

1. HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMÅ 03:07

TEXT: HANS A. BRORSON

MELODY: J.A.P. SCHULTZ

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

2. JEG ER SÅ GLAD HVER JULEKVELD 03:38

TEXT: MARIE WEXELSEN

MELODY: PEDER KNUDSEN

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

3. MITT HJERTE ALLTID VANKER 04:23

SOLOIST: TORA AUGESTAD - SOPRANO

TEXT: HANS A. BRORSON

MELODY: NORWEGIAN VARIANT
OF A SWEDISH FOLK TUNE

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

4. AWAY IN A MANGER 04:08

SOLOIST: TORA AUGESTAD - SOPRANO

TEXT: UNKNOWN

MELODY: WILLIAM J. KIRKPATRICK

ARR: OLA GJEILO

5. GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN 03:16

TEXT AND MELODY: TRADITIONAL

ARR: OLA GJEILO

6. KLING NO KLOKKA 02:35TEXT: ELIAS BLIX, MELODY: HALLE 1705/
VARIANT OF A FOLK TUNE FROM OPPDAL

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

7. COVENTRY CAROL 02:55

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN

ARR: OLA GJEILO

8. ET LITE BARN SÅ LYSTELIG 02:34

TEXT: HANS THOMMISØN

MELODY: FOLK TUNE FROM STANGVIK

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

9. O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL 03:54

SOLOIST: TORA AUGESTAD - SOPRANO

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN

ARR: OLA GJEILO

10. THE HOLLY AND THE IVY 03:31

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN

ARR: OLA GJEILO

11. THE FIRST NOWELL 04:24

SOLOIST: TORA AUGESTAD - SOPRANO

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN

ARR: OLA GJEILO

12. DEN YNDIGSTE ROSE 03:51

TEXT: HANS A. BRORSON

MELODY: NORWEGIAN FOLK TUNE

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

13. IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER 05:00

TEXT: CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

MELODY: GUSTAV HOLST

ARR: OLA GJEILO

14. DET LYSER I STILLE GRENDER 04:11

TEXT: JACOB SANDE

MELODY: LARS SØRAAS D.Y.

ARR: ANDREW SMITH

TO
WHOM
WE
SING

KAMMERKORET NOVA

CONDUCTOR: ANNE KARIN SUNDAL-ASK

SOPRANO: TORA AUGESTAD

NORWEGIAN & ENGLISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS

ARRANGED BY ANDREW SMITH

& OLA GJEILO



CONDUCTOR: ANNE KARIN SUNDAL-ASK

SOPRANO: SOLVEIG ENGAN, HEGE KRISTIN ULVIN, TONJE ØYAN, KAROLINE ORMÅSEN, ANNA-JULIA GRANBERG, BIRGITTE SANDVE, SISSEL BERGH-JACOBSEN, CHRISTINE PIRO VOLAN, CECILIE ØVREBØ SUND, INGRID BUGGE. ALTO: MARIA ASTRUP HJORT, ELLEN NEVERDAL, KRISTIN ORLUND,

MARIA SANDVE, GUNNHILD GRAASVOLD, INGRID A. PEDERSEN, IRIL ANNE RENSHUS, NINA CASPERSEN. TENOR: LARS BALLANGRUD, TOMAS BØHLER TORSÉN, MARCUS DONI SUDARSONO, ROLF VALLE, TOM STRØM, ANDREAS BACKER. BASS: PER AKSEL HOSAR, MARTIN BRUNNER, KRISTIAN KRÜGER, ØYVIND A. SYLJUÅSEN, BJØRN FREDRIK MEYER, OLE ASKHEIM THYGESON, DAVID DAWSON

KAMMERKORET NOVA

Kammerkoret NOVA feirer 10 år i 2011. Vi markerer dette med å gi ut vår andre CD. I To Whom We Sing har vi nennsomt valgt ut et knippe av våre favorittjulesanger, både norske og engelske. Vi har fornyet den kjente og tradisjonelle julemusikken gjennom å samarbeide med dyktige unge komponister som har gitt sangene et nytt tonespråk. De norske julesangene er arrangert av den engelskfødte komponisten Andrew Smith, som er bosatt i Norge, og de engelskspråklige av den norske komponisten Ola Gjeilo, som for tiden er bosatt i USA. Dette har gitt arrangementene en ekstra kulturell dimensjon. Først og fremst har vi imidlertid ønsket å lage en varm og ekte plate som henter fram både gleden og høytidsstemningen som hører julen til.

