

*The Choral Foundation & the Andrew Cain Memorial Music Performance Fund
With Support from the Georgia Council for the Arts Presents*

The 2022 Andrew Cain Memorial Masterworks Concert

Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor

Jamea Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director

Scott Smith, Choral Administrator Ed Frazier Davis, Senior Composer in Residence

Sean Sweeden, Composer in Residence

BEETHOVEN * MOZART

The New South Festival Singers & Cumberland Strings

**Sunday Afternoon, 27 March 2022
St. John United Methodist Church
Atlanta, Georgia**

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.*

SOLI DEO GLORIA

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

The New South Festival Singers

Lynn Swanson, MME

Director, New South Festival Singers
Director, Cobb Summer Singers
Director, Smoky Mountain Summer Singers
Creator, Institute for Healthy Singing

William O. Baker, DMA

Creator of the Choral Foundation

Jamea J. Sale, MME

WBCF Executive Associate Music Director
Director, Institute for Healthy Singing

Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM

Music Director, Summer Singers of Atlanta

Amy Thropp, MM

Music Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Jennifer Lahasky, MM

Director, Summer Singers of Lee's Summit

Leilani Velasco

Music Director, Voces Festivas

Ed Frazier Davis, MM

Senior Composer in Residence
Director, Institute for Choral Creativity
Music Director, Vox Venti Chicago

Christine M. Freeman, MME

Associate Music Director/Kansas City

Scott C. Smith

Choral Associate & Administrator, Atlanta

Sean Sweeden, DMA

Composer in Residence

Emily Fish

Choral Intern

Nicole Williams

Administrative Assistant

Leanne Elmer Herrmann, Staff Accompanist

Ivy Belk Pirl, Staff Accompanist

Michelle Reed, Staff Accompanist

The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100

Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 913.488.7524

www.FestivalSingers.org www.ChoralFoundation.org

www.HealthySinging.org www.ChoralCreativity.org

Terrell Abney '07

Kristin Boyle '14

Steve Brailsford '14

Anthony Cochran '21

James Cordell '21

Matthew Edwards '19

Marla Franks '03

Jane Freeman '22

Harley Granville '14

Felicia Hernandez '04

Laura Hotchkiss '21

Mark Kagika '14

Jody Kershner '09

Alexis LaSalle '10

Sue Lawton '14

Sarah Means '10

Marcia Mein '11

Bess Miller '19

David Nieland '12

Audra Pagano '21

Yolanda Phillips '03

Susan Pierce '13

LaDonna Pitts '14

Heather Sabatino '09

Justin Scott '11

Scott Smith '94

Charles St. Clair '11

Amy Thropp '13

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Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor



Lynn Swanson, Director of the Cobb Summer Singers and The New South Festival Singers, is a native of the Atlanta suburb of Marietta, Georgia. She holds the Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from Shorter College, and the Master of Music Education in Choral Pedagogy from the University of Kansas.

Ms. Swanson is one of the most consequential leaders in the nearly four-decade history of the Choral Foundation in Atlanta. She is, unmistakably, one of the most significant music leaders of our time in the Atlanta community.

She has enjoyed an accomplished international career, serving church positions in Germany that included a performance in the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Significant church positions where she has served as Music Director and as Organist/Choirmaster, include All Saints Cathedral in Milwaukee, St. Benedict's Episcopal Church in Smyrna, Georgia, Due West United Methodist Church in Marietta and, presently, Grace Episcopal Church in Gainesville.

From 2017-2018 she served as Assistant Director of the Zhuhai Classical Children's Choir in Zhuhai, China, near Hong Kong. During her lauded tenure there she conducted the chorus at Central Conservatory in Beijing where the performance was viewed on Chinese National Television. She also led the first-ever Buddhist Monastery Choir in a classical performance at the Beijing International Music Festival. From 2018-2020 she served as Executive Artistic Director of the Milwaukee Children's Choir.

Ms. Swanson served a number of leading positions with the Choral Foundation from 2006-2018. She founded the Cobb Summer Singers in 2006, the Northside Young Singers in 2008, the Cobb Festival Singers in 2009, the Institute for Healthy Singing in 2015, and the Smoky Mountain Summer Singers in 2022. She served as associate director of the Choral Foundation's original ensemble, now called The New South Festival Singers, from 2010 to 2015, before her appointment as the second music director of the ensemble in 2015, a position she held from 2015-2017 and resumed in 2021. Lynn Swanson co-created the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit in 2014, and served as Executive Associate Music Director of the Choral Foundation from 2011-2017.

