

# PAUL WINTER

## Solstice Live!

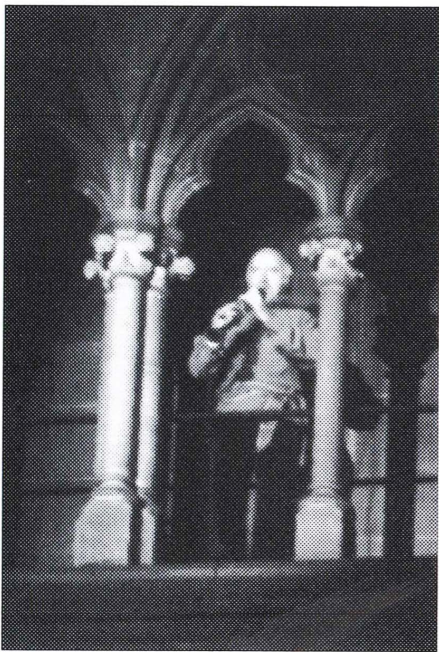
*A Celebration  
of the Winter Solstice*



**The Paul Winter Consort**  
with special guests from Russia, Ireland, Ecuador, Spain,  
the Netherlands and the United States

*Recorded at New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine*





*Imagine yourself in the center of the largest Gothic cathedral in the world. One hundred and twenty-five feet above you arches the dark vault of the Nave. Soon it will appear as an expanse of sky, lit with stars and the glow from a giant Earth ball that spins slowly to the roof. The monumental columns are cast with a mottled green light, transforming the cavernous space into a shadowy forest. A football field's length away to the east, as yet unseen behind the High Altar, hangs an enormous gong like the sun, and with it the bosun's chair that will carry the musician who sounds the sun-gong's dramatic ascent to the dome, 12 stories above.*

*You are one of an audience of 3,000, seated in the round and overflowing to all corners of the Cathedral. In front of you, where the Crossing meets the Nave, are two flanking stages.*

*One is banked with risers to host cello, flute, heckelphone, bass and grand piano. The other houses an armoury of percussion: timpani, suspended Brazilian surdos, conga drums, a Wuhan gong from China, a huge Pueblo drum, frame drums, assorted cymbals, and a variety of smaller instruments. Suddenly, a spotlight outlines the silhouette of a tiny figure in a balcony high in the far west end of the Cathedral. The light catches a gold flash as he raises his saxophone, and with a distant fanfare, the celebration begins.*

*It is the Winter Solstice in New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine, where each December since 1980 the Paul Winter Consort has celebrated this seasonal rite of passage. The Winter Solstice (from the Latin "sol", sun, and "stitium", to stand still) is the longest night of the year, a turning point when the sun on its apparent path across the sky reaches its southernmost point from the Equator and seems to pause before reversing its course. The hours of darkness were a time of mingled foreboding and expectancy for our ancestors, who hoped the enactment of special rituals would entice the sun's return. Bonfires and candles, with their imitative magic, helped fortify the waning sun and ward off spirits of darkness that grew bold with the dwindling light. These symbols live on in our modern seasonal customs: the candles of Hannukah and on Christmas trees are kin to the fiery rites of old that celebrated the miracle of the Earth's renewal.*





**P**roduced by Les Kahn and Paul Winter  
Associate Producers: Paul Halley and  
Russ Landau  
Recorded by Record Plant Remote  
(Kooster MacAllister & Paul Prestopino)  
and Effanel Music (Randy Ezratty);  
additional recording by Tom Bates  
Concert sound engineer: Les Kahn  
Concert monitor engineer: Judy Elliott-Brown  
Mixed by Les Kahn and Russ Landau  
Edited and mastered by Tom Bates on the  
Digital Audio Labs workstation  
Additional editing by Chris Brown  
Hamburg Steinway D Piano by Pro Piano  
Design: Maggie Burnett, Kathy Cowles,  
Sue Maher  
Photography: Christopher Briscoe  
(cover), Jeff Day (back cover & center-  
fold), Mary Bloom, David Allen, Jerry  
Alkoff

*Solstice Live!* is dedicated to the memory  
of two friends, Claire Chappellet and  
Deborah Moonstar, who were and continue  
to be part of this celebration.