Kammerkoret NOVA er kjent for sin homogene klang og sin evne til å formidle musikalske stemninger. Koret har vunnet en rekke priser både nasjonalt og internasjonalt. Høsten 2009 vant koret to førstepriser i Grieg internasjonale korfestival. Samme høst vant de også voksenkorklassen i Let the Peoples Sing, Den europeiske kringkastingsunionens (EBUs) internasjonale konkurranse for amatørkor. Kammerkoret NOVA holder jevnlig konserter i inn- og utland, ofte i samarbeid med andre musikere. Kammerkoret NOVA har også deltatt på plateinnspillinger for andre artister, for eksempel Jan Eggum, HGH og Geirr Lystrup, samt på innspillinger til spillefilmer.

Våren 2008 gav Kammerkoret NOVA ut sin første CD Nova på LAWO Classics. For mer informasjon, se www.kammerkoretnova.no

NOVA CHAMBER CHOIR

As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of NOVA Chamber Choir in 2011, we are marking the occasion with the release of our second CD. For this recording, "To Whom We Sing", we took special care in choosing some of our favourite Christmas carols, both Norwegian and English. We have renewed the familiar and traditional Christmas music through our collaboration with competent young composers who have given the carols a new tonal language. The Norwegian numbers have been arranged by the English-born composer, Andrew Smith, a resident of Norway, and the English pieces by Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo, presently living in the USA. This has imparted to the arrangements an added cultural dimension. Above all, however, we wish to make a warm and heartfelt recording expressing the joy and festive mood that characterize Christmas.

NOVA Chamber Choir is known for its homogenous sound and its ability to convey musical moods. The choir has won a number of prizes, both national and international. In autumn, 2009, NOVA won two first prizes at the Grieg International Choir Festival. The same autumn they won the adult choir category at Let the Peoples Sing, the European Broadcasting Union's international competition for amateur choirs. NOVA Chamber Choir regularly performs concerts in Norway and abroad, often in collaboration with other musicians. The choir has contributed to recordings of other artists—Jan Eggum, HGH, and Geirr Lystrup among them—and to film music recordings as well.

NOVA Chamber Choir's first CD "Nova" was released in the spring of 2008 by LAWO Classics. For more information, visit: www.kammerkoretnova.no

ANNE KARIN SUNDAL-ASK (1973)

Anne Karin Sundal-Ask startet Kammerkoret NOVA høsten 2001. Koret var opprinnelig hennes eksamensprosjekt, men ble videreført også etter eksamen. Hun har hovedfag i korledelse fra Norges musikkhøgskole, er utdannet fløytist ved Musikkonservatoriet i Trondheim og har studert pedagogikk ved NTNU. Hun underviser i dirigering på Norges musikkhøgskole og ved Universitetet i Oslo. I tillegg til Kammerkoret NOVA dirigerer hun Det norske jentekor.

Anne Karin Sundal-Ask har ledet flere kor til seier både i nasjonale og internasjonale konkurranser og har mottatt utmerkelser for sin korledelse. Hun har ved flere anledninger vært dommer i prestisjetunge korkonkurranser og holder seminarer i dirigering og for kor både i inn- og utland.

Som dirigent kan Anne Karin Sundal-Ask beskrives som en kvalitetsbevisst, målrettet og inspirerende leder. Hun evner å formidle sine musikalske mål til sangerne slik at hver enkelt sanger yter sitt beste. Hun fokuserer mye på intonasjon, klang og ensemblemusisering. Målet er å skape et musikalsk uttrykk som berører publikum og sangere.

ANNE KARIN SUNDAL-ASK (1973)

Anne Karin Sundal-Ask founded NOVA Chamber Choir in the autumn of 2001. Originally a project choir for her examination, it continued in its own right upon completion of her studies. Sundal-Ask holds a Master's degree in choral conducting from the

Norwegian Academy of Music, a degree in flute from Trondheim Conservatory of Music, and she has studied education at NTNU. She teaches conducting at the Norwegian Academy of Music and at the University of Oslo. In addition to NOVA, she conducts The Norwegian Girls' Choir.

