

PRESS RELEASE

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**WOMENSING — December Concerts
“Ring the Bells”**

Under the baton of Artistic Director Martín Benvenuto, WomenSing presents “Ring the Bells” on Sunday, December 14, at the First Congregational Church, Berkeley, and Wednesday, December 17, at St. Mary's College Chapel, Moraga.

WomenSing, the adventurous East Bay women’s chorus, rings in the season of light and joy with *Ring the Bells*, a festive celebration of song accompanied by Latin percussion, chimes and timpani. The program opens with Bullard’s *Ring the Bells* in a “surround the audience” effect of chimes and voices, immediately followed by the grandeur of *O Viridissima Virga* by composer, Emma Lou Diemer, based on Hildegard Von Bingen texts. Diemer, an important figure in American choral music of the 20th century and the present time, is WomenSing's featured composer for the 2014-2015 season. We add Latin American spice with selections including the beautiful Mexican lullaby, *Señora Santa Ana* and the fun of *Cantemos a María* from the Dominican Republic. The concert closes with Rutter's exquisite *Candlelight Carol*, sung in the round. Don't miss this joyful concert of the traditional...and the unexpected!

Tickets are \$30 for premium seats, \$25 for general admission, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for students/youth 18 and under. Advance tickets are available up to 24 hours prior to each concert at www.womensing.org. Tickets will also be available at the door.

About WomenSing:

Founded in 1965, WomenSing is an active, auditioned chorus of nearly 50 singers, renowned for its vibrant and beautifully blended sound. The repertoire includes both the traditional and the unexpected, featuring great landmarks of the women’s chorus repertoire, seldom performed works, new music, commissions from nationally recognized composers, and familiar music from all eras. The innovative Youth Inspiring Youth – Commissioning Emerging Composers project pairs young poets with young composers. The project has led

to nine world premieres. WomenSing performances include collaborations with major performing groups such as San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, Jubilate Orchestra, California Shakespeare Theatre, Dimensions Dance Theater of Oakland, Piedmont East Bay Children's Choirs, and Contra Costa Children's Chorus, as well as the finest Bay Area musicians. WomenSing participated by invitation in the Ninth International Choral Festival in Missoula, Montana in July 2013.