

THE SAINT MARK'S  
**MUSIC**  

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**SERIES**  
2024-2025



# Mystery of Winter Skies

James Falzone, composer, penny whistles, clarinet, shruti box & bells  
Luke Fitzpatrick & Alex Guy, violins  
Erin Wight, viola & Rose Bellini, cello

Friday, March 7, 7:30 pm

In-person and livestreamed from  
Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Seattle

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*Saint Mark's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of all the Coast Salish tribes.*

# Mystery of Winter Skies

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The music on tonight's program has been composed specifically for this place, these musicians, and your ears, mind, and heart. It is a meditation on the mysteries of existence, inspired by a specific passage from a liturgy I attended at Saint Mark's Cathedral several years ago:

*Eternal God, Mystery of winter skies,  
we thank you in the darkening hour  
for opening our eyes to your starlit beauty.*

The poetic comparison of the Maker of the Universe to the vast "otherness" of a winter sky resonated for me. As with all resonances in my life, the result is sound, with an intention to capture something akin to the music I create on a monthly basis for Saint Mark's Sunday "Contemplative" services. At these liturgies, I create textures that, in hope, lead congregants to prayer, struggle, and a deeper understanding of the mystery of God.

While there are distinct pieces that make up tonight's program, they are presented in a seamless suite, without individual titles. The music is meant not as much as a concert as a kind of liturgy, leading you to contemplation and meditation. There may be musical moments that ease, others that stir, still others that simply are. As we enter the season of Lent this week, all of these moments are intended to bring you closer to your own understanding of mystery, your own winter skies.

My gratitude for your presence tonight and to the great people at Saint Mark's including my friend, *Canon for Cathedral Music* Michael Kleinschmidt, *Concert Series Coordinator* Laura Loge, and, of course, the incredible musicians joining me: Alex, Luke, Erin, and Rose.

Peace be with you.

James Falzone

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Clarinetist, penny whistle player, composer, and improviser **James Falzone** is an acclaimed member of the international jazz and creative music scenes, a veteran contemporary music lecturer and clinician, and an award-winning composer who has been commissioned by chamber ensembles, dance companies, choirs, and symphony orchestras around the globe. He leads his own ensembles Allos Musica, Division Ensemble, Renga Ensemble, the duo Wayfaring with Chicago bassist/vocalist Katie Ernst, and is a member of the Boston-based Tapestry Ensemble. James has released a series of critically acclaimed recordings on Allos Documents, the label he founded in 2000, and performs throughout North America and Europe. He appears regularly on *Downbeat* magazine's Critics' and Readers' Polls, and was nominated as the Clarinetist of the Year by the *Jazz Journalist Association*, as well as profiled in the *New York Times*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *New Music Box*, and *Point of Departure*, among many other publications. Educated at Northern Illinois University and New England Conservatory, James is a respected educator and scholar and has been on the faculty of The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Deep Springs College, North Central College, Columbia College Chicago, and was a fellow at The Center for Black Music Research. His scholarship on improvisation has been presented at numerous academic conferences and to diverse audiences including admirals at the US Naval War College and executives at Google's creative retreats. At present, James is the Dean at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, Washington. James is a Back-un clarinet artist and plays penny whistles made for him in Asheville, North Carolina by Chris Abell.



**Alex Guy** is a Seattle-based violinist, violist, singer, improviser and composer, and is the leader and principal songwriter of Led To Sea, a magnetic ensemble that fuses classical, pop and experimental music. Her live show as a solo artist has captivated audiences all over the U.S. and Europe, and draws comparisons to St. Vincent and Andrew Byrd. Alex has also composed extensively for dance, film and theater, and has collaborated and toured with many notable bandleaders, composers, improvisers and musicians in the Pacific NW and beyond, including Angel Olsen, Wayne Horvitz, Thao and the Get Down Stay Down, Sera Cahoone, Ahomefule Oluo, Mirah, Jherek Bischoff, Lemolo and Laura Veirs.





Violinist **Luke Fitzpatrick** is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and artistic director of Inverted Space, a Seattle-based new music collective. He has performed with the Harry Partch Ensemble as well as with Deltron 3030, Terence Blanchard and the E-Collective and has appeared on recordings released by Ablaze and Centaur records. Luke is currently concertmaster of Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra, Seattle Festival Orchestra, Federal Way Symphony and Emerald City Chamber Orchestra. He is a founding member of the String Quartet Pure Flavor and performs with Temple Mozaic, an improvisational music and dance collective alongside Smerk, Orb and Free. Besides music related things, Luke is an avid dancer and enjoys biking, eating sushi and collecting shoes. He plays on a bow generously on loan from the Kevin Tao Foundation.



