

SFWE



SANTA FE WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE

Fall Notes

Vice President's Message

It's the Ensemble's 35th anniversary and we are very excited to celebrate it with you! To mark this significant milestone, Music Director Linda Raney has created a season of memorable concerts, including our traditional holiday offerings in December and, in the spring, a beautiful commissioned work.

We have been fortunate over the years to have the support of so many to commission new music for women's voices. This year's commission—our 33rd—has been generously underwritten by Caroline Burnett. *Reina de la Noche*, written by Z. Randall Stroepe, will be premiered at our May concert. (See p. 2)

We thank you for the many ways in which you have supported the SFWE over the years. As we commence our next 35 years, please stay involved by volunteering, serving on our board, or through your financial contributions. If underwriting a concert or a commission is of interest to you, please contact us!

Join us for a joyful year of celebration, adventurous programming, and sublime singing.



Songs of Joy and Remembrance

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" ... and with frost in the air you may already be thinking of joyful carols and holiday songs.

The Santa Fe Women's Ensemble is excited to present our winter concerts—*Songs of Joy and Remembrance*. In December 1981, Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* was sung by the newly formed Ensemble at the first community musical performance in Loretto Chapel. We honor our beginnings by performing this classic work for harp and treble voices. Harpist Lynn Gorman DeVelder will also accompany two of our favorite commissioned pieces: *Winter Solstice* by Paul Carey and *The Storke* by Gerald Near.

With jubilant songs and familiar carols, these concerts will delight you. Please join us!

Our Concerts

In Loretto Chapel, 207 Old Santa Fe Trail
December 11, 13, 15, and 17; all at 6:30 p.m.
Tickets: Reserved seating, \$35 to \$20

In Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel, 50 Mount Carmel Road
December 19 at 3 p.m.
Tickets: General admission, \$25

For tickets, please visit the Lentic Box Office,
order online at ticketsantafe.org,
or call (505) 988-1234.

Student and military discounts available.



One Thousand Voices Raised in Song!

On Friday, December 4, join the Ensemble and the SF Symphony Brass and Chorus, and raise your voice at a *free* community holiday celebration at the St. Francis Cathedral Basilica. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the *Carols and Choruses* concert starts at 7 p.m. With fanfares, performances, and caroling sing-alongs, this festivity is always a crowd favorite. Get to the Cathedral early to get a good seat!



You'll be tired of leftover turkey ...

so come for SFWE Day at everyone's favorite pizza restaurant, Il Vicino!

On **Tuesday, December 1**, join us for lunch and/or dinner, or take out a snack or pizzas for the office. When you order, mention you're there to support us and Il Vicino will generously donate 20% of your total check to our group. Thank you, Il Vicino!

The restaurant is located at 321 W. San Francisco, with convenient parking behind the restaurant. Call 986-8700 for takeout or info.

Tasty food!



Spring Commission

Reina de la Noche, this year's commission which is underwritten by Caroline Burnett, is dedicated in honor of Gwen Gilligan, long-time SFWE alto. We are very excited to have Z. Randall Stroope compose this new work for us. Stroope is an acclaimed American composer, conductor, lecturer, and teacher who was born in Albuquerque and lives part-time in Santa Fe. Ensemble singers and audiences rave about Stroope's pieces we have performed in the past. (See next article.)

As part of our 35th anniversary celebrations, we have planned a gala "Meet the Composer and Artists" gathering immediately following the concert on May 22. Save the date—we'd love to see you there!

Last Spring's Concert Wrap-Up

June's concerts with the Durango Women's Choir and Linda Mack Berven were wonderful. A few of your comments follow:

"All of the pieces were spectacular, and the works by Stroope were transporting. Thank you!"

"The best concert I have gone to this year, and that includes the Desert Chorale! Diction was perfect. Loved the variety of music and passion."

"At this point I am convinced that Z. Randall Stroope can do no wrong. Wow!"

"My favorites were *Three Poems from the Parlour* and *Cèpeni*."

