

2017 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRONZE VISION AND SPRING RING

with **STEVIE BERRYMAN**

Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29, 2017

St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 1450 South Melrose Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056

A Handbell Musicians of America Sponsored Event

The 2017 Southern California Spring is back in Oceanside, once again at the beautiful St. Thomas More Catholic Church. Douglas Lynn and his ringers did a great job hosting us last year and are looking forward to seeing all of you there again!

And WOW, do we have an exciting event planned for you this year! Not only is our clinician the AMAZING **Stevie Berryman**, director of the fun-loving Houston Chamber Ringers, but we are offering a "Cafeteria Style" event with four options for you to choose from:

OPTION 1 – Bronze Vision and Massed Ringing: Are you a handbell addict? Do you like to be challenged? If you answered YES to either of these questions, then Bronze Vision is for YOU! This option features four hours of intense ringing – something all you handbell addicts will love! Stevie will work to bring out all the music that's in these "meaty" pieces and in YOU, all the while keeping it lively and fun for everyone. The Bronze Vision group will present two pieces at the Saturday afternoon concert. Expect to work hard, but expect to go home with a BIG SMILE on your face! Rehearsals are Friday night 7:00-9:00 and Saturday morning 9:00-11:00. Massed ringing begins at noon on Saturday. Concert is at 5:00. The concert is free and open to the public. (FWO)

OPTION 2 – Friday night and Saturday morning classes plus Massed Ringing: If you'd rather take classes instead of Bronze Vision, this is the option for you. This is a great opportunity to learn from some of the best teachers in the country. See below for class offerings and descriptions. Massed ringing begins at noon on Saturday. Concert is at 5:00. The concert is free and open to the public. (FWO)

OPTION 3 – Saturday morning classes plus Massed Ringing: Choose this option if you can't make it Friday night, but still want to take classes. See below for class offerings and descriptions. Classes are 9:00-11:00. Massed ringing begins at noon. Concert is at 5:00. The concert is free and open to the public. (FWO)

OPTION 4 – Massed Ringing only: Just what it says on the tin. No classes, just massed ringing on Saturday, beginning at noon. Concert is at 5:00. The concert is free and open to the public. (FWO)

Come as a choir or an individual ringer bringing your own bells and music - if you cannot bring your own bells, please contact Michèle at SoCal.Area12@HandbellMusicians.org and she will see what she can do to find bells for you to ring. If desired, individual ringers may be added to incomplete groups.

Our hosts have asked me to tell you that they will again have a sandwich lunch available for Spring Ring attendees for a small fee added to registration. If you choose not to take advantage of this opportunity, there is plenty of space on campus to eat if you bring your own lunch, or there are a few restaurants not far from the church. If you choose to go to a restaurant, we recommend googling one and placing your order in advance since there's only an hour for lunch!

Your registration will be confirmed by email shortly after it is received. Walk-in registrants are welcome at the door (at full registration price, plus a \$5 surcharge), as long as we have room. Early registration helps our planning, so please register as soon as possible! All groups, no matter their skill level, are encouraged to consider playing a solo piece during the concert. There will be a limit of FOUR (4) solo/ensemble pieces. The concert will last about an hour.

**DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION, FOR
GUILD MEMBERS, AND FOR YOUTH!!
DETAILS ARE ON THE REGISTRATION PAGE.**

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EVENT SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY
FRIDAY	7:00-9:00	• Bronze Vision Rehearsal
		• Classes – see class information below
SATURDAY	9:00-11:00	• Bronze Vision Rehearsal
		• Classes – see class information below
	11:00-12:00	• Lunch • Load in and set up for massed ringing
	12:00-4:00	• Massed Ringing, with short breaks
	4:00-5:00	• Set up for concert
	5:00-6:00	• Concert – Free & open to the public! (an offering will be accepted)

REPERTOIRE

Please purchase and prepare the music in advance. Stevie will work on the interpretation of the music, not the assignments or working out the piece.

Although there are four pieces on the massed ringing repertoire list, ensembles and/or individuals may pick and choose those pieces they wish to prepare and perform for the final concert.

Massed Ringing

1. *All Glory, Laud and Honor (Processional, Prelude and Hymn Accompaniment)* arr by Margaret Tucker. Level 2. 3, 4, or 5 octaves handbells with optional 3, 4, or 5 octaves handchimes. Choristers Guild CGB245. (NOTE: Pages 2-4 are the Processional. We will actually process in while playing this music, so please be sure to have your part memorized before you arrive. You can do it! We will also play the Prelude portion of the piece, pages 5-9.)
2. *Morning Light* arr by Stephanie Berryman. Level 3. 5 octaves handbells. From the Top 20347.
3. *For the Beauty of the Earth* arr by Brian Childers. 3 or 5 octaves handbells with optional 4 octaves handchimes and optional flute or other C instrument and percussion. Level 3. From the Top 20414.
4. *From Everlasting to Everlasting* by Julie Turner. 3-7 octaves handbells. Level 3. Sonology. (NOTE: This is available from sonologymusic.com as either a \$20 "reproducible master license" with permission to make up to 15 copies, or a \$4 "individual score" with no additional copies allowed. If you need more than 5 copies, you should buy the \$20 reproducible master score.)

Bronze Vision

1. *The Magnificent Seven* arr by Sondra Tucker. Level 4. 4-6 octaves handbells with optional 4 octaves handchimes. From the Top 20487.
2. *Beyond* by Tammy Waldrop. Level 4. 4-5 octaves handbells. Ring Out Press RO0707.

