

The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

2008–2009 Super Series • Program IV

Home for the Holidays

Saturday, November 29, 2008 2:00 PM & 8:00 PM

Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre

Andrew Lane, *conductor*

The Holiday Singers

Annie Sims, *vocalist*

Holiday Overture		Stephenson
Palladio		Jenkins
Santa Dear		Wendel/Trani
Ding Dong Merrily on High		Arr. Lane
	The Holiday Singers	
Angels in the Snow		Rush
	The Holiday Singers	
O, Holy Night		Adam/Leavitt
	The Holiday Singers	
Twelve Days of Christmas		arr. Dupuis
	The Holiday Singers	

INTERMISSION

Suite from *Toy Story* Randy Newman

Selections with Annie Sims

Home for the Holidays

A Place Called Home

Grown-Up Christmas List

Holly and the Ivy

Silent Night/In the Bleak Mid-Winter

music by Robert Allen, lyrics by Al Stillman, arr. Greg Sims

music by Greg Sims/lyrics by Annie Sims, arr. Greg Sims

David Foster & Linda Thompson Jenner, arr. Greg Sims

Traditional, arr. Greg Sims

Gustav Theodore Holst, arr. Greg Sims

A Christmas Festival Anderson

The Holiday Singers

Audience Sing-a-Long

Steinway is the official piano of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra.



S T E I N W A Y

The biography for Andrew Lane appears on page 26

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artist biography



Appearing once again with the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, **The Holiday Singers** are comprised of professional vocalists from Central Florida, each of whom offers unique performance skills ranging from opera, Broadway, jazz, pop, Gospel, country, barbershop, and studio. This combination of voices allows a robust, yet blended sound of the highest caliber to meet the challenge of a variety of musical styles. The group feels at home with an intimate audience or a grand concert hall. The Holiday Singers are:

Tiffany Coburn
Catherine Harrover
Christy Dillon
Amy Martin Cole
Dirk Donahue
John Cavazos
Tony DeRosa
J.C. Fullerton

The Holiday Singers dedicate tonight's performance to Dave McCutcheon, who passed away on August 13. Our loss of Dave's magnificent voice and true friendship is Heaven's gain.

Annie Sims has been singing in public since the age of three, when she would entertain her relatives at summer family reunions in the foothills of East Tennessee. She remembers how her singing would make the little old ladies cry, and her heartfelt songs still move her audiences to tears today. At six years of age, Annie began piano lessons and was a quick study. She was classically trained, but as her reward for work well done, she was allowed each week to pick out a "radio" song to learn. She would sing along with her piano playing, and before long, she realized that performing would be her life's work. Annie continued those piano lessons all the way through college, going on to receive her Bachelor's degree in vocal music education from the University of Tennessee where she was the third generation in her family to attend.

After graduation Annie began earning her living as a piano bar entertainer, first in Knoxville and East Tennessee, then onboard cruise ships. Annie's beautiful voice soon caught the attention of international bookers and she traveled on to Europe, performing extensively in Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Ireland. She toured for four years



artist biography

before marrying her husband and producer, Greg Sims. Together they settled in Orlando, Florida, where Annie regularly performed at Walt Disney World. She recorded her first CD, a collection of solo piano and vocal music, for Disney guests to take home as souvenirs.

The favorable response to Annie's first album project landed her a personal manager in England and led her to record a fully produced country CD in Nashville for the U.K. market. It was promoted on BBC radio and in a month-long tour, opening for Country Music Hall of Famer, Don Williams, in autumn 2002. A follow-up U.K. and Ireland tour in May and June 2003 with Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member, Gene Pitney, led to the creation of the Annie Sims International Fan Club and continued airplay on various BBC stations. The British audience fell in love with Annie's beautiful voice and compelling personality, and by the time the tour ended at the legendary London Palladium, she had sold and autographed over 7,000 copies.

Meanwhile, Annie had begun to write her own material. Her Country/Americana CD, *Half The*

Moon, released on Nashville-based Aspirion Records, contains six of her own songs. One in particular, "Go Within," led to a five-week European tour in autumn 2005 with *New York Times* best-selling author, Neale Donald Walsch. Annie and the song are featured on his website and mentioned in his latest book, *Home With God*. Several singles were released from the CD, including "Eighty Acres of Stars," which met with critical acclaim and gave her more exposure to the American market. She received the much-coveted Discovery award from *Music Row* magazine and the song remained in *Music Choice* Americana's Top-10 for three months. That success prompted Annie to relocate to Nashville in late 2006.

Her latest CD, *Annie*, also on the Aspirion label, incorporates tracks from her first country album with new vocals, re-mastered recordings and brand new artwork. The first single, "Everything I Know About Leavin'," was on the much-sought after Music Row chart for nine weeks and in the Top Ten and Top Twenty on several internet charts in late 2007 and early 2008.

Annie is in the process of venturing into other musical areas including a starring role in a new Broadway musical and singing the theme song for an upcoming animated childrens' movie. A new childrens' CD is in the works, as well as concerts in the New Thought ministry. Keep your eyes and ears out for Annie Sims!





ORLANDO
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

Home for the Holidays

FIRST VIOLINS

Tamas Kocsis, *Concertmaster*
(Lynn and Charles Steinmetz
Concertmaster Chair)

Joni Hanze-Bjella, *Associate
Concertmaster*

(Jeanne and John Blackburn
Associate Concertmaster Chair)

Dina Fedosenko, *Assistant Concertmaster*

Linda Van Buren

Yi-Hua Chang

Galen Kaup

Olga Feroni

Annabelle Gardiner

Konstantin Dimitrov

SECOND VIOLINS

Alexander Stevens, *Principal*

Victor Feroni, *Assistant Principal*

Jennie Rudberg

Sacha Phelps

Julia Gessinger

David Kimball

Marius Tabacila

VIOLAS

Mauricio Cespedes Rivero, *Principal*

Douglas Pritchard

Beverly Bouma

Karen Peters

John Adams

CELLOS

Ronald Gardiner, *Principal*

Brenda Higgins

Jonathan Stilwell

Maureen May

Joan Markstein

DOUBLE BASSES

Don-Michael Hill, *Principal*

Robert Kennon

Tye Van Buren

FLUTES

Colleen Blagov, *Principal*

Claudia White

PICCOLO

Sandra del Cid

OBOES

Jamie Strefeler, *Principal*

Sherwood Hawkins

CLARINETS

Nikolay Blagov, *Principal*

Calvin Falwell

BASSOONS

Diane Bishop, *Principal*

Julie Fox

FRENCH HORNS

Mark Fischer, *Principal*

Carolyn Blice

Kathleen Thomas

Kevin Brooks

TRUMPETS

Lyman Brodie, *Principal*

(Stephen Goldman

Principal Trumpet Chair)

James Ault

Thomas Macklin

TROMBONES

Jeffrey Thomas, *Principal*

Jimmy Ohlsson

BASS TROMBONE

Brian Brink

TUBA

Robert Carpenter, *Principal*

TIMPANI

Carl Rendek, *Principal*

(Kenneth and Ann Hicks Murrar

Principal Timpani Chair)

PERCUSSION

Robert Petta, *Principal*

Mark Goldberg

Kirk Gay

PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN

Karen Peters

CONDUCTOR FOR THIS PROGRAM

Andrew Lane

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Christopher Wilkins

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Andrew Lane

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