

El Mesías (The Messiah)
with the Minnesota Orchestra and Border CrosSing
Ahmed Anzaldúa, conductor

Friday, December 9, 2022, 8 pm	Orchestra Hall
Saturday, December 10, 2022, 8 pm	Orchestra Hall
Sunday, December 11, 2022, 4 pm	Church of the Ascension, Minneapolis

Each half of today's performance spans approximately 50 minutes, separated by a 20-minute intermission.

El Mesías

Ariel Ramírez *Navidad Nuestra*
George Frideric Handel *Selections from Messiah*
(text trans. compiled by Ahmed Anzaldúa)

Messiah | Sinfony
Consolad a mi pueblo (Comfort ye, my people)
Todo valle será exaltado (Ev'ry valley shall be exalted)
Y la gloria del Señor (And the glory of the Lord)

Navidad Nuestra | La anunciación (The Annunciation)

Messiah | Dice el Señor (Thus saith the Lord)
¿Quién soportará el día de su venida? (But who may abide the day of His coming?)
Y Él purificará (And He shall purify)

Navidad Nuestra | La peregrinación (The Pilgrimage)

Messiah | He aquí la virgen concebirá (Behold, a virgin shall conceive)
Sión, portadora de buenas noticias (O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion)
Porque he aquí, las tinieblas cubrirán la tierra (For behold, darkness shall cover the Earth)
El pueblo que andaba en tinieblas (The people that walked in darkness)

Navidad Nuestra | El nacimiento (The Birth)

Messiah | Porque nos ha nacido un Niño (For unto us a Child is born)

I N T E R M I S S I O N

ca. 20'

pre-concert

Pre-Concert Performance by Ecuador Manta
Friday, December 9, 7 pm, Roberta Mann Grand Foyer
Saturday, December 10, 7 pm, Roberta Mann Grand Foyer

Minnesota Orchestra concerts are broadcast live on Friday evenings on stations of [YourClassical Minnesota Public Radio](#), including KSJN 99.5 FM in the Twin Cities. The December 9 concert will also be broadcast live on [Twin Cities PBS \(TPT-2\)](#) and available for streaming at minnesotaorchestra.org and on the Orchestra's social media channels.



Messiah | Pifa
 Había pastores que estaban en el campo (There were shepherds abiding in the field)
 Y he aquí el ángel del Señor vino sobre ellos (And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them)
 Pero el ángel les dijo (And the angel said unto them)
 Y de repente apareció con el ángel (And suddenly there was with the angel)
 Gloria a Dios (Glory to God)

Navidad Nuestra | Los pastores (The Shepherds)

Messiah | Alégrate mucho, hija de Sión (Rejoice greatly, o daughter of Zion)
 Los ojos de los ciegos serán abiertos (Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened)
 Conduce a su rebaño, Él como un pastor (He shall feed His flock)
 Su yugo es fácil (His yoke is easy)

Navidad Nuestra | Los Reyes Magos (The Three Kings)

Messiah | ¡Aleluia! (Hallelujah!)

Navidad Nuestra | La huida (The Flight)

one-minute note

Ramírez/Handel: *El Mesías*

In *El Mesías*, the movements of Ariel Ramírez's *Navidad Nuestra* cantata, written in 1964, are interwoven with parts of George Frideric Handel's 1741 oratorio *Messiah* to create a composite work that tells complimentary narratives of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. One is told in the form of the Biblical prophecy used in *Messiah*, and one takes place through the more modern poetry of Félix Luna, which transports the Nativity story to a South American setting. Today's conductor Ahmed Anzaldúa has compiled a translation of large portions of the original English *Messiah* text into Spanish, presenting it in a bilingual version that switches constantly from one language to the other, presenting this work familiar to many listeners so that the audience hears it as if for the first time.