Anne Karin Sundal-Ask's choirs have won both national and international competitions, and she has received numerous awards for her conducting. Besides regularly judging prestigious choir competitions, she holds seminars in conducting in Norway and abroad.

Anne Karin Sundal-Ask is a quality-oriented, resourceful, and inspiring leader with an unusual ability to communicate her musical intentions and bring out the best in every singer. She focuses on intonation, sound, and ensemble interaction. Her aim is to achieve musical expression which touches audience and singers alike.

TORA AUGESTAD (1979)

Tora Augestad er sanger og skuespiller og har hele Europa som arbeidsfelt. Hun er utdannet ved Norges musikkhøgskole (NMH) og Kungliga Musikhögskolan i Stockholm og har master i kabaretsang fra NMH. Augestad arbeider med moderne musikk, klassisk musikk, kabaret og jazz, og er en av de mest allsidige sangerne i sin generasjon.

Tora sang i Det Norske Solistkor fra 2000 til 2005 og i vokalgruppen Pitsj fra 1999 til 2006. Hun er vokalist i bandet Music for a while med blant

andre Stian Carstensen. De kommer med sitt andre album i 2012.

I Norge synger hun jevnlig med ulike ensembler og orkestre og har også sunget på Den Norske Opera. Hoveddelen av hennes karriere er imidlertid på kontinentet, hvor hun jevnlig konserterer med bl.a. Klangforum Wien og Ensemble Modern. Høsten 2011 er hun en av solistene i Christoph Marthalers nye verk *Il Stimulatore Cardiac* på hovedscenen på Theater Basel i Sveits.

I 2012 debutterer hun på operaen i Zürich med et nytt stykke av Christoph Marthaler under ledelse av William Christie. Hun synger også i Enno Poppes nye opera *IQ* under Schwetzingen Festspiele.

Tora Augestad bor i dag i Berlin.

For mer informasjon, se www.toraugestad.no

TORA AUGESTAD (1979)

Singer/actor Tora Augestad's sphere of activity encompasses the whole of Europe. She has a Master's degree in cabaret from the Norwegian Academy of Music and has studied at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm. With major fields of interest including modern and classical music, cabaret, and jazz, she is one of the most versatile singers of her generation. From 2000-2005 Augestad sang with The Norwegian Soloists' Choir and from 1999-2006 with the vocal group Pitsj. She is vocalist with the band Music For A While, whose members include, among others, Stian Carstensen. They will release their second album in

2012. In Norway she performs regularly with diverse ensembles and orchestras and has also sung at the Norwegian National Opera.

*Currently, however, her career is centered on the Continent, where she appears in concert with, among others, Klangforum Wien and Ensemble Modern. In the autumn of 2011 she will be one of the soloists on the main stage of Theater Basel in Christoph Marthaler's *Il Stimulatore Cardiac*.*

*In 2012 she will debut at Zurich Opera House in a new work by Christoph Marthaler under the direction of William Christie. She will also sing in Enno Poppe's new opera *IQ* as part of the Schwetzingen Festspiele.*

Tora Augestad resides at present in Berlin.

For more information, visit: www.toraugestad.no

ANDREW SMITH (1970)

Andrew Smith er vokst opp i Liverpool, England, og kom til Norge som 14-åring i 1984. Han skriver først og fremst for kor og vokalensembler og hans musikk er bestilt og fremført av blant andre Trio Mediaeval, New York Polyphony, Washington National Cathedral, Nidarosdomens jentekor og Vestfoldfestspillene, samt en rekke andre kor i Norge og utlandet. Elementer av middelalder og gregoriansk sang har en sentral plass i Andrew Smiths musikk, som er utgitt på Oxford University Press, Norsk Musikforlag og Musikk-Husets Forlag.

For mer informasjon, besøk www.home.no/andrewsmith

"Å arrangere norske julesanger for Kammerkoret NOVA har vært en utelukkende lystbetont oppgave. Ekstra gledelig var det at prosjektet skulle deles med Ola Gjeilo, en komponist jeg setter stor pris på.

