



For Immediate Release:

October 26, 2016

**Angel City Chorale
Fires Up the Season with
Bring on the Joy
Holiday Concerts & Sing-Alongs
In Los Angeles for Two Special Evenings
Saturday, December 3 & Sunday, December 4, 2016**

**Internationally Acclaimed Angel City Chorale Celebrates Seasonal
Favorites from Diverse Traditions**

LOS ANGELES, CA – **Angel City Chorale (ACC)**, the celebrated Los Angeles choir led by Founder/Artistic Director **Sue Fink**, will jump-start the season in style with ***Bring on the Joy***, the choir’s 23rd annual set of holiday concerts and sing-alongs during the first weekend in December. The festive evenings will bring together talented Los Angeles-area singers and instrumentalists with a tapestry of seasonal favorites featuring musical textures from diverse traditions. The inclusive, family-friendly concerts will take place at Wilshire United Methodist Church in Los Angeles over two very special nights on Saturday, December 3, and Sunday, December 4, 2016. Tickets range in price from \$22 for children to \$75 for VIP packages (see details in last paragraph). The performances start at 7:00pm and include a 15-minute intermission; a dessert reception follows each performance. For additional information on ACC, please visit <http://www.angelcitychorale.org>.

“Our amazing soloists, choir, and orchestra are able to create stunning musical performances without losing the spontaneity, sparkle, and joyous community spirit missing in our big city life,” says Fink. “There is a rare feeling of connection at these events among the diverse participants – the positive energy generated is palpable, like a booster shot of joy: it hits you right in your heart.”

Bring on the Joy–

Angel City Chorale kicks off the season with its eagerly anticipated annual set of winter concerts and sing-alongs. This year’s exciting 23rd edition, ***Bring on the Joy***, will entertain audiences with an infectious blast of holiday cheer over two family-friendly nights.

The vibrant performances, a reflection of Los Angeles, feature a 25-piece live orchestra and an array of seasonal favorites with musical textures from diverse traditions. Audiences will also get the chance to sing with the lively 160+-member choir on familiar songs during the popular sing-along.

This stunning choral exploration features Classical, Traditional, Spirited Contemporary, and Gospel R&B. In addition to popular American Christmas carols, African, Chanukah, Celtic, Medieval, Beatbox, Pop, and British vibes will be presented. The diversity of the program represents the rich tastes and talents of the choir.

Selections at these joyful evenings include works by **Gustav Holst**, **Amy Grant**, **John Rutter**, **Pentatonix**, **Nat King Cole**, and more. Angel City Chorale is also proud to present the world premiere of “Feast of Snow” by gifted Los Angeles composer/former ACC choir member **Philip White** (*Ray Donovan* [Showtime], *Agent Carter* [ABC], *Revolution* [NBC], *Supernatural* [CW]). This will be the second time ACC premieres a work by White, who is a composer for film, television, interactive media,

and the concert stage. The Los Angeles Master Chorale has also performed two of White's choral works, the last of which was a commission.

Sue Fink, ACC Founder, Artistic Director, & Conductor –

As founder, artistic director, and conductor, Sue Fink brings a dynamic energy to Angel City Chorale that distinguishes it from other choral groups. She has worked with acclaimed composers including **Morten Lauridsen** and **Christopher Tin**. In 2016, she conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London and the Mowbray Orchestra at the Harrogate International Festival in York, and recorded at famed Abbey Road Studios. Fink has also conducted in Ireland, South Africa, and many distinguished venues in the U.S. including the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

Fink attended UCLA, and also studied conducting and toured with internationally renowned musician/choral director Roger Wagner. She established the Oriana Renaissance Ensemble and the Los Angeles Women's Community Chorus, serving as conductor for both groups prior to founding Angel City Chorale. As a singer-songwriter she has toured extensively, recorded albums, and won international songwriting contests. She maintains a private voice studio in Los Angeles, composes and arranges for choral groups, and writes songs for television and film. As a respected vocal coach, Fink has worked with well-known recording artists including Brian Wilson, Luther Vandross, Stevie Wonder, Weezer, the Foo Fighters, and more. She has released two full-length solo albums and four with ACC.

Angel City Chorale –

Angel City Chorale, conducted by Founder/Artistic Director Sue Fink, is a multitalented, multicultural group of 160+ men and women that truly reflects the spirit of Los Angeles, the city it calls home. Formed by Fink in 1993 at the world-famous McCabe's Guitar Shop with just 18 singers, the choir offers a diverse selection of musical material including Classical, Jazz, Folk, Gospel, Rhythm & Blues, and more. ACC performs two concerts seasonally, in spring and winter every year, to standing-room only crowds at the historic Wilshire United Methodist Church.

The choir was featured throughout Grammy-winning composer Christopher Tin's 2014 album, *The Drop That Contained the Sea*. The album debuted at number one on *Billboard Music's* Traditional Classical Albums chart on which ACC performed on 7 of 10 tracks. The choir works often with Tin, both in the studio and collaborating on live performances. While on its tour of England in 2016, ACC recorded the new theme song for *Civilization VI*, "Sogno di Volare," with Tin at Abbey Road Studios in London (watch interview with Tin about the song). The tour also included stops at the Barbican Centre in York, the prestigious Harrogate Music Festival, and Cadogan Hall in London where ACC performed with Tin on his Grammy-winning song, "Baba Yetu" with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. ACC's joyous version of "Africa," the 1982 hit song by the band Toto, also went viral on YouTube in 2016, with over 3,500,000 views to date.