Ahmed Anzaldúa, conductor

Ahmed Fernando Anzaldúa El Samkary, now making his Minnesota Orchestra conducting debut, is a Mexican conductor and pianist of Egyptian descent and the founder and artistic director of Border CrosSing. He is an active musician, performing in Mexico and the U.S. frequently as a soloist and conductor with choirs and orchestras, and also performs as a pianist in solo recitals and collaborative settings. He is a recognized authority in Latin American and Spanish music, particularly the compositions of Federico Mompou and Miguel Bernal Jiménez, and he collaborates regularly with composers to premiere new works, including music by Helmut Lachenmann, Paul Lansky and Arturo Márquez. His most recent recordings include *Carteles*, recorded for FMM, and *Contemplating Weather* on Bridge Records. He holds master's degrees in piano performance and choral conducting from Western Michigan University, where he taught before moving to Minnesota, and he carried out postgraduate work at the Queen

Sofia College of Music in Madrid, Spain. He received a doctorate of music in conducting at the University of Minnesota under the mentorship of Kathy Saltzman Romey. Early in his career, he was the awarded first prize at the Maria Clara Cullel International Piano Competition. Apart from his work with Border CrosSing, he is co-editor of the Justice Choir Songbook and is director of music ministries at Unity Church-Unitarian in St. Paul, Minnesota. More: ahmedanzeldua.com.

Border CrosSing

Twin Cities-based choral ensemble Border CrosSing was founded in 2017 by Ahmed Anzaldúa as a response to a lack of representation of Latin American culture in choral music in the United States. In its first five years it has grown into a vibrant organization with several programs and has expanded beyond Latin American repertoire, with a mission to integrating historically segregated audiences and musicians through the performance of choral music. The ensemble has received international recognition as a recipient of the 2020 Adventurous Programming Award from Chorus America and ASCAP following summer 2019 performances of Osvaldo Golijov's *La Pasión según San Marcos* with the Minnesota Orchestra. Border CrosSing's programming includes the Puentes concert series centered on Latin American culture and history, community singing events and workshops; educational concerts throughout Minnesota; the Heritage Choir, a community chorus centered on

exploring cultural heritage; and a sheet music series distributed by Graphite Publishing. Border CrosSing recently released its first album, *Un milagro de fe*, on the Bridge Records label. A roster appears on the bottom of this page. More: bordercrossingmn.org.



William Eddins, broadcast host

For the concert on December 9, William Eddins serves as host and writer of the Twin Cities PBS broadcast and online livestream *This Is Minnesota Orchestra*. Eddins has a multifaceted musical career as a conductor and pianist. He is the music director emeritus of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, a former associate conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra and a frequent guest conductor of major orchestras throughout the world. In September 2022 he conducted the Orchestra's season opening concerts for the first time in a program that included the Minnesota premiere of Wynton Marsalis' *Swing Symphony*, performed with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. More: williameddins.com.

soprano

Natalia Romero Arbeláez
Bethany Battafarano
Andrea Leap
Annie Mercado
Carrie Henneman Shaw*
Regina Stroncek

alto

Krista Costin
Laura Betinis Healy
Kris Kautzman
Laura Krider
Gabriela Solis*
Anna Stolte

tenor

Samuel Baker
Ian Cook
Juan Carlos Mendoza*
Shahzore Shah
Matthew Valverde*
Jack Vishneski

bass

Mark Billy
Jake Endres
Bob Peskin
Nathan Petersen-Kindem
Adam Reinwald
Justin Staebell*

Andean Ensemble

Nia Biagetti
Cherolyn Fischer
Vladimir Garrido
Nicolas Muñoz
Rahn Yanes

* Soloist

Introduction to *El Mesías* (The Messiah)

Although George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* was originally meant for Easter, today it is a fixture of the Christmas season. It is presented countless times in the United States and the United Kingdom around the holiday, and album sales and digital downloads of *Messiah* peak around this time. For many choristers, Christmas concerts of *Messiah* and sing-alongs are the high point of the year. Ariel Ramírez's *Navidad Nuestra* occupies a similar role in much of the Spanish-speaking world, especially in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. In this program, we bring both works together.

