their many pets), in her original home town in Montana where she recently finished recording a set of language instructional songs for children on her home digital studio.

Abundant lyricism, rhythmic intensity, and a deep respect for language are hallmarks of Szymko’s diverse and distinctive writing. Her highly crafted compositions speak directly to the listener with intensity, intuition and grace. Aurora Chorus premieres her latest composition, “There Are No Farewells,” in this evening’s concert.

Szymko recently released her debut CD recording of recent works. “Openings” features music she has composed for Concord Community Choruses and for Do Jump! Extremely Physical Theater, where she has been a resident composer and company member since 1995. “Openings” will be on sale in the lobby after the concert.

Solstice...

“(Christianity, Judaism, Earth religions)... it’s all the same story, it’s all beautiful. Through having a little kid, I see it’s a big tapestry with all the different threads coming together. The focus is that now is the bottom of the wheel, the turning inward time. When you cross Solstice, you’re going up again. It’s a time of checking in consciously about what you’re doing in your life.”

— Angelo Crow

Joan Szymko has worked in the Pacific Northwest as a conductor, composer and teacher since 1981. She joined the Concord Community of Choirs in the fall of 1993 when she became director of Aurora Chorus. Szymko formed Viriditas, an auditioned women’s chamber chorus, in 1994. She also directs the Portland State Community Chorus.

A gifted and prolific composer, Szymko’s numerous choral compositions and vocal arrangements have been performed and recorded by choruses across the country.

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**In the Winter**

**Solstice/Chanukah Round**

**Winter Sky**

**Notchka**  
*No.2 from Six Choruses, Opus 15*

**In the Winter**

**Red & Green**  
dancer: Patricia Cornman

**Lady of the Season’s Laughter**

**Old Woman**

**There Are No Farewells**  
- PREMIERE -

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**JUDY FJELL**

**Bright Morning Star**

traditional Appalachian Song  
arr. Szymko

**Accende Lumen Sensibus**

**Jul, Jul**

**Small Green Island**

**Dona Nobis Pacem**

**Let Peace Fill the Earth**

**Vine and Fig Tree**  
(Lo yi sa goi)

**In a Circle of Light**

**Ring It In**

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**JOAN SZYMKO**

**DIRECTOR**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

**4:00 & 7:00 PM**

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**GUEST ARTIST**

**JUDY FJELL**

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**ASL INTERPRETERS**

**SARAZAN TORELLI**  
Piper Gallucci

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**INSTRUMENTALISTS**

**KATE CAMPBELL**  
Piano & Accordion

**MONTY COWLES**  
Drums

**MEG GRACE**  
Soprano & Alto Saxophone

**SYLVIA HACKATHORN**  
Bouzouki

**ELLEN LINDQUIST**  
Harp

---

**LINDA HIRSCHORN**

**BILLY ED WHEELER**

arranged by Joan Szymko

**SERGEI RACHMANINOV (1873-1943)**

**JUDY FJELL**

arr. Fjell & Szymko

**MADDY PRIOR**

bouzouki arr. Sylvia Hackathorn

**DAVID HURD**

text Kendyl Gibbons  
arr. Szymko

**MARY TROUPE**

text Anne Cameron  
arr. Szymko

**JOAN SZYMKO**

text May Sarton  
from “Gestalt at Sixty”

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**TOMAS LUIS DA VICTORIA (1548-1611)**

**GUSTAF NORDQVIST (1886-1946)**

**Susan Osborn, Paul Halley & Joan Spear**

arr. Szymko

**Clemens non papa**

**Ray MacKeever**

based on a prayer by Rabbi Nachman

**traditional**

**arr. DIANE BENJAMIN**

**BETSY ROSE**

Anonymous  
arr. Szymko
AURORA CHORUS: women in harmony for peace

SOPRANO 1
Michele Alderson
Anne Bates
Marjorie Bennett
Claudine Blake
Sarah Churchill
Anne Dall
Stacey Fiddler
Ellen Goldsmith
Christine Hayward
Margaret Inle
Susan Kaeder
Marita Keys
Dolores Kaeffer
Val Lawrence
Shirley Linebaugh
Jo Lyndon
Nancy McFarlane
Kirsten Meyer
Terri Pettit-Kekel
Debbie Pinney
Janet Rafalovich
Judi Ranton
Ellen Roberts
Judy Sapon-Borson
Jenna Scott
Gail Sinclair
Cheri Smith
Robin Sutherland
Janet Trinkle
Katherine Zieman

* on leave
1 section music leader
2 section administrator

SOPRANO 2
Jayne Armstrong
Naisha Beck
Christine Brown
Patricia Chapman
Patricia Connemann
Angela Crow
Diane Dickey
Dianne Doyle
Marci Edwards
Kaye Exo
Susan Freidler
Jeanne Hackney
Laura Hanks
Kyra Hazzilu-Low
Emery Hinkley
Melinda Jepsen
Roberta Jorner
Kerry LeFebre
Jan Lusig
Marillyn McCabe
Rita McDonagh-Noble
Marty Mitchell
Georgia Pinkel
Gayle Hyde Preston
Linda Jo Reinhard
Moya Schloegel
Suzanne Smith
Oceana Seer
Jano Sears
Eileen Spencer
Charllann Snider
MaryAnne Thysgen
Heather Veldhuisen
Jean Wright
Jennifer Yocom

