



WESTMINSTER
CHOIR COLLEGE



Westminster Concert Bell Choir

Kathleen Ebling Shaw, conductor

Let Freedom Ring!

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| I. The All-American Hometown Band, <i>Walter and Carol Noona,</i>
<i>arr. William R. Wood</i> | 2:56 |
| 2. America, <i>MATERNA, arr. Arnold B. Sherman</i> | 4:07 |
| 3. Amazing Grace, <i>AMAZING GRACE, Virginia Harmony, 1831,</i>
<i>arr. H. Dean Wagner</i> | 8:02 |
| 4. My Country, 'Tis of Thee, <i>AMERICA, arr. Kevin McChesney</i>
<i>Raymond Nugent, piano</i> | 1:55 |
| 5. Battle Hymn of the Republic, <i>arr. Cynthia Dobrinski</i> | 4:00 |
| 6. Melita (The Navy Hymn), <i>John B. Dykes, arr. Betty B. Garee</i> | 3:08 |
| 7. Patriotic Selections, <i>George M. Cohan, arr. Dan R. Edwards</i> | 2:56 |
| 8. This Land Is Your Land, <i>Woody Guthrie, arr. Paul A. McKlveen</i> | 2:04 |
| 9. The Star-Spangled Banner, <i>John Stafford Smith, arr. Donald E. Allured</i> | 1:34 |
| 10. God Bless America, <i>Irving Berlin, arr. John F. Wilson</i>
<i>Emmanuel Acosta, tenor</i> | 3:03 |
| II. The Stars and Stripes Forever, <i>John Philip Sousa, trans. William H. Griffin</i> | 4:39 |
| TOTAL PLAYING TIME | 38:24 |

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Westminster Concert Bell Choir

The **Westminster Concert Bell Choir** is composed of undergraduate and graduate students of Westminster Choir College of Rider University, which was the first institution in the world to develop such a program.

Hailed for its virtuosity, the ensemble uses the largest range of handbells in the world—eight octaves, from C1 to C9. Many of the bells are made of bronze and range in weight from four ounces to 11 pounds; the Choir also uses the large “Basso Profundo” aluminum-cast bells that are a new phenomenon in handbell ringing. The Choir supplements its handbell set with a six-octave set of Malmark Choirchime® instruments from C2 to C8—the widest range in existence.

The Westminster Concert Bell Choir has appeared on Public Television’s *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* and several holiday broadcasts of the *Today* show, including one in which the ensemble was joined by NBC television personalities Katie Couric and Willard Scott. Its holiday performances have been heard annually on National Public Radio’s *Performance Today*, and it is included on NPR’s *Christmas Around the Country II* recording.

The Choir has performed at Carnegie Hall twice during the Christmas season, and it was featured on New Jersey Network’s *State of the Arts* program. With conductor Kathleen Ebling Shaw, it was part of the critically acclaimed “A Royal Christmas” tour of 15 cities with Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Charlotte Church and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Most recently, the Choir joined singer Josh Groban to perform at NBC’s nationally televised lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree.

The Choir has made 11 recordings: *The Pealing Bells*; *Westminster Concert Bell Choir*; *Christmas Bells*; *Westminster Rings!*; *Praise and Adoration*; *Christmas at Westminster*; *The Westminster Concert Bell Choir*; *By Request*; *Westminster Concert Bell Choir: 30th Anniversary Collection*; *A Time To Dance*; *An English Christmas*; and *Let Freedom Ring!*

Kathleen Ebling Shaw

Conductor of the Westminster Concert Bell Choir and a graduate of Westminster Choir College, **Kathleen Ebling Shaw** is a member of the Sacred Music department at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where she teaches classes in handbell training and conducts a second handbell choir.

Well known as a handbell clinician, Mrs. Shaw has conducted sessions for the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers both on the local and national levels. Her other engagements have included sessions for the American Guild of Organists; the New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Texas Music Educators Conferences; Choristers Guild; Presbyterian Association of Musicians Conferences; the St. Olaf Church Music Conference; and International Handbell Symposia in Japan, England, Korea, Australia and the United States.

Most recently, she conducted the Westminster Concert Bell Choir in an appearance with singer Josh Groban in NBC's nationally televised lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree.

Choirs under the direction of Mrs. Shaw have performed at Carnegie Hall and the World Financial Center's Festival of Light and Sound. They have also been featured on Lifetime Television, QVC, NBC's *Today* show, New Jersey Network and Public Television's *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*.

She has also produced eight recordings with the Westminster Concert Bell Choir: *Westminster Rings!; Praise and Adoration; Christmas at Westminster: The Westminster Concert Bell Choir; By Request; Westminster Concert Bell Choir: 30th Anniversary Collection; A Time To Dance; An English Christmas; and Let Freedom Ring!*

Mrs. Shaw is also the recipient of an Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in recognition of her dedication to the art of handbell ringing and her enthusiasm and accomplishments in the classroom as well as the concert hall.

Westminster Choir College

Westminster Choir College is a center for music studies located in the heart of Princeton, N.J. It is a division of Rider University's **Westminster College of the Arts**, which also includes the School of Fine and Performing Arts based on Rider's Lawrenceville campus, and Westminster Conservatory, a community music school. The Choir College is a four-year music college and graduate school that prepares men and women for careers as music leaders in schools, universities, churches and professional and community organizations.

Renowned for its tradition of choral excellence, the College has eight major choirs, including the 150-voice Westminster Symphonic Choir, which has performed and recorded with virtually all of the major orchestras and conductors of our time. Westminster's legacy of musical excellence has been recognized by some of the world's most influential musicians, including Leonard Bernstein, who said, "Westminster Choir College provides a great measure of beauty to a world that needs it badly."

Rider University

Rider University is a private co-educational university with campuses in Lawrenceville and Princeton, N.J. that emphasizes purposeful connections between academic study and education for the professions. Its four colleges—The College of Business Administration; College of Liberal Arts, Education, and Sciences; the College of Continuing Studies and Westminster College of the Arts—provide dynamic undergraduate programs in more than 60 areas and graduate programs in 18 specialties. Rider's rigorous, hands-on learning prepares students to think critically and communicate clearly to become socially responsible leaders.

Westminster Concert Bell Choir

Kathleen Ebling Shaw, *conductor*

Julia Beckmann
Emmanuel Acosta
Emily Beers
Ruth-Noemí Belonni Rosario
Adam Bergstresser
Gillian Erlenborn
Karina Fengler
John Franek
Ian Good
Layton S. Graves
Shalanda Jackson

Robert James Lamb
Mark Laseter
Lauren Michelle Lazzari
Erin MacKenzie
Ryan McCann
Meaghan Metzger
John Joseph Mitchell
Bethan K. Neely
Raymond Nugent
Sarah Palermo
Willis Reifsnyder

The Westminster Concert Bell Choir is grateful to have on loan the lower eighth and ninth octave bass handbells and the lower seventh octave Choirchime® Instruments from Malmark, Inc.- Bellcraftsmen, Plumsteadville, PA., online at www.malmark.com

Recorded in Bristol Chapel, June 2015
Westminster Choir College of Rider University,
Princeton, N.J.

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