Det var ikke uten en viss ærefrykt at jeg, med ikke-norsk bakgrunn, gikk løs på denne sentrale delen av den norske julekulturarven. Jeg har forsøkt å understreke den særegne karakteren i sangene uten å overlesse dem med for mye pynt og effekter, og la melodiene tre tydelig fram. Ett sted har jeg lagt til tekst på latin, i åpningen av "Det lyser i stille grender". Teksten er fra middelalderhymnen "Conditor alme siderum" ("Ditt skaparbios i stjernor bur"), som for å understreke det mystiske ved julen.

Tekstene og melodiene, med røtter i norsk folketradisjon og sentraleuropeisk kultur, beskriver julen som en tid både for utadvendt glede og for innadvendt ettertanke. Jeg håper disse versjonene, i Kammerkoret NOVAs nydelige tolkning, gjenspeiler noe av dette.

God jul!"

Andrew Smith, Oslo, september 2011

ANDREW SMITH (1970)

Andrew Smith is a British composer, conductor, and organist residing in Oslo. He grew up outside Liverpool and received his early musical training singing in the Chapel Choir of Birkenhead School. From 1991-2009 he was organist and choirmaster at St. Edmund's Church in Oslo, and from 1997-2006 he served as programme consultant for the Ultima Contemporary Music Festival. He began writing musical

compositions at the age of six. For the past fifteen years he has composed mainly for choirs and vocal ensembles, among them Trio Mediaeval and New York Polyphony (USA).

For more information, visit:

www.home.no/andrewsmith

"Arranging Norwegian Christmas carols for NOVA Chamber Choir has been a most gratifying task and a challenge I was delighted to accept. It is, however, not without a certain deferential respect that an Englishman sets out to refashion this central element of Norwegian Christmas tradition. There are many well-established versions of these carols, and the challenge has been to add something original and personal, without obscuring the melodies and texts with superfluous effects. I have sought to emphasize the unique character of each piece, while allowing for them to be performed together in the manner of a suite.

The texts and the melodies, with roots in Norwegian folk tradition and Central European culture, portray Christmas as a time of both outward happiness and inward contemplation. I hope that these versions, in NOVA Chamber Choir's lovely renditions, reflect something of this."

Merry Christmas!"

Andrew Smith, Oslo, September 2011

OLA GJEILO (1978)

Ola Gjeilo er født i Norge, og flyttet til New York i 2001 for å begynne sine komposisjonsstudier ved Juilliard School, der han ble uteksaminert med mastergrad i 2006.

Olas komposisjoner spilles over hele verden. Hans debutinnspilling som pianokomponist, det lyriske crossoveralbumet *Stone Rose*, ble sluppet til strålende kritikker i 2007 på 2L.

Ola liker spesielt å skrive musikk for kor, blåseensemble og piano. Som pianist er hans største lidenskap improvisasjon. Han er også svært interessert i film, og henter mye inspirasjon fra filmer og filmatisk musikk. Olas partiturer blir distribuert av Hal Leonard.

For mer informasjon, besøk www.olagjeilo.com

"Dette er første gang jeg har arrangert musikk skrevet av andre, men da Kammerkoret NOVA spurte om jeg kunne tenke meg å arrangere sju kjente engelske julesanger for a cappella kor, var det lett å si ja. Hver jul under oppveksten utenfor Oslo var høytiden farget av en juleplate med engelske carols, med glimrende framføringer av King's College og den fantastiske sir David Willcocks, som også laget noen av de vakreste Christmas carol-arrangementene jeg noensinne har hørt. Så det var ikke vanskelig å bli inspirert når jeg fikk jobbe med melodier som O Come, O Come, Emmanuel og In the Bleak Midwinter.

Jeg ønsket å gjøre ting med julesangene som ikke har blitt prøvd så mye før. Samtidig ville jeg prøve å skape

en så vakker og intim julestemning som mulig. Derfor ble for eksempel Coventry Carol til en slags vals, mens God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen ble intrikat polyfon og satt i et raskere tempo enn vanlig. Jeg ønsket også å bruke en tekstur som jeg er glad i: at koret synger med lukket munn, på "Mmm". Det er en av de vakreste klangfargene jeg vet om, og den skaper en berlig varme, stillhet og varhet. Dette er fundamentet for særlig Away In A Manger, som er det enkleste og mest intime av arrangementene. Jeg liker også å ha en slags "groove", et fast rytmisk akkompagnement. Dette er en interessant utfordring med a cappella kor, fordi sangerne må puste med jevne mellomrom. Jeg delte derfor koret opp i to og lot dem veksle på å synge det rytmiske akkompagnementet. Et jevnt, rytmisk akkompagnement til melodiene hører dere særlig i O Come, O Come, Emmanuel og In the Bleak Midwinter.