Ms. Swanson's conducting portfolio of choral-orchestral masterworks is extensive, including Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Bach: *Mass in B Minor*, *Christ lag in todesbanden*, and *Wachet auf*, Handel: *Messiah*, *Israel in Egypt*, *Dettingen Te Deum* and *Coronation Anthems*, Mozart: *Coronation Mass*, *Solemn Vespers*, and *Missa Brevis in D*, Beethoven: *Mass in C* and Mendelssohn: *Elijah*, along with many other works. Collaborations have involved musicians from the Kansas City Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and the Kazinetti Quartet.

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The New South Festival Singers

Music of Timeless Beauty and Worth in Atlanta Since 1985



2022, 37th concert season.

The New South Festival Singers traces its history to the 1985 creation of Gwinnett Festival Singers by founder William Baker and his long-time associate, Janis Lane. The choir was known as The William Baker Festival Singers from 1998-2015. The Festival Singers was led by its founder through its 30th concert season. The ensemble is now “The New South Festival Singers” in homage to Henry W. Grady’s description of Atlanta’s historic legacy of tolerance, justice, opportunity and enterprise. We are delighted to welcome Lynn Swanson’s return to the podium as Music Director & Conductor, beginning with the 2021-

The Festival Singers specializes in short-form sacred a cappella classics and spirituals, in addition to annual performances of masterworks for chorus and chamber orchestra. Major concerts have included a performance of Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra, and a performance in Spivey Hall of Johann Sebastian Bach’s *St. John Passion* and *Mass in B Minor*. Other masterworks over the years have included Stravinsky’s *Symphony of Psalms*, Bernstein’s *Chichester Psalms*, Mozart’s *Requiem*, *Solemn Vespers*, *Missa Brevis in D*, and *Mass in C minor*; Buxtehude’s *Membra Jesu Nostri*, and Britten’s *Rejoice in the Lamb* and *Ceremony of Carols*, along with dozens of works from Palestrina to Kodaly. The Festival Singers performed the Ernest Bloch *Avodath Hakodesh* for the rededication of the magnificent pipe organ at The Temple on Peachtree, and at the historic Community Christian Church in Kansas City, a performance broadcast in its entirety by Kansas Public Radio on the eve of Passover 2012. The Festival Singers’ recording of the *Requiem* of John Rutter and *Songs of the Holocaust* by William Dreyfoos was reviewed graciously in the December 2020 edition of *American Record Guide*.

The ensemble is known for its expressive memorized performances of signature a cappella concerts demonstrating a striking diversity and depth of repertoire. The sound of the Festival Singers has been hailed by music critics and the general public, including The Atlanta Journal-Constitution “*Sensuous tonal beauty ...a level of balance, blend, intonation and expressiveness that puts the average community chorus to shame...*” The Charleston Post & Courier, “*...the South’s premier a cappella choir...exceptional tone and ferocious emotion...*” and the New Orleans Times-Picayune, “*...inspiring and exhilarating.*”

The Festival Singers has produced 25 nationally released recordings hailed in reviews by *The Atlanta Constitution* and *The American Record Guide*. The choir has been featured in local television programs across the South, and on national radio programs that include *The Sounds of Majesty*, *The First Art* and National Public Radio’s *Performance Today*. They have toured throughout the South and Midwest in the United States and Great Britain,



having appeared in Birmingham’s Divinity Chapel, Atlanta’s Spivey Hall, the DeKalb International Choral Festival, Canterbury Cathedral, and the Bristol (England) Festival, in addition to annual performances before capacity audiences at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, since 1989.

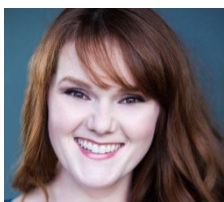
The Festival Singers has become a model for professional-level volunteer choruses that have inspired the creation of similar organizations in the Atlanta area and across the nation. Indeed, the ambitious chorus that met for a first rehearsal in the basement of a Norcross church in 1985 is now the flagship ensemble of the William Baker Choral Foundation, a national arts organization that through the years has created over a dozen choirs involving hundreds of men, women and youth in Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, North Carolina and Missouri.