ALTO 1
Teresa Boyle Culp
Karen Christensen
Lois Diokes
Kate Dreyfus
Ann Dudley
Joanna Dumais-Clark
Leslie Ellis
Margot Faeger
Alyse Finlayson
Lori Flowers
Juie Frankie
Peggy Friedly-Yee
Leslie Gardiner
Jennifer Gates
Katie Gordon
Karen Granger
Barbara Gray
Carol Hazzard
Merrill Hendin
Jeanne Henry
Ann Huntwork
Georgie Hustead
Suzan Hyde
Sue Jensen
Kathy Kelley
Denise Kossower-Wechter
Dorothy Krogh
Joan Logan
Arla Melum
Sue Merfeld
Janet Plass
Mary Priester
Jessica Rauch
Peggy Richardson
Anne Rutherford
Beth Schwartz
Kat Strieby
Sharon Szolnoki
Carol Walker
Liza Whitmarsh
Carleen Wroblusky

ALTO 2
Joan Andrews
Patricia Ayerza
Marita Delgado
Sheila Engeles
Kathleen Fisher
Jeanette Hankins
Marya Hazilla
Lee Johannes
Marylyn John
Colleen Keays
Gayle Koszegi
Linda Meier
Linda Milone
Deane Naylor
Barbara Ohashi
Jacque Pegel
Melanie Plant
 Gwen Purus
Melanie Pratt
Nita Pozzy
Wendy Runker
Barbara Reader
Elizabeth Robb
Marti Roberts-Pillon
Sarah Stebbins
Carol (CL) Timper
Maureen Tolonen
Carol Tingle
Kelly Wick
Carol Wolff
Ely Worden
Carlyn McKay
Liz McPhee
Laurie Meyer
Maggie Michelich
Marty Mitchell
Gail Murphy
Jessica Nelson
Tiffany Nelson
Karen Newson-Boom
Barb Ohashi
Phillis Pace
Ali Pierucci
Jim Pillon
Anne Price
Starr Russell
Daniel Sapon-Borson
Lesley Sepetoks
Randy Sterrett
Andy Szolnoki
Gary Weiner
Ken Wick
Carol Wolff
Laura Wood
St. Mary's Academy
Whitaker Community School
And all others who volunteered after the printing deadline.

Translations/Text
NOTCHKA poem by Lodzyzhensky (from the Russian)

Quietly the dark-winged night
Flies past above the earth.
Somewhere a melancholy song flows,
DARKENED BY A TEAR.

The weary earth will have rested,
Bewitched in sleep,
And the scarlet dawn will glinten
In the clear blue sky.

ACCENDE LUMEN SENSIBUS (from the Latin)

Light now a Light within our minds;
And fill our hearts with divine love.
Make strong all frail parts within us;
With virtue to endure all things.

JUL, JUL. (from the Swedish)

Come, blessed Jul!
Lower thy white wings
Over the battle's blood and din,
Over all human anxiety,
Over all ancestors gone to rest,
Over the young one's dawning.

THERE ARE NO FAREWELLS

I am not ready to die,
But I am learning to trust death
As I have trusted life.

I am moving
Toward a new freedom
Born of detachment,
And a sweeter grace —
Learning to let go.

I am not ready to die,
But as I approach sixty
I turn my face toward the sea.
I shall go where tides replace time,
WHERE MY WORLD WILL OPEN TO A FAR HORIZON
Over the floating, never-still flux and change.
I shall go with the changes,
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Aurora's Next Concert

AURORA RETURNS TO THE SCHNITZER

"As a woman, I have no country."
"As a woman, I want no country.
"As a woman, my country is the whole world."

- Virginia Wolff

May 2, 1999 Aurora presents "As a Woman"
- viewing life and love, war and peace -
  all from a woman's perspective
at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.
Aurora will be joined by some exciting
  guests for a pre-Mother's Day festival
  that honors ALL women!

"As a Woman" • Aurora Chorus
May 2, 1999, 7:00 PM • Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

Solstice...

"I do my own quiet little ritual; I always have.
It's a time for me to build a fire and I write things
I want to release and throw them in the fire. I do
a healing and send out light into the earth, imaging
the new light coming and the sun rising in the sky.
It's special to me because it's bringing forth the
new light and my name, Elly, means 'light'."

- Elly Worden

Szymko's vocal compositions will appeal
to anyone who is moved by the power of the singing voice.

BEYOND GENRE - Szymko's vocal compositions will appeal
to anyone who is moved by the power of the singing voice.

FEATURING

Viriditas, Elektra Women's Choir, Opus 2, Thomasa Eckert

WITH: Richard Eckert, cello; Denise Ayers, violin; Rob Scheps, saxophone;
Glen Moore, bass; Alan Jones, drums; Eileen Hagen, accordion

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-Joan Vranizan, Southwest Portland

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Solstice...

"(It's significance is)...the embodiment of generosity during the time of year when it's most difficult to be generous. Winter is still ahead...and it's the darkest part of the year, yet you're giving to other people. The community gives to each other. People are willing to share."

- Kat Stroby

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Where are you called to journey?

The Quickening Heart
CANDLEMAS AND VALENTINE
Friday, 2/12 7-9:30pm
What is your heart's desire?

To Suffer & Transform
PASSOVER AND GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, 4/2 7-9:30pm
How does pain transform us?

Led by Anne Rutherford — mediator, storyteller, human being.
$15 per session, 3 for $40. Come to 1, 2 or all 3. Dharma Rain Zen Center, 2514 SE Madison (1 block N. of Hawthorne)
(503) 235-6470 or Truheart @teleport.com for information or to register.