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MORE DETAILS

Table rental: Tables will be available to rent for \$1.50/foot, until we “sell out”. Choirs are recommended to bring their own. Foam and covers will NOT be available.

Music exchange: There will be a table where directors may lay out music they no longer use. Feel free to help yourself from this display; it is a free exchange.

Handbell store: Did you forget your gloves? Need more mallets? Get them at the event!

Free-will Offering: An offering will be taken at the concert to benefit St. Thomas More’s handbell ministry. Please invite friends & family to the concert – we’d like a big audience!

Snacks and things: During the breaks, there will be an opportunity to munch on goodies. We need your help with this, so please bring some snacks to share. We will provide coffee, tea, and water. This will also be a good time to shop at the handbell store, enjoy each other’s company, and ask questions.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Basics Revisited: Your 100,000 Measure Tune-Up

Friday night 7:00-7:50, taught by Barbara Meinke

Whether you’re a brand new beginner or a “veteran ringer,” this class will teach (or remind) you what to do before you ever pick up a bell or chime. Learn ergonomic techniques to help you not only “survive” those long rehearsals, concerts, and day-long ringing festivals, but also do so without pain or soreness. Ringers will be introduced to the “Three S’s” (Stance, Seat and Stroke), and will focus on developing a relaxed ringing style to help control the bell, ring dynamically and make beautiful music.

Artful Articulations: Beyond Ringing and Damping

Friday night 8:00-8:50, taught by Barbara Meinke

So you can ring and damp. Can you martellato? Tap pluck? Thumb damp? Make it sing? Join this class to learn how to execute these special techniques and more, including shake, swing, gyro, echo, vibrato, and even a ring touch that won’t leave a mark! We’ll also learn the notation indicators for these techniques and which work (and how to modify them) for handchimes. Recommended pre-requisite “Basics Revisited” (but not strictly required).

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We Damp Through the Air with the Greatest of Ease

Saturday morning 9:00-9:50, taught by Barbara Meinke

As beginning bell ringers, most of us learned damping is just as important as ringing. This class will review when and why we damp, common damping techniques, and explore in depth the world of finger damping and the subtlety and beauty it can contribute to our music. This class will include discussion, instruction, application in literature, and time to practice what you learn!

Remedies for the Sight Reading Blues

Saturday morning 10:00-10:50, taught by Barbara Meinke

Does the thought of ringing through a new piece of music give you the heebie-jeebies? Join us to learn some techniques to improve your sight reading mojo. Part discussion, part hands-on, we'll unveil the mystique and find the joy in that first read-through!

Bass Bells, Parts 1 & 2

Part 1: Friday night 7:00-7:50

Part 2: Friday night 8:00-8:50, both sessions taught by Brianne Pituley

Don't let those large bass bells intimidate you! With proper ergonomic technique, even petite individuals can ring bass bells safely. Use your brain rather than your brawn, and get physics on your side! Learn how to get the bells out of 'keyboard order' to make it easier to reach them, and how to work as a team with the other ringers at the table. (NOTE: This is a two-part class.)

Handbell & Handchime Maintenance

Malmark: Saturday morning 9:00-9:50

Schulmerich: Saturday morning 10:00-10:50, both sessions taught by Brianne Pituley

Learn how to properly care for your bells and make simple repairs. Participants may bring any problem bells or chimes they have, or just watch and take notes, as desired.

ABOUT OUR CLINICIANS

Stevie Berryman is shockingly good at video games. She can fold a fitted sheet so it looks like it came right out of the package. Likewise, her skills as music director and teacher have also been acquired through long hours of arduous and dedicated practice. For much of her career Stevie has directed seven or more ensembles each week, meaning she has 98 years of experience (in dog years). Her effusive energy and wild creativity found a perfect setting in 2013 when she became the Artistic Director of the Houston Chamber Ringers, which has let her smash together her love for music, laughter, and tacos in a truly remarkable way. She has a particular passion for teaching children how to ring, and her innovative methods have made her a sought-after educator at area and national handbell festivals, although she still puts her handbell gloves on one leg at a time. Stevie loves helping other choirs as a private clinician, or planning epic concerts for them as a creative consultant, although she can be found occasionally at her actual job as Director of Handbells and Children's Music at Kinsmen Lutheran Church in Houston, TX.

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Brianne Pituley took up bells in self-defense; it was the only way she could spend time with her spouse, Michèle Sharik! She has played in several church bell choirs that Michèle has directed and is a former tour manager and bell mechanic for Sonos handbell ensemble. She is certified in Handbell Techniques Level 1 of the Handbell Musicians of America certification program and has been Michèle's "guinea pig" for teaching ergonomic handbell techniques for almost 15 years. When she's not "slinging the buckets," she likes to ride her motorbike, work in her woodshop, or shoot things – with her camera.

Born and raised in Southern California, **Barbara Meinke** holds a BA in Music from Cal State Fullerton and directs handbell and choral music at Hope Lutheran Church in Temecula, CA. She is a founding member of Timbré Ensemble and rings with Sonos Handbell Ensemble and Distinctly Bronze. A conductor and teacher in her heart and soul, Barbara has inspired massed ringers and taught handbell techniques classes all over the United States and in Germany, most recently serving as handbell director at Presbyterian Association of Musicians' conference on worship and music at Montreat. She is on the faculty for the Guild's Handbell Musician Certification Program and has taught at National Seminar. In her spare time, she enjoys entertaining, crafting, traveling and hanging out with her family. She brings enthusiasm, energy and superb musicianship to the classroom and podium.