www.NewSouthFestivalSingers.org

Guest Soloists



Arietha Lockhart, coloratura soprano, has been awarded many prizes and honors, including a fellowship to perform the role of Zerbinetta (Ariadne auf Naxos) at the Aspen Music Festival Opera Theatre, 2nd place in the first Classical Singer Competition sponsored by Classical Singer Magazine, The National Opera Association Competition's Legacy Award in the professional division, 2nd place in The Center for Contemporary Opera International Competition (prize, a New York debut recital at Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall), and the Friedrich Shorr Memorial Prize in Voice and 3rd place in the Oratorio Society of New York competition. During studies at the American Institute for Musical Studies, won the first place vote of the jury in the Meistersinger Competition in Graz, Austria, and received the gold medallion as the audience's 1st place choice. Ms. Lockhart is a member of the Grammy Award winning Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and has performed with the Atlanta Chamber Players and the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra. She is a favorite of Choral Foundation audiences, having performed in several productions with the William Baker Festival Singers, the Cobb Summer Singers, and the Summer Singers of Atlanta, including Bach's *St. John Passion*, Haydn's *The Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Requiem & Mass in C.Minor*, and Beethoven *Mass in C* and *Symphony No. 9*. She is a former music educator in the DeKalb School System, and Co-President of the Atlanta Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon Music Fraternity.



Mezzo-soprano Heather Witt was called "the kind of singer you hope to hear – talented, alert... a singer with a future" by *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. She is known for her portrayal of a wide array of operatic characters. She recently performed the title role in Bizet's *Carmen* and recorded and performed *Flame Language* by Laurence Sherr. The *Los Angeles Times* called her performance of Hans Eisler's *Hollywood Songbook* "uniformly impressive." Heather Witt is an esteemed oratorio and concert soloist. Her performances have included Handel's *Messiah*, Bruckner's *Te Deum*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, and Saint-Saen's *Christmas Oratorio*. She holds the Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Millikin University and the Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Georgia State University. She is currently an Artist in Residence at Kennesaw State University.



Marietta native and founding member of the Georgia Spiritual Ensemble **Timothy Harper, tenor**, made his opera debut as Thomas in the world premiere performance of *Zabette*. He performed the role of Don Jose in Bizet's *Carmen* with Peach State Opera. Other roles consist of; Don Ottavio in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Spoletta, in Puccini's *Tosca*, Cavaradossi cover, in *Tosca*, Don Jose in Bizet's *Carmen* in Rome Italy, Second Man in Armor in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, and Judge Danforth in Miller's *The Crucible*. He holds degrees from Kennesaw State University (Bachelors of Music in Opera Performance) and Georgia State University (Masters of Music in Opera Performance) and is currently is on the voice faculty at the University of North Georgia. He has won numerous honors throughout the state and South Eastern region. Mr. Harper has been featured as a soloist with the Ludwig Symphony Orchestra as well as the Georgia Symphony Orchestra. Other featured works include; Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Saint Saëns *Christmas Oratorio*, Shubbert's *Mass in G*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, and *Requiem*.



Benjamin Schoening, baritone, holds degrees from Luther College (Voice and Horn), The University of Illinois (Conducting), and the University of Minnesota (Voice). Benjamin has garnered a reputation for his performances of Art Song in the English language, and is in particular is a champion of the American repertoire. In addition to his song recital performances, Benjamin has made appearances with the Racine Choral Arts Society (Wisconsin), Symphonia da Camerata (Illinois), and White Mountain Symphony Orchestra (Arizona), and Northeast Georgia Chamber Symphony as a vocal soloist. He has been active in opera, most recently as Papageno in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, Falke in Strass' *Die Fledermaus*, and the Sacristan and Sciarrone in Puccini's *Tosca*. Benjamin has also established himself as a successful instrumental and choral conductor. He has held conducting positions with the Northland Master Chorale (AZ), White Mountain Symphony Orchestra (AZ), and Red Cedar Choir (WI). Benjamin has also had guest conducting appearances with the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra, University of Illinois Chamber Orchestra, University of Illinois Opera, UNG Wind Ensemble, and the North Georgia Chamber Symphony. Benjamin is presently Head of the Department of Music at the University of North Georgia where is also a Professor of Music and Director of Vocal Studies.

The 2022 Andrew Cain Memorial Concert

The New South Festival Singers & Cumberland Strings

Arietha Lockhart, soprano Heather Witt, mezzo-soprano

Timothy Harper, tenor Benjamin Schoening, baritone Ivy Belk Pirl, piano

Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor

Sunday Afternoon, 27 March 2022, 3:00 PM, St. John United Methodist Church, Atlanta, Georgia

I

ELEGISCHER GESANG, Opus 118

Ludwig van BEETHOVEN, Born 1770 at Bonn, Died 1827 at Vienna

This is the first performance under the auspices of the Choral Foundation

Sung in German

Gently as you lived have you finished, more holy for the pain.

