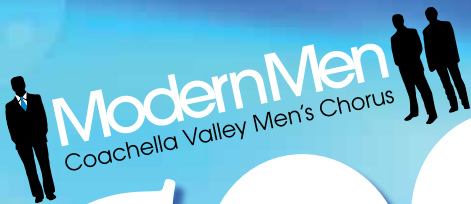


2018 HOLIDAY CONCERT

 **ModernMen**  
Coachella Valley Men's Chorus

**Dr. Stan Hill**  
Artistic Director

# COOL YULE

WITH THE BIG BAND STYLINGS  
OF DOC POSTER'S FILM  
FESTIVAL BAND  
**SPECIAL GUESTS**  
HARMONIC VOICES



SAT **DECEMBER 8** AT 7 PM

SUN **DECEMBER 9** AT 3 PM

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# WELCOME!



As we, Modern Men, Coachella Valley Men's Chorus, begin our sixth season, how do we begin to say thank you to you, our devoted audience? Many of you have been with us from the very start. We have endeavored to bring you all forms of musical presentations from serious to silly to classical to contemporary to thoughtful and you have continued to support our efforts at every turn. Tonight's offering is no different. Tonight we bring you the big band sounds of the season – bright and brassy and full of holiday fun.

Under the baton of our inimitable Artistic Director, Dr. Stan Hill we take another turn allowing us to show you another facet of what Modern Men is capable of.

The number one phrase most spoken that we singers hear after every holiday concert is: *"Now I can start my holiday season, now that Modern Men has put me in the mood."* As you can observe, our singing membership is growing and the quality of our performances is growing as well. We all individually and collectively share a sense of pride in this chorus. We owe so much of that to you and maybe that is how we say a proper "thank you" to you, our audience. Please sit back, relax and enjoy the show and we hope you all have a very **Cool Yule!**

*Michael Scacco*

**Michael Scacco**  
Board President, Modern Men





Dr. Stan Hill, *Artistic Director*  
Kurt Jordan, *Principal Accompanist*

**TENOR 1**

Andy Barborak  
Bruce Chartier  
Simeon Den  
Mark Fearnow  
Joel Fleisher  
Mitchell Laks  
Elvis Morales^  
Adam Ramirez  
J. Chris Rebman  
Dan Tempas  
Paul Trombley+

Peter Gordon  
Jefferson Hills^  
Ron McManigal  
Charles Mercer  
Cary Monette  
Kevin Sanders Nelson  
Kenny Owens^  
Scott R.S. Palermo^  
Roy Pitluk^  
Amarin (Niki) Ratanarat  
Michael Scacco  
Paul Sherman  
Tom Spencer  
Paul H. Stein  
J. Stegar Thompson  
Raul Ramiro Valenzuela\*  
John W. Wirtanen^  
Mark Ziemann+

**TENOR 2**

Mark Cohen  
Richard Elander^  
Michael Hamlin  
Paris Kessinger  
Danny Kopelson  
Sal Lanza  
Randy W. Lerner\*  
Dan Kelley McBride  
Mel McElree  
Ken Peek+  
Armand J. Rouleau^  
Thomas Soule  
Rob Thomas  
Vince Urbani^

**BASS**

Mark Austin^  
Steve Batten^  
Andy Brown  
Brian Cho  
Alan Denny^  
Eduardo Fresquez, Jr.  
Jeff House  
Antonio Jackman\*  
Paul Kowal+  
Edward LeBlanc  
Joel Mugge^  
Stephen Owens  
Dan Spencer  
Bruce Stout  
Richard Street  
Ron Wheeler  
Douglas Wong  
Dana Wood  
Burton York

**BARITONE**

David Allison  
Curtis Anderson  
Brent Apt  
Allan Arnaboldi^  
Tom Batok^  
Keith M. Cornell  
Tom DeRemer  
David Doris^  
Mark Duebner  
Jonathan Fast  
Douglas Foss^  
Donald Gardenier