Det var en inspirerende og rørende prosess å jobbe med disse fantastiske gamle engelske julesangene, ikke minst fordi jeg også visste at arrangementene ville være i gode hender hos Kammerkoret NOVA. Samtidig satte jeg stor pris på å dele denne nye samlingen med min gode venn og kollega, Andrew Smith.

God jul!"

Ola Gjeilo, New York City, september 2011

OLA GJEILO (1978)

Ola Gjeilo was born in Norway. He moved to New York City in 2001 to begin studying composition at The Juilliard School, from which he received a Master's degree in 2006. Ola's compositions are performed the world over. His debut recording as composer and

pianist, the lyrical crossover album Stone Rose, was released by 2L in 2007 to glowing reviews. Ola especially likes to write music for choir, wind ensemble, and piano. His greatest passion as pianist is improvisation. He is also very interested in film and draws a lot of inspiration from films and cinematic music. Ola's scores are distributed by Hal Leonard.

For more information, visit www.olagjeilo.com

"This is the first time I have arranged music written by others, but when NOVA Chamber Choir asked me whether I could imagine arranging seven familiar English Christmas carols for a cappella choir, it was easy to say yes. Every Christmas, while growing up outside Oslo, the festive season was coloured by a Christmas recording of English carols brilliantly performed by the Choir of King's College and Sir David Willcocks, whose arrangements of Christmas carols are some of the loveliest I have heard. So it was not difficult to become inspired when I began working with melodies such as O Come, O Come, Emmanuel and In The Bleak Midwinter.

I wished to do things with the carols which have not been attempted so often in the past. At the same time, I wanted to try to create the most beautiful and intimate Christmas mood possible. Thus, Coventry Carol is a kind of waltz, while God Rest You Merry Gentlemen has become intricately polyphonic and is set at a faster tempo than usual. I also wished to use a texture I am fond of: the choral sound "Mmm" with mouths closed. It is one of the most beautiful tone colours I know, and it creates wonderful warmth, serenity, and sensitiv-

ity. It is the basis of Away In A Manger, which is the simplest and most intimate of the arrangements. I also like to have a kind of groove, a steady, rhythmic accompaniment. It is an interesting challenge with an a cappella choir because the singers must breathe at even intervals. That is why I divided the choir in two and let them alternate singing the rhythmic accompaniment, which you hear in particular in O Come, O Come, Emmanuel and In The Bleak Midwinter.

The process of working with these fantastic old English carols was both inspiring and moving, especially knowing that with NOVA Chamber Choir the arrangements would be in good hands. Likewise, I appreciated very much sharing this new collection with my good friend and colleague, Andrew Smith.

Merry Christmas!"

Ola Gjeilo, New York City, September, 2011



1. HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMÅ

TEKST: HANS A. BRORSON.
MELODI: J. A. P. SCHULTZ
ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Her kommer dine arme små
O Jesu i din stall å gå,
Opplyst enhver i sjel og sinn
å finne veien til deg inn!

Vi løper deg med sang imot
Og kysser støvet for din fot,
o salig stund, o søte natt
Da du ble født, vår sjeleskatt!

Velkommen fra din himmelsal
Til denne verdens tåredal
Hvor man deg intet annet bød
Enn stall og krybbe, kors og død!

La verden ei med all sin makt
Oss rive ut av dåpens pakt
Men giv at all vår lengsel må
Til deg, til deg alene stå!

Så skal det skje at vi engang
blant alle helgners frydesang
i himlens søte paradís
skal prise deg på englevis.

Her står vi nå i flokk og rad
om deg, vår skjønneste hjerteblad.
Å hjelp, at vi og alle må
i himmelen for din trone stå.