No eye weeps for the heavenly spirit's homecoming.

Gently, gently as you lived have you finished. -Ignaz Franz Castelli, 1781-1862

II

MEERES STILLE und GLÜCKLICHE FAHRT, Opus 112

BEETHOVEN

This is the first performance under the auspices of the Choral Foundation

Sung in German

Deep stillness rules the water
Without motion lies the sea,
And worried the sailor observes
Smooth surfaces all around.

No air from any side!

Deathly, terrible stillness!

In the immense distances not a single wave stirs.

The fog is torn,

The sky is bright,

And Aeolus releases the fearful bindings.

The winds whisper,

The sailor begins to move.

Swiftly! Swiftly! The waves divide,

The distance nears; Already I see land! -Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1749-1832

III

VESPERAE SOLENNES DE CONFESSORE, KV339

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART, Born 1756 at Salzburg, Died 1791 at Vienna

First Performance in Salzburg, 30 September 1780, the Composer Conducting

First WBCF Performance, Sunday, 29 April 1990, Gwinnett Festival Singers, William Baker, conducting

Last WBCF Atlanta Area Performance, Sunday, 7 August 2010, Cobb Summer Singers, Lynn Swanson, conducting

Last WBCF Performance, Sunday, 22 August 2021, Summer Singers of Kansas City, William Baker, conducting

Sung in Latin

Dixit Dominus (Psalm 100)

The Lord said to my Lord; sit at my right hand,
Until I place Your enemies as a footstool for Your feet.
The rod of your power The Lord will send forth from Zion: rule in the midst of your enemies.
Sovereignty is with You on the day of Your strength, In the splendor of the Holy Ones:
Out of the womb before the light I begot you.
The Lord has sworn, and will not repent of it:
You are priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.
The Lord at your right hand crushes kings in the day of His wrath.
He will pass judgment on the nations; He will pile up calamities, and shatter heads in many lands.
He will drink from the rushing stream on the way; Therefore He shall lift up His head.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
And for generations of generations. Amen.

Confitebor (Psalm 111)

I acknowledge you, O Lord,
With my whole heart; in the council of the just and in the congregation.
Great are the works of the Lord, chosen by all His desires.
I acknowledge as well the magnificence of His deeds;
And His justice endures from generation to generation.
He has made memorials of His miracles, a merciful and compassionate Lord.
He gives food to those that fear Him. He will remember forever His covenant.
The power of His works will be announced to His people.
So that He may give them the inheritance of the nations; The works of His hands are truth and justice.
All His commandments are faithful, confirmed from generation to generation, Made in truth and fairness.
The Lord has sent salvation to His people; He has given His covenant for eternity.
Holy and awesome is His Name; The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
All who practice it Have a good understanding.
His praise endures from generation to generation.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, And for generations of generations. Amen.

Beatus Vir (Psalm 112)

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, Who greatly delights in His commandments.
His seed will be potent on the earth, The generation of the righteous will be blessed.
Glory and wealth will be in his house, And his righteousness will endure from generation to generation.
A light has arisen in the dark for the upright; Merciful, compassionate, and just.
Happy is the man who is compassionate and generous,
Who chooses his words with discretion; for he will never be disturbed.
The just will be eternally remembered, and will not fear evil tidings.
His heart is ready to trust in the Lord.
His heart is strengthened; He will not be troubled until he looks down upon his enemies.
He disperses and gives to the poor, His righteousness will endure from generation to generation.

His horn will be exalted in glory.
The sinner will see and be angered, Will gnash his teeth and sulk; The desires of sinners will perish.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
And for generations of generations. Amen.

Laudate Pueri (Psalm 113)

Praise the Lord, O sons, Praise the name of the Lord.
May the name of the Lord be blessed from henceforth and forevermore.
From the rising of the sun to its setting, The name of the Lord is praiseworthy.
The Lord is exalted above all people, And His glory is above the heavens.
Who is like the Lord our God, Who dwells on high and regards the lowly in heaven and on earth?
Supporting the needy on the earth, And raising up the poor from the dust;
In order to place him with the princes of His people.
Who makes the barren one to dwell in a house as the happy mother of children.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
And for generations of generations. Amen

Laudate Dominum (Psalm 117)

Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise Him, all people. For He has bestowed His mercy upon us,
And the truth of the Lord endures forever.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
And for generations of generations. Amen

Magnificat

My soul magnifies the Lord. And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
Behold, from henceforth, I will be called blessed by all generations.
For the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name.
His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with His arm, He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy.
According to the promise He made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to His descendants forever.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. Amen.