+ Section Leader  
\* Section Administrator  
^ Leave of Absence

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Colin Wenhardt

**1ST TROMBONE**

Art Dragon

**2ND ALTO SAX**

Rod Kokolj

**2ND TROMBONE**

Todd Humphrey

**TENOR SAX/BARITONE SAX**

Jeff Barrish

**DRUM SET**

Andy Fraga

**1ST TRUMPET**

Bob O'Donnell

**ELECTRIC BASS**

Jeff Stover

**2ND TRUMPET**

Dr. Jack Poster



Mark Austin, *Artistic Director*  
Kurt Jordan, *Accompanist*

**TENOR 1**

Andy Barborak  
Bruce Chartier  
Jim Rasch

**TENOR 2**

Andrew Bird  
Rob Thomas  
Jim Vincent  
Mark Wilson

**BARITONE**

Ken Peek  
Robert Seeley  
J. Stegar Thompson

**BASS**

Stephen Owens  
Ron Wheeler  
Douglas Wong  
Burton York

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# BIOGRAPHIES



## **Dr. Stan Hill** ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Now in his third season as Artistic Director of Modern Men, Dr. Stan Hill brings to Coachella Valley audiences his witty, humanistic and iconoclastic approach to choral music and conducting. Well known in choral circles nationally, Stan served for 11 years as Artistic Director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and then for 12 years as Artistic Director of Minnesota's Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus before moving to Palm Springs in 2012.

A dynamic conductor, arranger, clinician and vocal coach, Stan's career spans the entire spectrum of elementary, secondary, university, church and community choruses. He has conducted every configuration of vocal ensemble and chorus with every combination of instrumentation from small ensembles to full symphony orchestras.

Dr. Hill has commissioned and premiered some of the most successful music in the gay men's chorus repertoire, including *NakedMan*, *Exile*, *ExtrABBAganza*, *Misbehavin'!*, *Metamorphosis*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, and *The Kushner Trilogy*. He has produced 13 CDs, several videos, and has written countless arrangements for men's choruses. In July 2016 Stan conducted the 20th Anniversary performance of *NakedMan* with over 350 singers and full orchestra for the Opening Blockbuster Concert of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses conference in Denver. In October 2016 Stan was honored by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus for the work he did to make SFGMC the extraordinary ensemble it is today, and for his tireless efforts for the chorus and community during the worst days of the AIDS crisis.

A native of Southern California, Stan earned his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees, both in conducting, from California State University, Fullerton, where he studied under noted choral directors Harold Decker and David Thorsen. He earned his PhD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the American Choral Directors Association.



## **Kurt Jordan** PRINCIPAL ACCOMPANIST

Kurt developed an intense interest in learning the piano after having seen *The Phantom of the Opera* with his parents at age 10. He studied under the guidance of Joann Algier throughout middle and high school, during which time he discovered a love of music using multiple pianos. This passion was further explored at Azusa Pacific University while studying with Dr. Robert Sage. Kurt performed several recitals of material he arranged for two and three pianos, the recordings of which have received radio play in Los Angeles, Santa

Barbara, Santa Cruz, Boston, Austin and Beirut. In 2009, Kurt had the honor of performing the West Coast premiere of Alvin Curran's 7.5 hour long piano song cycle, *Inner Cities 7-13*, as well as the U.S. premiere of movement 14 at Burning Man in 2013. Kurt graduated from Azusa Pacific University in 2010 with a BA in Music Theory and Composition. In 2013, Kurt became the accompanist for two small groups within the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus, and is also the accompanist for Modern Men. Most recently, he has been involved as the accompanist for Songshine, a non-profit organization that teaches speech therapy through music for people with Parkinson's Disease and stroke, as well as working at College of the Desert as an accompanist.

## **Dr. Jack Poster**

"Doc" has been on the cutting edge of the entertainment business for over four decades with an extensive background in all genres of music. "Doc" Poster is a world recognized conductor, music arranger, and a masterful trumpet player in the recording industry. Music Director at Maxim Hotel and 8 years at Caesars Palace Las Vegas. A sampling of entertainers "Doc" has performed or recorded with are Frank Sinatra, Dolly Parton, Diana Ross, Tom Jones, Stan Kenton, Ray Anthony, Tom Jones, Andy Williams, the Pointer Sisters, Harry James, Sammy Davis Jr., Cher, Liberace, Englebert Humperdink, Dean Martin, Barry Manilow, Natalie Cole, Ann Margaret, Steve Lawrence and Edie Gorme, Don Rickles and *Holiday On Ice*. "Doc" has played lead trumpet in over 65 stage musicals and is called upon to coordinate the orchestrations at the Cinema Award Ceremony's in California. He's earned many accolades including a Doctorate from Claremont Graduate University, three Master's Degrees in Music Education, Music Performance, Bachelors of Arts and Bachelors of Music degrees. Dr. Jack Poster is a prominent musician, and one recognizes that "Doc" is one the most brilliant, multifaceted, peerless, and renowned musician of our time.