I've translated large portions of *Messiah* into Spanish, presenting it in a bilingual version that switches constantly from one language to the other. This makes it more relevant to listeners like me, accustomed to a borderland between languages and cultures, where we switch effortlessly between Spanish and English in our daily lives, and makes the text more immediately accessible to Spanish speakers in the audience (approximately 40 percent of our Border CrosSing audience self-identifies as Latinx and about 20 percent speaks Spanish as a first language). The added benefit is that listeners that have heard *Messiah* countless times before find that the use of a new language highlights elements in the music that they may not have ever noticed. This is the ideal for many performers, whose challenge is presenting this work so that the listener hears it as if for the first time. The translations always match with a corresponding biblical text and have been based on various Spanish editions of the Bible, including various editions of the Reina Valera, Biblia Latinoamericana, Dios Habla Hoy, Nueva Biblia Española, and La Biblia de Nuestro Pueblo.

interwoven movements

The movements of the *Navidad Nuestra* cantata are interwoven into Handel's oratorio to create a composite work that tells complimentary narratives of the Nativity, one taking place in the past and told in the form of the Biblical prophecy used in *Messiah*, and one taking place in the present told through the poetry of Félix Luna which transports the Nativity story to a South American setting. *Navidad Nuestra* was chosen because this work highlights the role of the Holy Family as refugees. The choice of this work is partly in response to current actions by the U.S government regarding the mistreatment of Central American refugees at the southern border, the illegal denial of the right for these people to claim asylum, the separation of children from their parents and their detention in prison-like facilities, and the extensive media sensationalizing of a "caravan" of immigrants from Central America heading towards the U.S. that was highly politicized during the 2018 midterm elections. This connection was especially relevant the night of Border CrosSing's first performance of *El Mesías* in 2018, which coincided with the death of a 7-year-

old child in the custody of the United States Border Patrol, an event that was in many of our minds as we performed the final movement of *Navidad Nuestra*, "La huida." While two movements in *Navidad Nuestra* explicitly speak of the Holy Family as refugees, in "La peregrinación" (The Pilgrimage) and "La huida" (The Flight), the pairing of this work with *Messiah* highlights passages in Handel's work which also connect to related ideas, such as the desert, the wilderness or walking in the darkness. The expanded context creates new meaning that can help make this work relevant to a wider audience.

I've taken this opportunity to remove some antisemitic undertones in *Messiah*'s original text by replacing those passages with a Spanish translation that does not reflect these, such as in the movement "The people that walked in darkness." Seeing as how the simultaneous use of two languages helped refresh *Messiah* for those listeners that were already familiar with the work, I've extended this concept to integrate a different musical language into *Messiah*. To do this, we've added flourishes from the traditional Andean instruments used in *Navidad Nuestra* to *Messiah* to give the work a slightly different sound. New instrumentation helps broaden the sound world to create a more unified listening experience that brings both works together in a more organic manner. In most choruses and some arias the accordion is used as a continuo instrument, together with the harpsichord. The charangos and guitars are added to the codas of choruses such as "And the Glory," "His Yoke Is Easy," and "Hallelujah." Zampoñas, accordion, and percussion are also added to accompanied recitatives and to some instrumental passages. We are using harpsichord and violin for various introductions to movements from *Navidad Nuestra* to create musical bridges to connect both works without interruption. One of the most positive aspects of how this program has been received is the organic way in which both works were connected, both musically and in their narratives.

Instrumentation: SATB chorus and Andean ensemble with orchestra comprising 2 oboes, bassoon, 2 trumpets, timpani, harpsichord and strings

Program note by *Ahmed Anzaldúa*.

Introducción a *El Mesías*

Aunque el *Mesías* de George Frideric Handel originalmente fue escrito para la Pascua, hoy en día es parte de la temporada Navideña. Se presenta un sin fin de veces en los Estados Unidos y el Reino Unido alrededor de las fiestas, y las ventas álbumes y descargas de *Mesías* están en su punto más alto en esta temporada. Para muchos cantantes, los conciertos Navideños de *Mesías* y los cantos comunitarios son una parte destacada del año. *Navidad Nuestra* de Ariel Ramírez ocupa un papel similar en muchas partes del mundo hispanoparlante, especialmente en Argentina, Chile, y Uruguay. En este programa, reunimos ambas obras.

He traducido porciones de *Mesías* al español, presentándolo en una versión bilingüe que cambia de un idioma al otro constantemente. Esto lo hace más relevante a gente del público como yo, acostumbrados a una reunión de idiomas y culturas, donde cambiamos entre español e inglés sin esfuerzo en nuestra vida diaria, y hace que el texto sea más accesible a los hispanoparlantes en el público. Otro beneficio es que aquellos que han escuchado *Mesías* muchas veces antes descubrirán que el uso de un nuevo idioma hace resaltar elementos musicales de los cuales no se habían percatado. Esto es el ideal para muchos artistas, el presentar esta obra de manera que sea como si el que el oyente la escuchase como por la primera vez. Las traducciones siempre corresponden con un texto Bíblico, y han sido basadas en varias ediciones en Español de la Biblia, incluyendo varias ediciones de la Reina Valera, Biblia Latinoamericana, Dios Habla Hoy, Nueva Biblia Española, y La Biblia de Nuestro Pueblo.