# The Paul Winter Consort

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Paul Winter • soprano saxophone

Paul Halley • piano, pipe organ

Eugene Friesen • cello

Rhonda Larson • flute

Glen Velez • frame drums, percussion

Jamey Haddad • drums, percussion

Gordon Gottlieb • timpani, Brazilian surdos, percussion

Mark Perchanok • heckelphone

Dorothy Papadakos • pipe organ

Russ Landau • bass

Eliot Wadopian • acoustic bass

Sammy Figueroa • congas, percussion (*Boon Song, Highland Heaven*)

Ted Moore • drums (*Hodie, The Sparrow*)

Café • congas, percussion (*Hodie, The Sparrow*)

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*The sun gong was specially made for the Solstice event by the Paiste Company of Switzerland. With a diameter of 80", it is the largest gong of this type in the world.*

*It is played by Scott Sloan.*



# Special Guests

**Nóirín Ní Riain** comes from County Limerick in Ireland. She sings in the ancient Gaelic tradition, sometimes accompanying herself on the shruti box, a drone instrument from India. Her repertoire reflects music from women of other times and cultures, where song was an integral part of women's daily life. Nóirín is currently working toward a doctorate on women and music in Irish society.

**The Dimitri Pokrovsky Singers** (Dimitri Pokrovsky, Alexander Danilov, Tamara Smyslova, Maria Nefiodova, Elena Sidorenko, Olga Uketcheva, Irene Shishkina, Eygenny Vedernikov, Dmitri Fokin, Sergei Zhirkov) are dedicated to the traditions of ancient Russian village music. Formed in 1974, they spent many years in the underground of Soviet culture, but have emerged to become one of the most popular groups in Russia. They first collaborated with the Paul Winter Consort on the 1987 album *Earthbeat*, and the two ensembles have since toured together in Japan, Russia and the United States.

**Andes Manta** is a quartet of folk musicians from the Andes Mountains of Ecuador. Three brothers – Wilson, Luis and Bolivar Lopez – and their cousin Carlos Armas play the entire family of Andean instruments, including many types of panpipes, drums and strings.

**Nando Casals** is a member of the popular folk ensemble *Milladoiro* from Galicia in north-western Spain. He plays *gaeta*, the traditional Galician bagpipes, an instrument brought to Spain by the Celts several centuries before Christ.

**Kecia Lewis-Evans** has starred as an actress-singer on Broadway in *Dreamgirls*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Big River*, *Once on This Island*, and *The Gospel at Colonus*. She has sung throughout the United States, Europe, and in the Soviet Union.

**Dimitri Donders**, of the Netherlands, is a young master of the *Trompe de Chasse*, the valveless hunting horn of France. In 1986 and 1989 he won the Championship of Belgium in the International Concours de Trompe de Chasse, and was champion of Bourgoigne, France, in 1990.



# 1. *FANFARE* (Winter/Gottlieb)

Living Earth Music, BMI

Paul Winter, soprano sax [*from balcony in west end of the Cathedral*]

Gordon Gottlieb, timpani [*from central stage*]