THY LITTLE ONES WE COME TO THEE

TEXT: HANS A. BRORSON.
MELODY: J. A. P. SCHULTZ
ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

*Thy little ones we come to Thee
Dear Jesus to Thy stable rude
Encourage every soul and mind
The way to Thee this day to find*

*We hasten to Thee with our song
And kiss the dust Thy feet have trod
O blessed hour, how sweet the night
That Thou wast born, our heart's delight.*

*We welcome Thee from Heaven's hall
Into this dismal vale of tears
The offerings awaiting Thee
A stable, manger, cross, and death.*

*Let not the world with all its might
From baptism's seal put us to flight
But may our yearning ever be
Alone for Thee, and only Thee!*

*Then come the day when we rejoice
Together with the saints shall stand
In Heaven on high, sweet paradise
With angel bands Thy praises sing.*

*The multitudes assembled here
Encompass Thee our God supreme
O might that we and all may stand
On high before Thy heavenly throne*

2. JEG ER SÅ GLAD HVER JULEKVELD

TEKST: MARIE WEXELSEN.
MELODI: PEDER KNUDSEN
ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Jeg er så glad hver julekveld,
for da ble Jesus født;
da lyste stjernen som en sol,
og engler sang så søtt.

Det lille barn i Betlehem,
han var en konge stor
som kom fra himlens høye slott
ned til vår arme jord.

Nå bor han høyt i himmerik,
han er Guds egen sønn,
men husker alltid på de små
og hører deres bønn.

Da tenner moder alle lys,
så ingen krok er mørk;
hun sier stjernen lyste så
i hele verdens ørk.

Hun sier at den lyser enn
og slukkes aldri ut,
og hvis den skinner på min vei,
da kommer jeg til Gud.

Jeg holder av vår julekveld
og av den Herre Krist,
og at han elsker meg igjen,
det vet jeg ganske visst.

I AM SO GLAD EACH CHRISTMAS EVE

TEXT: MARIE WEXELSEN.
MELODY: PEDER KNUDSEN
ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve
The night of Jesus' birth;
The star it shone like a sun,
And angels sweetly sang.*

*The little Child in Bethlehem,
He was a king so grand
Came down from His celestial home
To our impoverished Earth.*

*He now resides in Heaven above,
For He is God's own son,
But ne'er forgets the little ones
And listens to their prayers.*

*Then Mother lights each candle bright
So radiant the room;
She says the wondrous star shone forth
And brightened all the earth.*

*She says that it is shining still
And never will it fade,
And if it lightens up my path
I'll follow it to God.*

*I am so fond of Christmas Eve
And of Lord Jesus Christ,
And that He loves me just as much
Of that I am assured.*

3. MITT HJERTE ALLTID VANKER

TEKST: HANS A. BRORSON, MELODI: NORSK VARIANT AV
SVENSK FOLKETONE, ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Mitt hjerte alltid vanker
i Jesu føderom
Der samles mine tanker
som i sin hovedsum
Der er min lengsel hjemme
der har min tro sin skatt
Jeg kan deg aldri glemme
velsignet julenatt

Men under uten like
hvor kan jeg vel forstå
at Gud av himmeriket
i stallen ligge må
At himlens fryd og ære
det levende Guds ord
skal så foraktet være
på denne arme jord

Akk kom, jeg opp vil lukke
mitt hjerte og mitt sinn
og full av lengsel sukke:
Kom Jesus dog her inn
Det er ei fremmed bolig
du har den selv jo kjøpt
Så skal den blive trolig
heri mitt hjerte svøpt

Jeg gjerne palmegrene
vil om din krybbe strø
For deg, for deg alene
jeg leve vil, og dø.
Kom la min sjel dog finne
sin rette gledes stund
at du er født her inne
i hjertets dype grunn

MY HEART IT WANDERS ALWAYS

TEXT: HANS A. BRORSON, MELODY: NORWEGIAN VARIANT
OF A SWEDISH FOLK TUNE, ARR: ANDREW SMITH

*My heart it wanders always
To Jesus' manger stall
In contemplation pleasing
A Saviour for us all
My longing consummated
There doth my faith abide
And never can forget Thee
O blessed Christmas night*

*But wonder without equal
How can I comprehend
That God from Heaven descended
A stable was His bed
That Heaven's joy and honour
And God's celestial Word
So shamefully must suffer
Below on this poor Earth*

*O come, now will I open
My restless heart and mind
and filled with yearning whisper
Thou, Jesus, here shalt find
No unfamiliar dwelling
Thou madest the sacrifice
Here swaddled in my spirit
Forever will it lie*