Movimientos entrelazados

Los movimientos de la cantata *Navidad Nuestra* están incluidos adentro del oratorio de Handel para crear una obra combinada que cuenta historias complementarias de la Navidad, una tomando lugar en el pasado y en la forma de la profecía Bíblica de Mesías y la otra en el presente, a través de la poesía de Félix Luna, que transporta la historia de la Navidad a Sudamérica. Escogimos *Navidad Nuestra* porque esta obra resalta el papel de la Santa Familia como refugiados. La elección de *Navidad Nuestra* responde en parte a las acciones actuales del gobierno de los Estados Unidos respecto al maltrato a los refugiados centroamericanos en la frontera sur, la negación ilegal del derecho de estas personas a solicitar asilo, la separación de los niños de sus padres y su detención en instalaciones similares a prisiones, y el amarillismo mediático de la “caravana” de migrantes centroamericanos viajando a los Estados Unidos, usado para fines políticos en las elecciones del año 2018. Esta conexión fue especialmente relevante en la noche de la premer concierto de *El Mesías* en 2018, que coincidió con la muerte de una niña de siete años mientras estaba en custodia de la Patrulla Fronteriza de

los Estados Unidos, un evento que estaba en muchas de nuestras mentes mientras cantábamos el último movimiento de *Navidad Nuestra*, “La huída”. Mientras que dos de los movimientos de *Navidad Nuestra* hablan de la Santa Familia como refugiados, en “La peregrinación” y “La huída”, esta obra también resalta pasajes en la música de Handel que conectan con ideas parecidas, tales como “el desierto”, “la estepa”, o el “caminar en la oscuridad”. El contexto expandido crea significados nuevos que pueden hacer que esta obra sea más relevante a un público más extenso.

He tomado esta oportunidad para quitar algunos elementos antisemitas en el texto original de *Mesías* y reemplazando esos pasajes con traducciones al español que no reflejan esos elementos, tales como el movimiento “Las gentes que caminaron en tinieblas.” Viendo como el uso de dos idiomas simultáneos ayuda a revitalizar *Mesías* para aquellos que lo escuchan que ya están familiarizados con la obra, he extendido este concepto para integrar un lenguaje musical distinto en *Mesías*. Para hacer eso, hemos agregado pasajes con los instrumentos Andinos usados en *Navidad Nuestra* a *Mesías* para darle un sonido un poco diferente a esta obra. La nueva instrumentación ayuda a hacer más extenso el mundo sónico para crear una experiencia más unificada para el público, uniendo ambas obras de una manera más orgánica. En la mayoría de los coros y arias, el acordeón es usado como instrumento de continuo, junto con el clavecín. Los charangos y las guitarras han sido agregadas a las codas de coros tales como “Y la gloria”, “Su yugo es fácil”, y “Aleluia.” Las zampoñas, acordeón, y percusiones además han sido añadidas a los recitativos acompañados y a algunos pasajes instrumentales. Estamos usando el clavecín y el violín para varias introducciones a movimientos de *Navidad Nuestra* para crear puentes musicales que conectan ambas obras sin interrupción. Uno de los aspectos más positivos de como ha sido recibido este programa es la manera orgánica en la que ambas obras están conectadas, musicalmente y en su narración.

Instrumentación: coro mixto y conjunto Andino con orquesta de 2 oboes, fagot, 2 trompetas, timbales, clavicémbalo y cuerdas

Notas del programa de Ahmed Anzaldúa.

El Mesías (The Messiah)

with the Minnesota Orchestra and Border CrossSing

Ahmed Anzaldúa, conductor

Friday, December 9, 2022, 8 pm | Orchestra Hall
 Saturday, December 10, 2022, 8 pm | Orchestra Hall
 Sunday, December 11, 2022, 4 pm | Church of the Ascension

At today's performance, movements from Act I of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*, sung in an amalgamation of the original English and a Spanish translation, are interspersed with the movements of Ariel Ramírez's *Navidad Nuestra*, sung in the original Spanish.