# 2. *TOMORROW IS MY DANCING DAY*

(Trad. English; arr. Halley) Living Earth Music, BMI

The Consort



Jeff Day



# 3. *FOG ON THE HILL*

(Trad. Irish; arr. Ní Riain) Living Earth Music, BMI

Nóirín Ní Riain, voice

Eugene Friesen, cello

Spotted owl

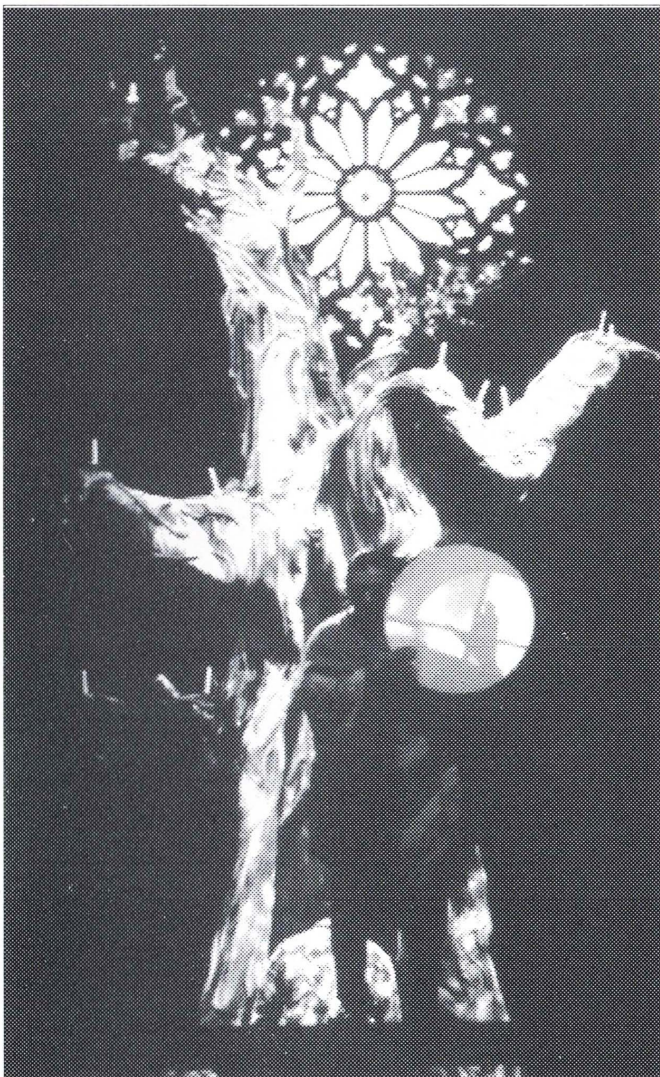
*“This is a traditional ballad from County Waterford. It always reminds me of fog over the hill in the early morning. It is a love song, and at the end, the man says to his sweetheart: ‘From my fingertips I will blow you 500 kisses.’”*

– Nóirín Ní Riain

Spotted owl recording courtesy Library of Natural Sounds, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Wind recording by Mickey Houlihan.

Jeff Day





4. **SHAMAN** (Velez/Winter) Frame Drum Music, BMI;  
Living Earth Music, BMI

Glen Velez, frame drum  
Paul Winter, soprano sax

5. **BOON SONG** (Úirapurú / Halley)  
Living Earth Music, BMI; Back Alley Music, ASCAP

Úirapurú and the Consort

*The Úirapurú, who gives this melody, is the 'musical wren' of the Amazon rainforest. According to Maué Indian legend, whoever hears the voice of the Úirapurú in the forest will have eternal happiness.* Úirapurú recording courtesy Library of Natural Sounds, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

Jeff Day

6. **BUENA NUEVA • GOOD NEWS**

(Trad. Ecuadorean; arr. Andes Manta) Living Earth Music, BMI

*Andes Manta [from wagon moving through center aisle of the Cathedral]*

*Ecuadorean festival song*



Jerry Alkoff





Jeff Day

7. **NEVAGA • NEVA RIVER** (Trad. Russian; arr. Dimitri Pokrovsky) Living Earth Music, BMI  
Dimitri Pokrovsky and Alexander Danilov of the Pokrovsky Singers  
*A Russian lament for the people who died building St. Petersburg.*

8. **HIGHLAND HEAVEN**

(Halley) Back Alley Music, ASCAP  
Rhonda Larson, flute,  
with the Consort

9. **THE SPARROW** (Trad. American; arr. Lewis-Evans) Living Earth Music, BMI  
Kecia Lewis-Evans  
with the Consort