*To honour Thee I scatter
palm boughs Thy cradle nigh
For Thee, for Thee alone I
will gladly live and die.
Come let my longing spirit
Find happiness within
Thy birth it is my treasure
my heart's eternal gain*

4. AWAY IN A MANGER

TEXT: UNKNOWN,
MELODY: WILLIAM J. KIRKPATRICK
ARR.: OLA GJEILO

Away in a manger,
No crib for His bed
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down His sweet head

The stars in the bright sky
Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing
The poor Baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying He makes

I love Thee, Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my side,
'Til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever
And love me I pray

Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care
And take us to heaven
To live with Thee there

5. GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

TEXT AND MELODY: TRADITIONAL

ARR.: OLA GJEILO

God Rest You Merry, gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Saviour
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our Heavenly Father
A blessed Angel came;
And unto certain Shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by Name.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway
The Son of God to find.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

And when they came to Bethlehem
Where our dear Saviour lay,
They found Him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His Mother Mary kneeling down,
Unto the Lord did pray.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

6. KLING NO KLOKKA

TEKST: ELIAS BLIX

MELODY: HALLE 1705 / FOLKETONEVARIANT

FRÅ OPPDAL, ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Kling no, klokka! Ring og lokka,
ring og lokka frå tusund tårn!
Tona um frelsa! Kalla og helsa,
kalla og helsa med fred Guds born!
Kling no, klokka! Ring og lokka,
ring og lokka frå tusund tårn!

Englar kveda: Høyr den gleda,
høyr den gleda som her er hend!
Ljoset er runne, livet er vunne,
livet er vunne: ein Frelsar send.
Englar kveda: Høyr den gleda,
høyr den gleda som her er hend!

Sjå, det dagast, snart det lagast,
snart det lagast til høgtid ny!
Då skal oss klokka leikande lokka,
leikande lokka til helg i sky.
Sjå, det dagast, snart det lagast,
snart det lagast til høgtid ny!

RING NOW, CHURCH BELLS

TEXT: ELIAS BLIX

MELODY: HALLE 1705 / VARIANT OF A FOLK TUNE

FROM OPPDAL, ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

*Ring now, church bells! Ring and call us,
Ring and call us from a thousand towers!
Sound out salvation! Summon and hail us,
Summon and hail us in peace as God's children!
Ring now, church bells! Ring and call us,
Ring and call us from a thousand towers!*

*Angels sang: Hear the good tidings,
Hear the good tidings of a blessed event!
The light has risen, life has triumphed,
Life has triumphed: our Saviour is sent.
Angels sang: Hear the good tidings,
Hear the good tidings of a blessed event!*

*Behold, day is dawning, soon we'll make ready,
Soon we'll make ready to rejoice anew!
Then all the church bells will joyfully peal,
Joyfully call us to come to the feast.
Behold, day is dawning, soon we'll make ready,
Soon we'll make ready to rejoice anew!*

7. COVENTRY CAROL

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN

ARR.: OLA GJEILO

Lully, lullay Thou little tiny Child,
By, by, lully, lullay.
Lully, Thou little tiny Child.
By, by, lully, lullay.

O sisters, too, how may we do,
For to preserve this day;
This poor Youngling for whom we sing,
By, by, lully, lullay.

Herod the King, in his raging,
Charged he hath this day;
His men of might, in his own sight,
All children young, to slay.

Then woe is me, poor Child, for Thee,
And ever mourn and say;
For Thy parting, nor say nor sing,
By, by, lully, lullay.

8. ET LITE BARN SÅ LYSTELIG

TEKST: HANS THOMMISØN

MELODI: FOLKETONE FRA STANGVIK

ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Et lite barn så lystelig
er født for oss her på jorden
Av jomfru ren, helt underlig
han ville vor frelser vorde
Om ei Guds søn sin manndom havt
da vare vi alle bleven fortapt
vår salighet han er alene
Vi takker de søteste Jesus Krist
at menneske du vorden est
Vogt oss fra helvedes pine!