Following is the text of those portions of *Messiah* in both the original English and the English-Spanish hybrid as the singers will perform it, as well as the text of *Navidad Nuestra* in Spanish as it will be performed, followed by an English translation. Note that immediate repetition of text is omitted, and text overlaps in some choral portions.

Messiah: Consolad a mi pueblo (Comfort ye, my people)		Navidad Nuestra: La anunciación (The Annunciation)
Original text: <i>Comfort ye, my people, saith your God, speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness. "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."</i>	Todo valle será exaltado, y bajarán toda colina y monte, <i>the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.</i>	Original text as performed: Jinete de un rayo rojo, viene volando el Ángel Gabriel con sable punta de estrella espuela de plata estaba caté.
As performed (repetition omitted): Consolad a mi pueblo, dice su Dios, <i>saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.</i> La voz de aquel que clama en el desierto: "Preparen el camino del Señor, allanad en la estepa un sendero a nuestro Dios."	Messiah: Y la gloria del Señor (And the glory of the Lord) Original text: <i>And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.</i>	Que Dios te salve, María La más bonita cuñataí la flor está floreciendo crece en la sangre tu cunumí. Soy la Esclava del Señor que Él haga su voluntad Capullo que se hace flor y se abrirá en Navidad.
Messiah: Todo valle será exaltado (Ev'ry valley shall be exalted) Original text: <i>Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.</i> As performed (repetition omitted): <i>Ev'ry valley</i> Todo valle será exaltado, <i>and ev'ry mountain and hill made low,</i> lo torcido se enderece, y lo áspero se allane, <i>the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.</i> Todo valle será exaltado, <i>Ev'ry valley</i>	As performed (repetition omitted): Y la gloria del Señor será revelada, Y la gloria del Señor <i>shall be revealed, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,</i> Toda carne a una la verá: Porque la boca del Señor habló, <i>for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, and all flesh shall see it together.</i> Y la gloria del Señor <i>shall be revealed,</i> Toda carne <i>and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The glory of the Lord</i> Y la gloria del Señor, <i>and all flesh shall see it together</i> Y la gloria del Señor <i>shall be revealed,</i> Toda carne <i>and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.</i> Y la gloria del Señor será revelada <i>shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.</i>	El Ángel Gabriel ya vuelve al pago donde se encuentra Dios ¿Mamá parehó angelito, qué tan contento te vuelves vos? He visto a la reina del mundo La más hermosa cuñataí sus ojos son dos estrellas su voz el canto del yerutí. English translation: <i>Mounted on a red thunderbolt, Comes flying the Angel Gabriel With a star-pointed saber He looked sharp with his silver spurs.</i> <i>May God bless you, Mary The prettiest maid The flower is blooming In your blood grows your little child.</i> (Turn page quietly.)

*I am handmaid of the Lord
May His will be done
The bud becomes a flower
That will open on Christmas.*

*The Angel Gabriel is returning
To the place where God is.
Did the little angel nurse
And is he now contented?*

*I have seen the queen of the world,
The prettiest of maids,
Her eyes are two stars,
Her voice the song of the yeruti.*

**Messiah: Dice el Señor
(Thus saith the Lord)**

Original text:

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come. The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

As performed:

Dice el Señor del universo: muy pronto una vez más, yo haré temblar el cielo y la tierra, el mar y la tierra; y haré temblar
and I will shake all nations, I'll shake the heavens, the earth, the sea, la tierra, las gentes

I'll shake, and the desire of all nations shall come.

El Señor a quien buscáis vendrá de repente a su templo, el mensajero de la alianza a quien desean, he aquí Él vendrá dijo el Señor.

**Messiah: ¿Quién soportará el día de su venida?
(But who may abide the day of His coming?)**

Original text:

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire.

As performed (repetition omitted):

¿Quién soportará el día de su venida, y quién podrá estar cuando Él aparezca?
¿Quién soportará?

*But who may abide the day of His coming?
And who shall stand when He appeareth?*

¿Cuando Él aparezca?