*The words of this old gospel song are from St. Matthew.*

10. **HODIE / GOOD PEOPLE ALL**

(Gregorian chant/Trad. Irish; arr. Halley) Back Alley Music, ASCAP

The Consort



Mary Bloom



# TURNING POINT SUITE

*A journey into the darkness of the longest night,  
and a calling-in of the New Year*

## 11. **PRELUDE: MARCHA DE SAN BENITO • PROCESSIONAL MARCH OF SAN BENITO**

(Trad. Galician, arr. Casals) Living Earth Music, BMI

Nando Casals, *gaeta* (Galician bagpipes) [*walking  
through the Cathedral*]

Paul Halley, organ

## 12. **THE NIGHT FOREST** (Winter, Friesen, Larson, Perchanok) Living Earth Music, BMI

Paul Winter, soprano sax / Eugene Friesen, cello

Rhonda Larson, flute / Mark Perchanok, heckelphone

*Improvisation*

## 13. **RIVER** (Trad Russian; arr. Pokrovsky) Living Earth Music, BMI

Elena Sidorenko, Maria Nefiodova, and Irene  
Shiskina of the Pokrovsky Singers

## 14. **TRICKSTER** (Trad. French; arr. Donders) Living Earth Music, BMI

Dimitri Donders, French hunting horn

## 15. **RETURN OF THE SUN** (Winter/Halley) Living Earth Music, BMI

Bellringers [*throughout the Cathedral*]

Tundra wolf

Paul Winter, soprano sax [*from High Altar  
at east end of the Cathedral*]

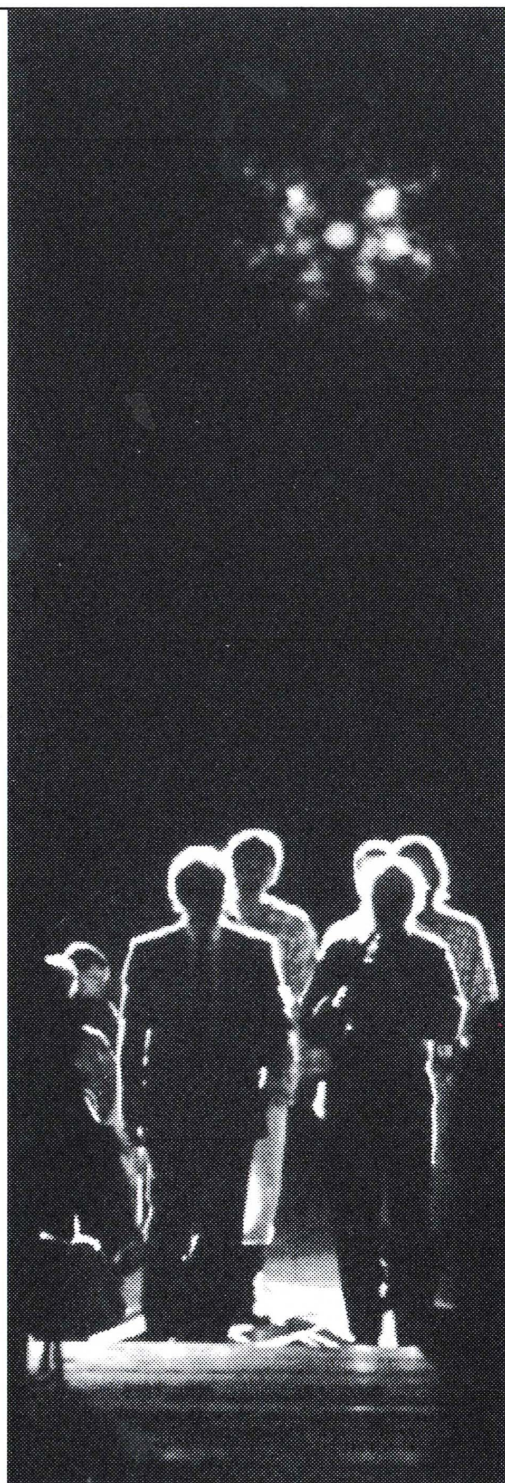
Paul Halley, organ

Scott Sloan, sun gong [*ascending to the  
dome*] Tundra wolf recording courtesy Dr. Michael Fox.

