



One of the things I love most about Albany Pro Musica's Christmas program is that it provides opportunities for renewing cherished traditions, even as we add exciting new elements that ensure the continuing appeal of this very special annual concert. You have come to expect an emotional and dramatic presentation of the hauntingly beautiful "O Magnum Mysterium" to open the concert; the opportunity to join the members of APM in singing some of our most cherished carols; and, you can look forward to a performance of a new suite from the collection that gives the concert its name: "The Many Moods of Christmas."

As every year, we are also delighted to present fresh, new repertoire which make our Christmas programs truly unique. Taking center stage this year is the New York State premiere of "Dreamweaver", an exquisite composition by APM's Composer-in-Residence, Ola Gjeilo. Those of you able to attend our last concert - *Across the Vast Eternal Sky* - can attest to the beauty and power of Gjeilo's work. Based on a Norwegian folk poem, and with a plot reminiscent of Dante's Divine Comedy, "Dreamweaver", replete with vivid imagery, will transport you to a distant world of *dreams*.

From Norway we come back home, this time *dreaming* of a white Christmas... This concert is designed to inspire, to celebrate, to help us reflect, and to unite us in the spirit of the season. So, it is in this spirit that we wish you a *dreamy* Merry Christmas and a Holiday season full of love and peace.

~ José Daniel Flores-Caraballo