ACC has performed over the years at a variety of internationally respected venues, from Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles to Carnegie Hall in New York; appeared on national television; sung with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, conducted by Gustavo Dudamel; and worked with artists including Stevie Wonder, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Luther Vandross, Chester Beddington, Dave Navarro, and Natasha Bedingfield. ACC has recorded four highly acclaimed albums, which are available on CD through various online retailers found here. Angel City Chorale strives to give back to the Los Angeles community through the gift of song, donations, and volunteerism. Each year in December, around 100 members of the choir participate in the organization's **Tour of Hope**, where the singers take their holiday program on the road for one full day of joy, performing concerts for the homeless, the elderly, and others who could genuinely benefit from an infusion of holiday spirit.

Independent ACC is not affiliated with any particular religion, school, or guiding organization. ACC's associate conductor is **Dan Barnett** and the choir's principal accompanists are **Mark McCormick** and **Gordon Glor**.

Wilshire United Methodist Church –

Located on Wilshire Blvd. at S. Plymouth Blvd., in the Mid-Wilshire area of Los Angeles, the Wilshire United Methodist Church first opened its doors on May 24, 1925. Its storied history is woven into the fabric of the Los Angeles community and the multiethnic ministries it serves. Jeanette MacDonald and Shirley Temple each had marriage ceremonies in the church. The church building, reflecting Gothic and Italian styles, has been designated as a historical monument by the Los Angeles City Council. The facade was inspired by the Church of St. Francis at Brescia in Italy and the tower found its genesis in the Torracio of Cremona, near Milan. For more information, please visit www.ewilshireumc.org.

Ticketing & Venue Details –

General admission tickets for Angel City Chorale’s exuberant annual holiday concerts, appreciated by Angelenos for the choir’s signature blend of music styles, unexpected humor, and contagious warmth, are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. Children’s tickets (ages 5-12) are \$22 and seniors are \$27 (both in advance and at the door). Preferred front-of-house seating may be reserved online for \$50 in advance and \$55 at the door; children’s preferred tickets are \$42/\$47; and seniors’ preferred seats are \$47/\$52. VIP tickets (all categories) for first tier seating are \$75. Advance tickets are available via the ACC website [here](#) or by calling 310-943-9231. Online ticket sales close at 10:00pm on the day prior to each show. Same day tickets may be purchased at the door. Wilshire United Methodist Church is located at 4350 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010 (between Highland Ave. and Crenshaw Blvd.; [map](#)). Free parking is available in the venue’s small parking lot and on neighborhood streets. Early arrival is strongly encouraged.

Links –

- Angel City Chorale (ACC) - <http://www.angelcitychorale.org>
- *Bring on the Joy* Tickets - <http://angelcitychorale.org/concerts-events/bring-on-the-joy-concert>
- *Bring on the Joy* FB Event Page - <https://www.facebook.com/events/342134072799070>
- ACC’s Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/AngelCityChorale>
- ACC’s YouTube - <http://www.youtube.com/user/AngelCityChorale>
- ACC’s Twitter - <https://twitter.com/AngelCityChoral>
- ACC’s SoundCloud - <https://soundcloud.com/angelcitychorale>
- Angel City Chorale Press Kit/Photos - <http://angelcitychorale.org/news-media>

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For more information, photos, to schedule an interview, or request complimentary press tickets, please contact Green Galactic’s Lynn Tejada at 213-840-1201 or lynn@greengalactic.com.

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~ In Praise of ACC’s “Africa” Rendition ~

(Sourced from the comments section for [the “Africa” video](#) on ACC’s YouTube Channel - 3.5 million views & counting.)

“This is what music really means. This performance touches the heart.”

“As a lifelong choral singer, I am absolutely thrilled with this performance – they are superb... Bravo!”

“Music done right is happiness and this choir is enjoying and having fun with every second of it. You can hear and see it.”

“Closed my eyes during the first minutes. My clothes are now drying from the rain.”

“Just awesome.... the joy and emotion left me in tears.”

~ QUOTES ~

“One of the most engaging and entertaining evenings of music you can hear in Los Angeles.”

– **T-Bone Burnett**, Music Writer & Producer

“Their rendition of ‘Baba Yetu’ was excellent! They turned it into a slow gospel number.... totally unexpected, but really effective.”

– **Christopher Tin**, Grammy Award-Winning Composer of “Baba Yetu”

“The Angel City Chorale offered warm performances of (Morten) Lauridsen’s ‘O Magnum Mysterium’ and ‘Sure on This Shining Night,’ which have the essence of old music made shinely new.”

– **Mark Swed**, the *Los Angeles Times*

~ CALENDAR LISTING DETAILS ~

WHAT:

Angel City Chorale (ACC) presents its 23rd annual holiday concert, *Bring on the Joy*

WHO:

- **Sue Fink** • ACC Founder, Artistic Director & Conductor
- ACC vocal choir • over 160+ male & female singers who range in age from their 20s to 80s
- 25-piece orchestra
- All are welcome at this non-denominational event

WHEN:

Saturday, December 3 & Sunday, December 4, 2016

7:00pm

WHERE:

Wilshire United Methodist Church

4350 Wilshire Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90010

(at the eastern end of Mid-Wilshire; adjacent to Koreatown, Larchmont Village, and Hancock Park)

TICKETS:

<http://angelcitychorale.org/concerts-events/bring-on-the-joy-concert>

310-943-9231

General Admission:

\$30 in advance; \$35 at the door

- Children (ages 5-12): \$22 (advance & door)
- Seniors: \$27 (advance & door)

Preferred front-of-house seating:

\$50 in advance; \$55 at the door

- Children: \$42/\$47
- Seniors: \$47/\$52

VIP tickets (first tier seating):

- All categories: \$75