

JOY TO THE WORLD

English and French Christmas

PERFORMERS		DURATION
	9 or 12 singers a cappella	1:10

Joy to the World invites you to relive the spirit of Christmas in all its simplicity and splendor: a moment of shared beauty where joy bursts forth on the morning of the Nativity, through these pages of sacred and traditional music. Sing now, and be joyful!

For 2,000 years, Christmas has filled the hearts of young and old with wonder. A time of celebration, reunion, simplicity, and sharing. At its heart lies a birth: that of a child in a manger. As the winter solstice unfolds, light spreads everywhere, bringing with it perfect joy.
Even before the birth, joy is already present, as we await the coming of the child with eager anticipation. Between Gregorian chant and works by English composers, we move between splendor and awe, culminating in the exaltation of Zoltán Kodály's Veni, veni Emmanuel. A joy that shines brightly with the arrival of the newborn!
Benjamin Britten's A Boy was Born introduces the colorful vision of Francis Poulenc, who, like a painter, depicts the scene with simplicity, revealing the great mystery in pure and vivid tones. The stillness of the night invites the tenderness of English lullabies and arrangements of traditional Christmas carols. Finally, at dawn, joy bursts forth to announce the great news to the world.

a cappella
Traditional Christmas Music
Gregorian Chant
19th and 20th Centuries

Recorded on CD for Label Rocamadour

VIDEO CLIPS

Francis Poulenc *Quem Vidistis Pastores Dicite*
James MacMillan *O Radiant Dawn*

They trust us: Brive-la-Gaillarde, Gramat, Festival en Voix, Festival Dār-Al-Milād (Liban)

PROGRAMME

REJOICE
Anonyme *Leto leta concio*
Antienne *O Oriens*
James MacMillan (b. 1959) *O Radiant Dawn*
Zoltán Kodály (1882 - 1967) *Veni, veni Emmanuel*

A BOY WAS BORN
Silent Night, traditionnel
Félix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847) *Hark the herald angels sing* (arr.)
Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976) *A Boy was Born*
Répons *O Magnum Mysterium*
Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548 - 1611) *O magnum mysterium*
Francis Poulenc (1899 - 1963) *O magnum mysterium*
François-Auguste Gevaert (1828 - 1908) *Entre le bœuf et l'âne gris*
Gustav Holst (1874 - 1934) *This have I done*

IN A SILENT NIGHT
God rest you merry Gentlemen, traditionnel (arr. Willcocks)
Francis Poulenc (1899 - 1963) *Quem vidistis pastores dicite*
Gustav Holst *In the bleak midwinter*
John Tavener (1944 - 2013) *The Lamb*

BE JOYFUL
Gaudete, traditionnel
Joy to the world, traditionnel
John Tavener *A Christmas Round*