## 16. **SOLSTICE CHANT** (Halley) Back Alley Music, ASCAP

The Consort and special guests

Mary Bloom









## 17. *CHRISTMAS DAY IS COME / DUET FOR THE LONGEST NIGHT*

*CHRISTMAS DAY IS COME* (Trad. Irish; arr. Ní Riain) Living Earth Music, BMI

Nóirín Ní Riain, voice / Paul Halley, organ / Paul Winter, soprano sax

*DUET FOR THE LONGEST NIGHT* (Winter/Halley) Living Earth Music, BMI; Back Alley Music, ASCAP

Paul Winter, soprano sax / Paul Halley, organ

*Improvisation*

## 18. *DOWN IN BELGOROD* (Trad. Russian; arr. Pokrovsky; with new music by Castro-Neves, Halley, Friesen, Winter) Living Earth Music, BMI

The Dimitri Pokrovsky Singers with the Consort

*The Pokrovsky Singers dance and sing this holiday song from the Belgorod region in southern Russia. The rhythm of their feet becomes part of the percussion.*





# 19. MINUIT • MIDNIGHT / ADESTE FIDELES

MINUIT (Trad. Guinean; words by Keita Fodeba; English words by Susan Osborn & John Guth)  
Umpawaug Music, ASCAP

Lead vocals: Paul Winter / Paul Halley

*A village song from West Africa, Minuit has been the traditional finale for the Consort's Solstice celebrations since the first in 1980.*

ADESTE FIDELES (Trad., arr. Winter, Halley) Living Earth Music, BMI

The Consort,

special guests,

audience, and

sun gong [*from dome at east end of the Cathedral*]



Jeff Day



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## THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Ever since St. John's Day, December 27, 1892, when the cornerstone was thrice struck into the living rock of Manhattan's Morningside Heights, St. John has aimed to be a "House of Prayer for All People". To its Great Bronze Doors have come all the faithful – Christian, Jew, Buddhist, existentialist, best-dressed, lesser blessed, sociologically distressed – seeking joy and triumph over the universal demons. In the arboreal stillness of its towering columns and arches, they have listened to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Buckminster Fuller, the Dalai Lama, Rene Dubos, Jesse Jackson, Secretaries General of the United Nations, Vaclav Havel, Senator Albert Gore, Cesar Chavez, the Paul Winter Consort, and poet Gary Snyder. Under the jewel light of its 10,000-pane Great Rose window, they have prayed together for war's end. Though its keynote is distinctly American, as is that of the Episcopal Church, the cathedral – affectionately called "Big John" – peals a Christmas message around the globe: "Peace on earth, good will toward all."

-Wendy Insinger (from 'Hosanna for St. John the Divine' in *Town and Country Monthly*)

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David Allen

**G**ratITUDE to the many people who have participated in the creation of the Solstice events: The Very Reverend James Parks Morton (Dean of the Cathedral), Chez Liley, Randy Hansen (Solstice production manager), John Hickey (Solstice lighting designer), Marc Breslav (Solstice publicist), Jim Butler, Ralph Lee, Naj Wikoff, Charles Persell, Randy Brown, Tom McKinney, Tucker Howard, Ann Hansen, David Bielenberg, Mark Snyder, Bruce Fifer, Helena Fifer-White, Durwyn Liley, Sarah Cowles; Jay Mankita and the Bellringers; the staff of the Consort and Living Music Records - Kathy Cowles, Christina Andersen, Chantal Harris, Kathie Plaskiewicz; and the sponsors of these events - Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream and The Aveda Corporation. Special thanks also to The Right Reverend Richard F. Grein (Bishop of New York), Horst Rechelbacher, Nan Upin, Ben Cohen,

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