A LITTLE CHILD SO MERRILY

TEXT: HANS THOMMISØN

MELODY: FOLK TUNE FROM STANGVIK

ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

*A little child so merrily
Is born to us here on Earth
Of a virgin pure, so wondrously
Has come to be our Saviour
Had not God's son been born a man
Each of us would be lost
Our sole redemption He alone
Our thanks we give, sweet Jesus Christ
That Thou wast born in human form
Safeguard us from Hell's anguish.*

9. O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN, ARR.: OLA GJEILO

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did'st give the Law,
In cloud, and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

10. THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN, ARR.: OLA GJEILO

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown
Of all the trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown

[Chorus]
O the rising of the sun
And the running of the deer
The playing of the merry organ
Sweet singing in the choir

The holly bears a blossom
As white as lily flower
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet Saviour [Chorus]

The holly bears a berry
As red as any blood
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good [Chorus]

The holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet saviour. [Chorus]

The holly bears a bark
As bitter as any gall;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On christmas day in the morn. [Chorus]

The holly and the ivy
Now both are full well grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown. [Chorus]

11. THE FIRST NOWELL

TEXT AND MELODY: UNKNOWN

ARR.: OLA GJEILO

The first Nowell the Angel did say
Was to certain poor Shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

[Chorus]

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell.
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued, both day and night. [Chorus]

And by the light of that same Star
Three Wise Men came from country far,
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star whersoever it went. [Chorus]

Then enter'd in those Wise Men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offer'd there, in his presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. [Chorus]



12. DEN YNDIGSTE ROSE

TEKST: HANS A. BRORSON

MELODI: NORSK FOLKETONE

ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Den yndigste rose er funden,
blandt stiveste torne opprunden,
vår Jesus, den deiligste pøde,
blant syndige mennesker grodde.

Alt siden vi tapte den ære,
Guds billedes frukter at bære,
var verden forvillet og øde,
vi alle i synden bortdøde.

Da lot Gud en rose oppskyte
og sæden omsider frembryte,
at rense og ganske forsøte
vår vekstes fordervede grøde.

Al verden sig nu burde fryde,
med salmer mangfoldig udbryde,
men mangen har aldrig fornønnen,
at rosen i verden er kommen.

Lad verden mig alting betage,
lad tornene rive og nage,
lad hjertet kun dåne og briste,
min rose jeg aldrig vil miste.

REVEALED THE FAIREST OF ROSES

TEXT: HANS A. BRORSON

MELODY: NORWEGIAN FOLK TUNE

ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

*Revealed the fairest of roses
'Mongst briars of thorns see it rising
This offspring, our Jesus, most lovely
'Mongst sinful humanity growing*

*Since losing forever the honour
Of living in God's holy image
Our world was so bleak and abandoned
In evil and wickedness falling*

*But God in this wilderness nurtured
A seed of the fairest of roses
To purify, cleanse, and to sweeten
Our harvest so fouled and corrupted*

*All humankind ought be exultant
In manifold praise neverending
But many ignore the glad tidings
The rose come to Earth to redeem us*

*The world of all things may deprive me
Adversity seek to destroy me
Faint-hearted and faltering often
My rose I will never abandon*



13. IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

TEXT: CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, MELODY: GUSTAV HOLST
ARR.: OLA GJEILO

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

14. DET LYSER I STILLE GRENDER

TEKST: JACOB SANDE, MELODI: LARS SØRAAS D.Y.
ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

Det lyser i stille grender
av tindrande ljøs i kveld,
og tusende barnehender
mot himmelen ljosa held.

Og glade med song dei helsar
sin broder i himmelhall,
som kom og vart heimsens Frelsar
som barn i ein vesal stall.

Der låg han med høyt til pute
og gret på si ringe seng,
men englane song der ute
på Betlehems aude eng.

Der song dei for fyrste gongen
ved natt over Davids by
den evige himmelsongen,
som alltid er ung og ny.

IN VILLAGES ILLUMINED

TEXT: JACOB SANDE, MELODY: LARS SØRAAS (B. 1887)
ARR.: ANDREW SMITH

*In villages illumined
In glimmering candlelight
A thousand tiny hands reaching
Heavenward this night.*

*In joyful song they greet now
Their brother in paradise
Descending as our Saviour
As infant of humble birth*

*A pillow of hay and crying
Upon a stable bed
While angel voices singing
O'er plains of Bethlehem*

*There singing for the first time
By night over David's town
Celestial song eternal
Forever grand and new*

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