*For He is like a refiner's fire.
Who shall stand when He appeareth?*

¿Quién soportará el día de su venida?

*And who shall stand when He appeareth?
For He is like a refiner's fire.*

**Messiah: Y Él purificará
(And He shall purify)**

Original text:

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

As performed (repetition omitted):

Y Él purificará los sacerdotes

*And he shall purify the sons of Levi
that they may offer unto the Lord
an offering in righteousness.*

Y Él purificará

and he shall purify

Y Él purificará

And he shall purify the sons of Levi

los sacerdotes

that that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

**Navidad Nuestra: La peregrinación
(The Pilgrimage)**

Original text as performed:

A la huella, a la huella, José y María,
por las pampas heladas, cardos y ortigas,
A la huella, a la huella, cortando campo,
no hay cobijo ni fonda, sigan andando.

A la huella, a la huella, clavel del aire,
si ninguno te aloja, ¿Adónde naces?
¿Donde naces florcita que estás creciendo,
palomita asustada, grillo sin sueño?

A la huella, a la huella, José y María,
con un Dios escondido, nadie sabía.

A la huella, a la huella los peregrinos,
présteme una tapera para mi niño.
A la huella, a la huella soles y lunas,
los ojitos de almendra, piel de aceituna.

Ay burrito del campo, ay buey barcino,
que mi niño ya viene, háganle sitio.
Un ranchito de quinchá solo me ampara,
dos alientos amigos; la luna clara.

English translation:

*On the road, on the road, Joseph and Mary,
Through the frozen pampas, nettles and thistles,
On the road, on the road, cutting across the
countryside
There is no shelter nor inn, keep walking.*

*On the road, on the road, carnation of the air,
If no one will shelter you, where will you be
born?*

*Where will you be born, little growing flower,
Frightened little dove, wide awake cricket?*

*On the road, on the road, Joseph and Mary,
With a hidden God, no one knew.*

*On the road, on the road, the pilgrims,
Lend me a hovel for my child.*

*On the road, on the road, suns and moons,
Eyes like almonds, olive skin.*

*Oh little field donkey, oh red ox,
My child is coming, make room for him.
Only a little manger of straw protects me,
Two friendly spirits; the clear moon.*

**Messiah: He aquí la virgen concebirá
(Behold, a virgin shall conceive)**

Original text:

*Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,
and shall call His name Emmanuel, "God with us."*

As performed:

He aquí la virgen concebirá y dará a luz a un hijo. Y lo llamará Emmanuel, "Dios con nosotros."

**Messiah: Sión, portadora de buenas noticias
(O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion)**

Original text:

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

As performed (repetition omitted):

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion,
get thee up into the high mountain;*

Sión, portadora de buenas noticias,
súbete a una alta montaña;

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem,
lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up,
be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah,*

di a las ciudades de Judea,

Behold your God!

¡He aquí su Dios!

Say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

¡He aquí su Dios!

Sión, portadora de buenas noticias,

*arise, shine; for thy light is come, arise,
levántate que ha llegado tu luz,*

la gloria del Señor

and the glory of the Lord,

ya brilla sobre ti,

the glory

la gloria del Señor ya brilla sobre ti.

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion,
good tidings to Jerusalem, arise, say unto
the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold,
the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.*

Sión, portadora de buenas noticias, di a las ciudades de Judea, he aquí la gloria del Señor

the glory of the Lord

La gloria del Señor ya brilla sobre ti.

**Messiah: Porque he aquí,
las tinieblas cubrirán la tierra
(For behold, darkness shall cover the Earth)**

Original text:

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and the kings to the brightness of thy rising.

As performed:

Porque he aquí, las tinieblas cubrirán la tierra, y la oscuridad los pueblos

and gross darkness the people;

pero Dios hará brillar su luz, y su gloria sobre ti será vista,

and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

Las naciones vendrán a tu luz, los reyes al resplandor de tu aurora.

**Messiah: El pueblo que andaba en tinieblas
(The people that walked in darkness)**

Original text:

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

As performed (repetition omitted):

El pueblo que andaba en tinieblas
ha visto gran luz

*The people that walked in darkness
have seen a great light*

Han visto gran luz:

*And they that dwell in the land of the shadow
of death, upon them hath the light shined,
los que vivían en país de sombra de muerte,
la luz ha brillado sobre ellos
upon them hath the light shined.*

Navidad Nuestra: El nacimiento (The Birth)

Original text as performed:

Noche anunciada, noche de amor,
Dios ha nacido, pétalo y flor.
Todo es silencio y serenidad,
paz a los hombres, es Navidad.

