



For Immediate Release

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The Christmas Revels: A Venetian Celebration of the Winter Solstice
Dec. 8-27 at Sanders Theatre

The Christmas Revels: A Venetian Celebration of the Winter Solstice

18 Performances - Matinees & Evenings

December 8–27, 2017 at Harvard University's Sanders Theatre, Cambridge, MA

Directed by [Patrick Swanson](#); [Megan Henderson](#), Music Director

Celebrate the season with family and friends at the 47th annual ***Christmas Revels!*** A holiday tradition for nearly five decades, *The Christmas Revels* is a joyful theatrical celebration of the winter solstice that travels the world each year showcasing cultural traditions including music, dance, folktales and rituals. This year's holiday treat takes us to **Renaissance Venice**, crossroads of the world!

WHO LET THE DOGE OUT?

2017 Christmas Revels Synopsis: The Doge of Venice has had it. It is time for the solstice and the Feast of the Seven Fishes and everyone wants his opinion - merchants, lawyers, politicians, artists, even the fishwives want him to rule on who makes the best spaghetti *bolognese*. So he is going to take a little unauthorized vacation and meet some of his more lowly subjects. The wild adventures ahead involve reckless actors, jailbreaks, itinerant musicians, English Morris men and maybe even the Spanish Armada! A beloved holiday tradition since 1971, *The Christmas Revels* features luscious music, tricky sets and gorgeous costumes, superb musical guests, a tuneful, dancing chorus, some familiar Revels touchstones, and street kids who sing like angels.

Our 100-member ensemble includes musician and song leader **David Coffin**, **The Revels Chorus** of adults and children, a brilliant group of vocalists and musicians from the Early Music community (**Sophie Michaux**, **Gideon Crevoshay**, **Lysander Jaffe**, **Daniel Meyers**, **Simon Martyn-Ellis**, **Nathaniel Cox**, and **Fabio Pirozzolo**), **The Serenissima Dancers**, our acting troupe, **Commedia Buffo** (old friends **Noni Lewis**, **Billy Meleady**, **Mark Jaster** and **Sabrina Selma Mandell**), and **Richard Snee** as the Doge. **The Cambridge Symphonic Brass Ensemble** and **The Pinewoods Morris Men** also join us onstage at Sanders this year. Besides the carols and rounds we'll ask you to sing, performance highlights include the **Bal do Sabre**, an Italian Sword Dance, plus familiar Revels touchstones like the **Abbots Bromley Horn Dance**, Susan Cooper's classic poem, **The Shortest Day**, and our signature piece, **Lord of the Dance**, which will literally have you dancing in the aisles!

The Christmas Revels design team includes Jeremy Barnett, set design; Heidi A. Hermyler, costume design; Jeff Adelberg, lighting design; William Winn, sound design; and Kelli Edwards, choreographer. Lynda Johnson, production manager.

2017 PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

*denotes ASL Interpreted performance

Day	Date	Time
Friday	December 8*	7:30 pm
Saturday	December 9	3:00 pm
Saturday	December 9	7:30 pm
Sunday	December 10*	1:00 pm
Sunday	December 10*	5:30 pm
Friday	December 15	7:30 pm
Saturday	December 16	3:00 pm
Saturday	December 16	7:30 pm
Sunday	December 17	1:00 pm
Sunday	December 17	5:30 pm
Thursday	December 21	7:30 pm
Friday	December 22	3:00 pm
Friday	December 22	7:30pm
Saturday	December 23	3:00pm
Saturday	December 23	7:30 pm
Tuesday	December 26	3:00 pm
Tuesday	December 26	7:30 pm
Wednesday	December 27	1:00 pm

TICKET PRICES:

Preview Performance: Dec. 8 @ 7:30 pm - Special Pricing: All tickets \$44 or less!

Value Pricing (4 shows only): Dec. 9 @ 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm; Dec. 10 @ 1:00 pm and 5:30 pm
Adults \$65, \$56, \$42 and \$25 (partial view); Children 11 and under: \$45, \$38, \$30 and \$13 (partial view)

Standard Pricing (all other performances): Adults: \$75, \$66, \$48 and \$27 (partial view); Children 11 and under: \$50, \$42, \$32 and \$15 (partial view)

HOW TO GET TICKETS:

ORDER TICKETS ONLINE through a link at www.revels.org, **BY PHONE** at 617-496-2222 (Tue-Sun 12-6pm) or **IN-PERSON** at the Harvard Box Office at Farkus Hall, 10 Holyoke Street, near Harvard Square (Tue-Sun 12-6pm).

GROUP SALES: Groups of 15+ Call 617-972-8300 x22 or email Alan at acasso@revels.org

WHERE'S THE THEATRE?

Sanders Theatre is located in Harvard's Memorial Hall, at the corner of Quincy and Kirkland Street, Cambridge, MA. Nearest T: Harvard Square on the Red Line. Note: The theatre is handicap accessible.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Revels patrons receive FREE PARKING at the nearby **BROADWAY GARAGE** (Entrance on Felton Street). Just say "I'm going to the Revels!"

Enjoy a pre- or post-show meal at Harvest, our 4-star restaurant partner located at 44 Brattle Street, just a few blocks from Sanders Theatre. Just show your ticket and **receive 15% off your meal!** Learn more at www.revels.org/dining

Help Feed Hungry Families! This year Revels will be holding a food drive at Sanders Theatre for The Greater Boston Food Bank. Details at www.revels.org/foodbank

Thanks to our Sponsors: WBZ NewsRadio 1030, WBZ-TV & TV38, Go Ahead Tours, WBUR-FM, OUTFRONT media, Boston.com, Boston Metro, and Boston Parents' Paper. The Christmas Revels is supported, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

About Revels: Revels, Inc. was founded in 1971 in Cambridge, MA by educator and concert baritone **John Langstaff** and his daughter Carol, and is the mother ship to nine Revels companies nationwide. What began as an eclectic celebration of the winter solstice has grown into a well-loved tradition that annually immerses audiences in a narrative experience that features the music and customs of other world cultures. Nationwide, over 2,000,000 tickets to ***The Christmas Revels*** have been sold since our first show in Sanders Theatre four and a half decades ago, and as some critics have pointed out, Revels, while successfully promoting the traditional arts and the importance of ritual to society, has become something of a ritual itself.

For more information on ***The Christmas Revels*** visit www.revels.org/christmas