Michele Volz, violin I Sam Lee, violin II Iam Smith, viola
George Butler, cello Gabriel Monticello, bass

The New South Festival Singers
2022 Atlanta Home Concert On the Eve of Piccolo Spoleto

Sunday Afternoon, 22 May 2022 at 4:00 PM
St. John United Methodist Church - Atlanta, Georgia

The New South Festival Singers have performed annually to capacity audiences at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival since 1989. Join us for a hometown preview of our festival concert.

ORDER TICKETS ONLINE TODAY - www.FestivalSingers.org/concerts

William Baker Choral Foundation Center

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William Baker Festival Singers, Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998

New South Festival Singers, Atlanta, Georgia, 1985

Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor

Summer Singers of Atlanta, Midtown Atlanta, 1990

Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director & Conductor

Zimria Festivale Atlanta, Dunwoody, Georgia, 2014

Amy Thropp, MM, Music Director & Conductor

Summer Singers of Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

Cobb Summer Singers, Marietta, Georgia, 2006

Lynn Swanson, MME, Founder & Music Director

Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014

Jennifer Lahasky, MME, Music Director & Conductor

Voces Festivas, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2021

Leilani Velasco, Music Director

Kansas City Bronze, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018

Vox Venti, Chicago, Illinois, 2022

Ed Frazier Davis, MM, Music Director & Conductor

Smoky Mountain Summer Singers, Waynesville, North Carolina, 2022

Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor

Institute for Healthy Singing, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2015

Jamea J. Sale, MME, Director

Institute for Choral Creativity, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2020

Ed Frazier Davis, MM, Director

Choral Conversations Podcast with William Baker & Jamea Sale, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018

Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2016



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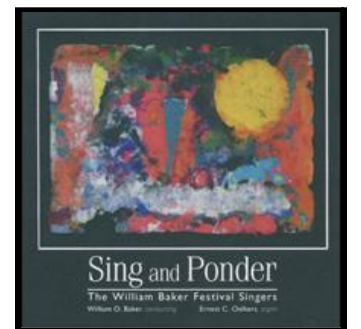
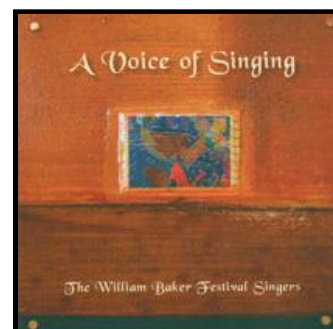
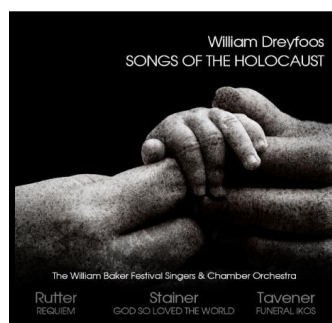
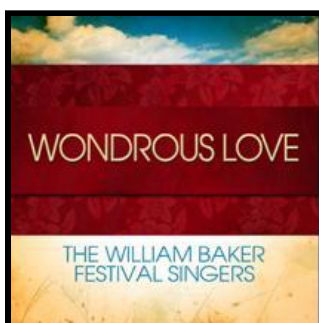
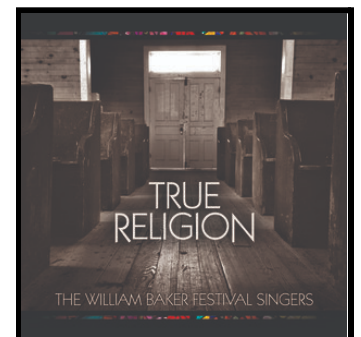
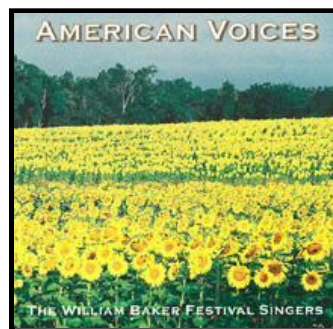
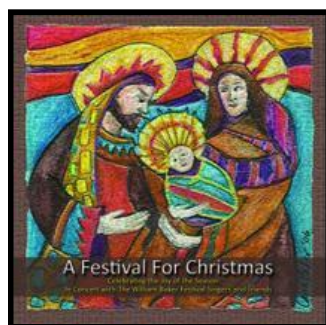
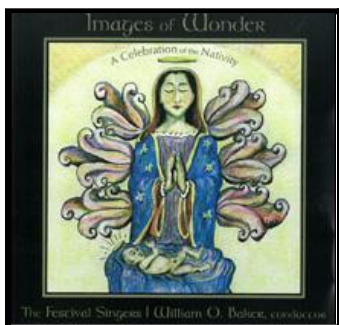
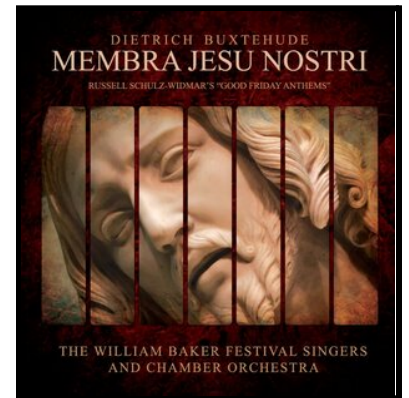
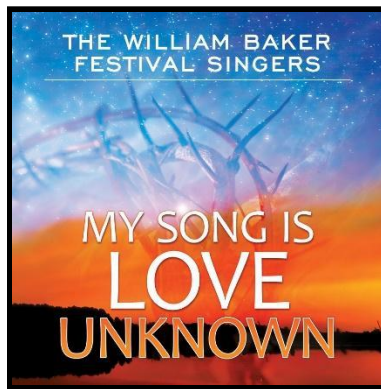
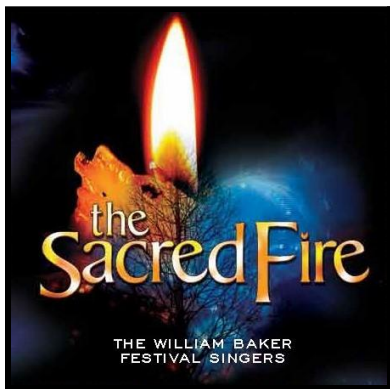
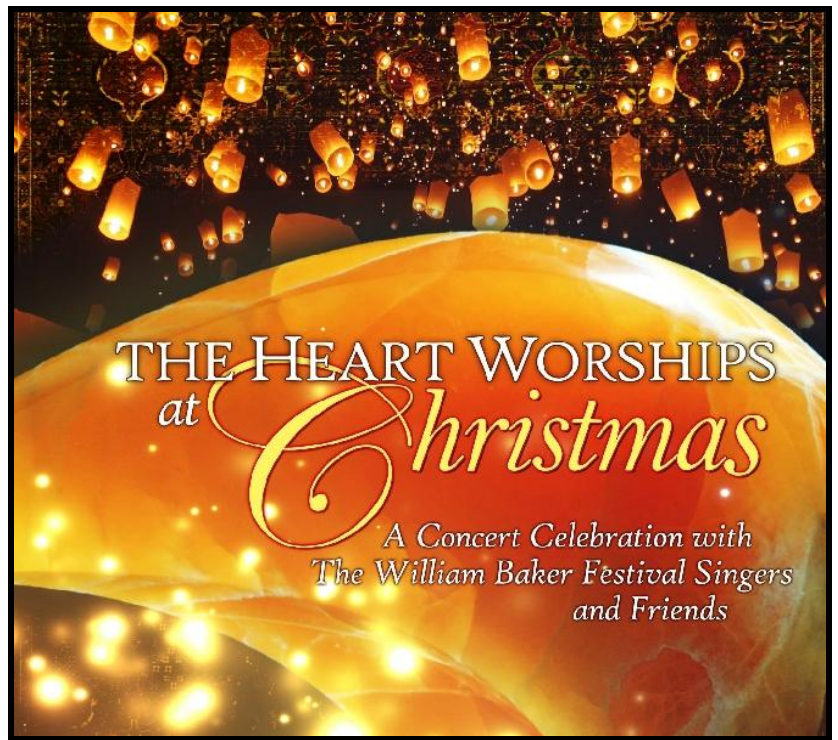
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