En el pesebre mi Redentor
es mensajero de paz y amor.
Cuando sonríe se hace la luz
y en sus bracitos nace una cruz.

Ángeles cantan sobre el portal,
Dios ha nacido, es Navidad.

Esta es la noche que prometió
Dios a los hombres, y ya llegó.
Es noche buena, no hay que dormir,
Dios ha nacido, Dios está aquí.

English translation:

*Night foretold, night of love
God is born, petal and flower
All is silence and serenity,
Peace unto men, it is Christmas.*

*In the manger my Savior
Is the messenger of peace and love.
When he smiles, light is made
And in his little arms a cross is born.*

*Angels sing over the portal,
God is born, it is Christmas.*

*This is the night that promised
God to mankind, and it is now here.
It is Christmas Eve, do not sleep,
God is born, God is here.*

**Messiah: Porque nos ha nacido un Niño
(For unto us a Child is born)**

Original text:

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

As performed (repetition omitted):

Porque nos ha nacido un niño,
se nos ha un hijo dado,
*For unto us a Child is born,
and the government shall be upon His shoulder:
and His name shall be called
Wonderful, Counsellor
El fuerte Dios, Él es el Padre eterno
The Prince of Peace.*

- intermission -

**Messiah: Había pastores que estaban en el campo
(There were shepherds abiding in the field)**

Original text:

*There were shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flocks by night.*

As performed:

Había pastores que estaban en el campo,
cuidando sus rebaños esa noche.

**Messiah: Y he aquí el ángel del Señor
vino sobre ellos
(And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them)**

Original text:

*And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about
them, and they were sore afraid.*

As performed:

Y he aquí el ángel del Señor vino sobre ellos,
y la gloria del Señor los envolvió en su luz,
y tuvieron gran temor.

**Messiah: Pero el ángel les dijo
(And the angel said unto them)**

Original text:

*And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for
behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people. For unto you is born
this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is
Christ the Lord."*

As performed:

Pero el ángel les dijo, "No teman: porque he
aquí les doy buenas nuevas de gran gozo, que
serán para todo el pueblo. Porque les ha
nacido hoy en la ciudad de David, un Salvador,
que es Cristo el Señor."

**Messiah: Y de repente apareció con el ángel
(And suddenly there was with the angel)**

Original text as performed:

*And suddenly there was with the angel a
multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and
saying:*

Messiah: Gloria a Dios (Glory to God)

Original text:

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth,
good will towards men.*

As performed (repetition omitted):

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace on earth*

Gloria a Dios en el cielo, y en la tierra paz,
*good will toward men.
Glory to God,*

Gloria a Dios en el cielo
*and peace on earth,
Good will toward men.*

Navidad Nuestra: Los pastores (The Shepherds)

Original text as performed:

Vengan pastores del campo,
que el Rey de los Reyes ha nacido ya.
Vengan antes que amanezca,
que ya apunta el día y la noche se va.

Albahaca y cedrón, tomillo y laurel,
que el Niño se duerme al amanecer.

Lleguen de Pinchas y Chuquis,
de Aminga y San Pedro, de Arauco y Pomán.
Antes que nadie le adore,
quesillos y flores le vamos a llevar.

Pídanle a Julio Romero
caballos de paso y su mula de andar.
Con cajas y con guitarras
iremos cantando por el olivar.

¡Ay Navidad de Aimogasta!
Aloja y añapa no habrá de faltar.
Mientras la luna riojana
se muere de ganas de participar.

English translation:

*Come from the fields, shepherds,
the King of Kings is now born.
Come before dawn,
for day is breaking and the night is going away.*

*Basil and verbena, thyme and bay,
the Child falls asleep at dawn.*

*Come from Pinchas and Chuquis,
from Aminga and San Pedro, from Arauco and
Pomán.
Before anyone adores him,
we will bring him cheese and flowers.*

*Ask Julio Romero
for step horses and his pack mule.
With cajas and guitars
we will go singing through the olive grove.*

*Oh Christmas in Aimogasta!
There will be plenty of aloja and añapa.
While the moon of Rioja
is dying to take part.*

(Turn page quietly.)