## **Tom McGillis** SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Tom is excited to start his second season with the amazing Modern Men! Tom moved to the beautiful desert from NYC where he was the sign language interpreter for the NYC Gay Men's chorus since 1988. His other artistic signing credits included *Forever Plaid* at the Papermill Playhouse, *Christmas Revels* at Symphony Space, and several productions with Very Special Arts Theatre Company and the George Street Playhouse. Mr. McGillis has voice-interpreted signed

productions including *Progress* at Hudson Guild Theatre and Handstone Productions' *Anna and Danilo*. He graduated from the New York Society for the Deaf's Interpreter Training Program and studied artistic interpretation at The Juilliard School. He is a dedicated advocate for individuals with disabilities, heading up efforts for access under the Americans with Disabilities Act in employment, education, and the arts, and has served on several business advisory boards. He has presented workshops for GALA Choruses, addressing interpreting issues for choral performances. Tom is enjoying his new life in Palm Springs with his husband Donald Gardenier.



## **Mark Austin** ARTISTIC DIRECTOR – VOCAL HARMONICS

Originally hailing from Portland Maine, Mark Austin holds a BE in Music Education from the University of Maine, a M. Mus. from New England Conservatory in Choral Conducting, and did doctoral level study in voice and choral conducting at the Eastman School of Music. He has performed as a singer or conductor with several sacred and secular music ensembles over the years. Mark taught music at the Elementary, Secondary and Post-Secondary level, was formerly

Director of Choral Music at Providence College, and has been a regular guest lecturer at Stanford University, University of California, Eastman School of Music and Cornell University. Mark has also been a pipe-organ builder/restorer for the past 26 years and still works as a consultant in that industry. He is currently a professional conductor/singer, serving as Artistic Director for Harmonic Voices, and Director of the Schola Cantorum at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert. He also is the Director of Choral Music at La Quinta High School. Mark lives with his husband, Patrick, and their Westie, Maxx, in Cathedral City.

# FROM THE PODIUM

Welcome to **COOL YULE**, a delightful potpourri of Holiday delights from the 1920s, 30s and 40s with some contemporary fun thrown in. And the frosting on our musical cake is the wonderful Doc Poster's Film Festival Band. Those of you who attend the Gala Opening of the Palm Springs Film Festival will remember the dazzling sounds of this incredible group of musicians. And we've invited them here with us to add that special, jazzy, juicy and jingly sound that will thrust all of us into the Holiday Spirit.

And, as excited as we are to bring you today's very special performance, we are over the moon about our April show: **BELIEVE: The Music of Cher**. All of the iconic Cher's most famous tunes, with a little kitsch, a little drag, and just a touch of dazzle that has become the trademark of this beloved star. We will be presenting this concert at the Palm Springs Cultural Center (Camelot Theater One) complete with projections of fabulous shots of our favorite singer.

And to you, our beloved audience, our most sincere appreciation for your continued support, sponsorship, and concert attendance. As our signature song asks *Why We Sing?* We sing for YOU! And being a part of our growing audience keeps us on our toes to continually seek out shows that you will enjoy with singing as only the men of Modern Men can do.

We hope our shows demonstrate the extent to which we love and appreciate you, and will strive to continue to bring you the finest in choral entertainment.

Wishing you all the joy and happiness the holidays can bring.



## Dr. Stan Hill

Artistic Director

Modern Men: Coachella Valley Men's Chorus



Modern Men is a proud member of GALA Choruses. GALA Choruses was incorporated in 1983 and leads the GLBT choral movement by cultivating the artistic development of 10,000 singers from more than 180 member choruses located throughout North America, Europe, South America, Africa and Australia.



## PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Ron Wheeler
Graphic Design	Mark Duebner Design
Sound Design	Mark Austin
Costumes	J. Stegar Thompson
Production Assistants	Tom Batok, Tom Skok, Michael Scacco
House Manager	Jason Pecache
ASL Interpreter	Tom McGillis

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Scacco, *President*  
Douglas Wong, *Vice President and Membership Chair*  
Charles Mercer, *Treasurer*  
Tom Spencer, *Secretary*  
Scott R.S. Palermo, *Director*  
Ron Wheeler, *Director*

## OUR MISSION

Modern Men: Coachella Valley Men's Chorus promotes harmony through outstanding performances as we entertain and empower our audiences and embrace diversity through community outreach.

## 5TH SECTION VOLUNTEERS

Tom Batok	Joel Muggé
Lawrence Broering	Otis Ortega
Marshall Brown	Douglas Oostdyk
Alan Denny	Jason Pecache
Richard Elander	Annette Sanders
Rich Fluechtling	Tom Skok
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Without you we cannot do what we do.**

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J. Stegar Thompson & Bruce Chartier  
Richard Weissman & J.D. Horn  
Douglas Wong & Lawrence Broering

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Beverly Spencer  
Mark A. Thallander  
Katie Walde  
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Jeffery Wieland

# BECOME AN ANGEL

## OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME A MODERN MEN ANGEL

As you, our beloved audience, know, ticket sales provide only part of the income necessary to run a thriving and productive organization. Several of you have asked "What can I do?" Here are a few specific ways you might consider helping us defray some of the costs and help us live up to our mission statement: "Modern Men - Coachella Valley Men's Chorus promotes harmony through outstanding performances as we entertain and empower our audiences, and embrace diversity through community outreach."

**\$60 or \$120** - Underwriting the cost of a singing member's dues. Your gift would ensure their participation.

**\$200** - We like to look nice for you. Our standard attire is a tuxedo. This gift would ensure a singing member's participation.

**\$600** - Ensuring our musical presentations are of the highest quality. The use of professional musicians to accompany our singers is often hindered by the expense.

**\$1,500** - As we are the Coachella Valley Men's Chorus, we take our mission statement seriously and want to bring our message of affirmation, inclusion, inspiration and support to the entire Coachella Valley.

**\$3,000** - Getting the word out about our exciting concerts is something that is directly tied to our budget. By helping us with this expense, we could expand our marketing to a broader audience and thereby generate funds to produce more and varied productions.

**\$4,000 - \$10,000** - Venue acquisition in the Coachella Valley is a challenge for all of our Valley's performing groups. Typically, venues are running between \$4,000 and \$10,000 with a 50% deposit required. Your gift of any or all of this expense would allow us to schedule appropriate venues far in advance.

Donations can be made online at [www.modernmen.org](http://www.modernmen.org) or by mail:  
Modern Men, 611 S. Palm Canyon Dr., Suite 7058, Palm Springs, CA 92264

## IN MEMORIAM

Chuck Wilhelm  
Chester McLemore  
Robert Espindola  
Scott Griffen  
Dave Gooding



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The kindness and generosity of so many make the success of **MODERN MEN** possible. Our sincere appreciation to:

- United Methodist Church of Palm Springs
- The Jewish Community Center
- Desert AIDS Project
- Steve Caldwell
- Curtis Anderson
- Crazy Mel's Burgers of PS
- Kenny Owens
- Richard Weissman & J.D. Horn
- Rick James
- Bill Masters
- David Sirek
- Rob Pich
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- Tom Skok
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- Tom DeRemer & Richard Street
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# COOL YULE