"Everything taken together made an outstanding artistic whole! The Mendelssohn did especially sweep me off my feet; however *Three Poems from the Parlour* were of particular delight to me and my Austen-loving daughter. Thanks for a transporting experience."

"Liked hearing the groups alone and together—great idea!"

"Hard to pick! Lovely! Stroope is heartbreaking!"

"Love the women who are expressing emotion—joy. It so adds to the music! *Cèpeni* and *Gloria* were my favorites."

"At this point I am convinced that Z. Randall Stroope can do no wrong. Wow!"

Wolcum! Welcome!

We are pleased to introduce a few new Women's Ensemble family members to you.



Sarah Noss, vice president of the Ensemble board, is that rare bird, a native of Santa Fe. After earning a degree in communications from Stanford, she worked for many years in advertising and promotions, first in Santa Fe, then for a decade in Chicago. Since the early '90s she has worked for a variety of Santa Fe nonprofits as a writer, consultant, fundraiser, and grant writer. In her four years at the St. Vincent Hospital Foundation, she helped realize many projects, including the renovation of the OB/GYN unit and the Healing Garden at

the Cancer Treatment Center. Sarah was development director for Cornerstones Community Partnerships, a historic preservation nonprofit. In her recent eight-year tenure as the executive director of the Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute, she funded the \$5 million Farmers' Market Building in the Railyard and initiated the institute's programs. Sarah is currently a fundraising consultant.

Mary Kreutz, administrative director, is a native Midwesterner who, in 1985, struck out looking for adventure with a couple of close friends, her trusty beagle, and a few prized possessions. They headed west, became entranced with northern New Mexico and ended up in Santa Fe. The journey for her is ongoing and has only enhanced her fundamental love of music and the arts, inspired her creative writing, and brought her more in tune with her existence. She holds a real estate broker's license but specializes in offering administrative support to local entrepreneurs.



Our newest singer alto **Lydia Madrick**, (BM, MM, New England Conservatory of Music, Boston) has both accompanied and sung with the Zia Singers, Santa Fe Symphony Chorus, Highlands University Chorus, and Sangre de Cristo Chorale. She is music director of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Fe and has 35 students in her private studio.



Facebook—

We're celebrating our 35th anniversary on our Facebook page, too. What were we doing in 1981? What did we look like? Hmm ...

There are many things we just don't have the space to cover in our newsletter, and our FB page is a perfect place to share news, features, photos from across the years and even views behind the scenes.

You don't have to be a member of Facebook to access our page. Our FB page is a public page so it can be viewed by everyone. Gain access from our website by clicking on the Facebook logo.

And you can save trees and go green by signing up for electronic newsletters on our website: www.sfwe.org. You can also find our Facebook and YouTube links there.



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Save the Dates!

- **SFWE Day at Il Vicino:**
Tuesday, December 1,
all day
- **Carols and Choruses:**
St. Francis Cathedral
Basilica, December 4,
at 7 p.m.
- **Songs of Joy and
Remembrance:**
Loretto Chapel,
December 11, 13, 15, 17
at 6:30 p.m.,
and Immaculate Heart of
Mary Church,
December 19, at 3 p.m.

Concert Harpist

Renowned harpist Lynn Gorman DeVelder will be performing with us for our December concerts. Lynn's bio could fill this page! She has played for many orchestras throughout the United States, and even was harpist for "The President's Own" US Marine Band in Washington, DC, from 1998 to 2003.

We're so excited she's joining us for our holiday concerts.



Keep Us in Mind

The Santa Fe Women's Ensemble focuses its modest budget on the production of high-quality concerts. Ticket prices cover only a portion of the expenses so your contributions are a crucial part of the group's success. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and donations are tax deductible.

If you are willing to assist with fundraising, publicity, as an usher, or any other detail of our concert seasons, contact us at info@sfwe.org or call (505) 954-4922.

This project is made possible in part by **New Mexico Arts**, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and the **National Endowment for the Arts**. It is partially funded by the 1% **Lodger's Tax** and the **City of Santa Fe Arts Commission**.