**Messiah: Alégrate mucho, hija de Sión
(Rejoice greatly, o daughter of Zion)**

Original text:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee. He is the righteous Savior, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

As performed (repetition omitted):

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee.

Él es el Salvador justo,
y Él hablará a las naciones paz
a las naciones.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee. Rejoice and shout, rejoice greatly. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee.

**Messiah: Los ojos de los ciegos serán abiertos
(Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened)**

Original text:

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

As performed:

Los ojos de los ciegos serán abiertos,
y los oídos de los sordos se abrirán; los que no puedan andar saltarán como venados, y los que no pueden hablar cantarán, ¡de alegría!

**Messiah: Conduce a su rebaño, Él como un pastor
(He shall feed His flock like a shepherd)**

Original text:

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Come unto Him, all ye that labor, come unto Him that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

As performed (repetition omitted):

Conduce a su rebaño, Él como un pastor;
y llevará en sus brazos los corderillos,
en sus brazos.

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young
Y suavemente guiar
and gently lead those that are with young.
Come unto Him, all ye that labor,

Venid y descansad
and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Tomen su yugo y aprendan de Él,
que Él es manso y humilde de corazón,
descanso hallarán

And ye shall find rest

Para el alma.

**Messiah: Su yugo es fácil
(His yoke is easy)**

Original text:

His yoke is easy and His burthen is light.

As performed (repetition omitted):

Su yugo es fácil, su carga ligera es.
His yoke is easy, His burthen is light.

**Navidad Nuestra: Los Reyes Magos
(The Three Kings)**

Original text as performed:

Llegaron ya los reyes y eran tres:
Melchor, Gaspar y el negro Baltazar.
Arrope y miel le llevarán
y un poncho blanco de alpaca real.

Changos y chinitas, duérmanse,
que ya Melchor, Gaspar y Baltazar.
Todos los regalos dejarán
para jugar mañana al despertar.

El niño Dios muy bien lo agradeció,
comió la miel y el poncho lo abrigó.
Y fue después que los miró
y a medianoche el sol relumbró.

English translation:

*The kings arrived and they were three:
Melchior, Caspar and black Balthazar.
They bring him arrope and honey
and a white poncho of real alpaca wool.*

*Little monkeys and ladybugs, go to sleep,
that now Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar
Will leave all the presents
to play with tomorrow when you wake up.*

*The Baby Jesus thanked them very much,
he ate the honey and the poncho kept him
warm.
And after that he looked at them
and at midnight the sun shone forth.*

Messiah: ¡Aleluia! (Hallelujah!)

Original text:

Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever. King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!

As performed (repetition omitted):

Hallelujah!
for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ;
Y Él reinará por siempre y por siempre.

King of Kings,
por siempre, y siempre, ¡Aleluia!
and Lord of Lords,
por siempre, y siempre, ¡Aleluia!

King of Kings,
forever and ever, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings and Lord of Lords

Y Él reinará por siempre y por siempre.
King of Kings,

Por siempre, y siempre, y Él reinará
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!
Y Él reinará por siempre y por siempre
King of Kings and Lord of Lords
Y Él reinará por siempre y por siempre
Forever and ever
Por siempre, y siempre
Hallelujah!

Navidad Nuestra: La huida (The Flight)

Original text as performed:

¡Vamos! ¡Vamos! ¡Burrito apurá!

Si no te apuras los van a pillar
largo el camino largo el salitral
Ya tocan a degollar
Ya está sangrando el puñal
Si no te apuras los van a pillar.

Niño bonito no llorís mi amor
ya llegaremos a tierra mejor.
Duérmete ya no llorís
Cuna en mis brazos te haré
Bombos legüeros en mi corazón.

English translation:

Let's go! Let's go! Little donkey, hurry up!

*If you don't hurry you'll be caught
Long is the road, long is the salitral
They are already slitting throats
The dagger is already bloody
If you don't hurry you'll be caught.*

*Pretty child, don't cry my love
We will arrive at a better land.
Sleep now don't you cry
In my arms for you I'll make a cradle
Legüero drums in my heart.*