Giving performances the New York Times describes as “surehanded,” “engrossing,” and “rich,” violist **Erin Wight** is an enthusiastic proponent of the music of our time. She has appeared as a contemporary music soloist on four continents, and is happiest when collaboratively imagining and creating new sound worlds with her friends. Deeply committed to community engagement, Erin’s decade-plus in NYC found her in Teaching Artist roles for the New York Philharmonic, Carnegie Hall and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. From her present home-base of Seattle, Erin continues to develop exploratory music curricula for preeminent arts organizations including the New York Philharmonic, the Orchestra of St. Luke’s, and her alma mater The Juilliard School’s K-12 Programs and Initiatives. When not busy performing in stadiums, orchestra pits, or cozy venues in the gorgeous Pacific Northwest, Erin enjoys looking for tide-pool creatures on rocky beaches, reading novels while drinking coffee, and spending time with her three children and composer-turned-hospitalist partner.



Cellist **Rose Bellini** is an adventurous musician accomplished in traditional, experimental, and interdisciplinary performance. She regularly performs with classical music ensembles, modern dance companies, bands, and chamber and orchestral groups across the country. Rose’s career has included appearances in venues ranging from neighborhood bars to Off Broadway to Denali National Park to Carnegie Hall. She has performed with REDSHIFT ensemble, Hotel Elephant, International Contemporary Ensemble, Wordless Music Orchestra, Ensemble Signal, FLUX Quartet, Orchestra of St. Luke’s, East Village Opera Company, and American Opera Projects among others. Currently based in Seattle, Rose performs with Seattle Chamber Orchestra, Seattle Modern Orchestra, the Sound Ensemble, Inverted Space Ensemble, Candlelight Concerts, singer/songwriters, rock bands, studio musicians, and other artists across musical genres in the Pacific Northwest. Her live recording of Steve Reich’s Cello Counterpoint has been regularly highlighted by NPR’s Performance Today. Rose has a doctorate in music performance from Indiana University-Bloomington, where her primary teachers were Emilio Colón and Janos Starker.

JOIN US FOR THE NEXT SAINT MARK'S MUSIC SERIES CONCERT

## *Seven Last Words of Christ*

**Palm Sunday, April 13, 4:30 pm**  
**St. Mark's Cathedral Nave**

Sarah Pizzichemi & Brandon Vance, violins,  
Justin Kurys, viola, & Timothy Pizzichemi, cello

Skyros Quartet will perform Joseph Haydn's own arrangement for string quartet of his *Seven Last Words of Christ* — a meditation on Jesus' utterances from the cross, excerpted from each of the four gospels — in observance of the coming Holy Week.



In-person and livestream tickets available at  
**[saintmarks.org/concerts](https://saintmarks.org/concerts)**

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### AND FOR THE MONTHLY *Organ by Night* SERIES

*Organ by Night* is presented at Saint Mark's Cathedral on the third Sunday of each month following the Compline service, about 10:00 pm. Informal mini-concerts will introduce you to the power and beauty of a real pipe organ. All are welcome in-person in the nave or join the organist in the loft to get a feel for what playing an instrument of this size is like. Ask questions and learn more about the Flentrop organ after the concert.

**NEXT UP on SUNDAY, MARCH 16**

**Kyle Haugen** performing works by J. S. Bach:

*Fugue in G Minor*, "Little," BWV 578

*Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier*, BWV 731

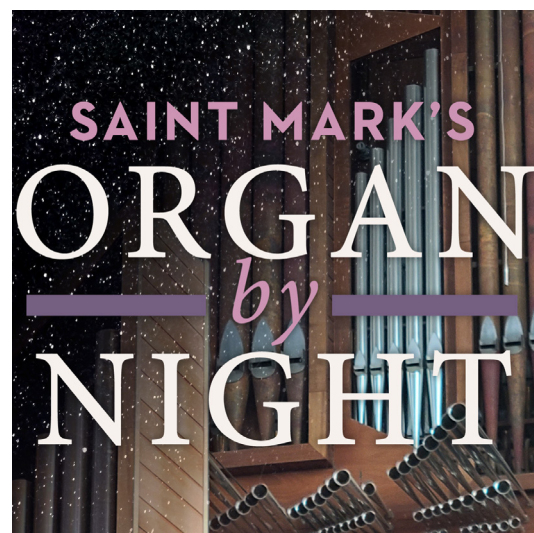
*Prelude & Fugue in E Flat Major*, "St. Anne," BWV 552

**Kyle Haugen** is the cantor at Queen Anne Lutheran Church, serving as organist, director of parish ensembles, and coordinator of concerts and arts outreach. He is also the artistic director and conductor of Northwest Repertory Singers and sings as a freelance choral tenor in the Seattle area. For nearly a decade Kyle directed high school-aged ensembles with Tacoma Youth Chorus and led a tour to England and Ireland. In Boston, Kyle was the tenor soloist for the premiere of Daniel Pinkham's *Missa Brevis* and contributed to two landmark recordings of Renaissance choral works as a member of the Choir of the Church of the Advent (Arsis Audio). Kyle is a published composer of choral music (Augsburg Fortress, Pavane), and his compositions have been performed, recorded, and broadcast across the United States since 2001.

**MORE UPCOMING *Organ by Night* CONCERTS:**

APRIL 20 - Michael Kleinschmidt

MAY 18 - John Stuntebeck



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**venmo**

With gratitude we acknowledge these Friends of the Music Series who give annually in support of making Saint Mark’s musical riches accessible to all. The donor listing below reflects gifts received since June 15, 2024, for this current season.

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