## MODERN MEN

- Boogie Woogie Santa Claus*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Music by Rene  
*Everybody's Waitin' for the Man with the Bag*\*\_Dudley Brooks, Harold Stanley & Irving Taylor  
*Hot Hanukkah*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Traditional  
Joel Fleisher, soloist  
*Be a Santa* \_\_\_\_\_ Jule Styne  
*I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas*\* \_\_\_\_\_ John Rox  
*I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Irving Berlin  
*Love Turns Winter to Spring*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Matt Denis & Frank Killduff  
*A Cool Christmas* \_\_\_\_\_ arr. Alan Shorter  
*Winter Wonderland*, Felix Bernard & Richard B. Smith  
*Christmas Eve in My Hometown*, Don Upton & Stan Zabka  
*I'll Be Home for Christmas*, Walter Kent & Kim Gannon  
*Home for the Holidays*, Robert Allen & Al Stillman  
Paul Kowal, soloist (Saturday)  
Burton York, soloist (Sunday)  
*The Merriest*\* \_\_\_\_\_ A. Miller & C. Pearce

## INTERMISSION

\*Vocal arrangements by Patrick Sinozich; Band arrangements by Gordon Bazsali

## MODERN MEN

- Little Jack Frost, Get Lost!*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Seger Ellis & Al Stillman  
Rob Thomas, soloist  
*Winter Weather/Let It Snow*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Ted Shapiro, Jule Styne & Sammy Cahn  
*Because It's Christmas* \_\_\_\_\_ Barry Manilow, Sussman & Feldman/arr. Timothy DePrey  
Mark Ziemann, soloist (Saturday)  
Mark Duebner, soloist (Sunday)

## HARMONIC VOICES

- Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* \_\_\_\_\_ Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane/arr. Molly James

## MODERN MEN

- I Want You for Christmas*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Sam Seft, Charles Tobias & Ned Washington  
*Davey Dinkle Song* \_\_\_\_\_ Rick Crom/arr. Steve Milloy  
Paul Trombley, soloist (Saturday)  
J. Chris Rebman, soloist (Sunday)  
*Jing-a-Ling, Jing-a-Ling*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Leroy Anderson  
*Christmas Kisses*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph Kruger & Henrietta Gilden  
*Cool Yule*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Steve Allen







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DEAN McDOWELL  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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**SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019, 3 p.m.**  
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Featuring winners from our local concerto competition.

### Season Finale Gala

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019, 7 p.m.**  
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TICKETS & INFORMATION

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- ◆ **Kurt Jordan** on the piano

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# SONG DEDICATIONS

## BOOGIE WOOGIE SANTA CLAUS

In loving memory of Alida Gardenier, who never missed a concert.

**Donald Gardenier and Tom McGillis**

## COOL YULE

This song is dedicated to Patrick Sinozich the past Artistic Director of the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus who originally created *Cool Yule* and the entire Chicago Chorus that I was privileged to sing with from 2008-2012. I am so happy to finally sing this show!

**Mark Duebner**

## I'VE GOT MY LOVE TO KEEP ME WARM

Celebrating our 28th year keeping each other warm!

**Mark Cohen and Charles Mercer**

## THE MERRIEST

Wishing "the merriest" to everyone in these topsy-turvy times – and especially to Filip, whose love keeps me warm.

**Mitchell Laks**



# Modern Men

COACHELLA VALLEY MEN'S CHORUS

# ADDITIONS

## OPEN REHEARSAL

Monday, January 7 | 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

## AUDITIONS

Saturday, January 12 | 10 am to noon

United Methodist Church of Palm Springs  
1555 E. Alejo Road

Visit [modernmen.org](http://modernmen.org) for more information

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The music of  
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SAT APRIL 27 @ 7 PM

SUN APRIL 28 @ 3 PM





# A NOCTURNE

by Tom DeRemer

On a cold winter evening  
I strolled solo in the dark  
a small ensemble of snowflakes fell pianissimo on my face  
They were legato and then diminuendo as they melted  
I listened as others started their aria in the air  
Slowly, they began a crescendo to a forte symphony  
Their delicate intonations swayed in perfect pitch and key  
Overhead, the wind arose with an arpeggio through the bare  
staves of the trees  
whispering a carol in descant notes  
I heard no guns or crying children  
Only the perfect harmonic chord of peace and love  
It echoed like a bloom in a large ancient cathedral  
It was Christmas eve  
The perfect song  
forever hopeful  
Forever played  
By the unseen Maestro.

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*Modern Men, your sound and spirit inspire me!  
Thank you and happy holidays. Special thanks  
to the cute guy in the bass section, my partner Richard.*



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