

**Instrumental Invasion with Mike Chimeri**  
**Long Island's 88.1 FM, WCWP & WXBA, LIU Public Radio**  
**Christmas 2025 (pre-recorded 12/1/25)**  
**Annotations**

**HOOR 1**

**Mannheim Steamroller – Catching Snowflakes on Your Tongue (4:08)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 2007)  
*Christmas Song*, 2007 – written by Chip Davis as tribute to son Evan – “Evan was 4. I can still see him and his bouncy little blonde head running around the front yard with Mommie catching snowflakes on their tongues. Then they'd run inside to sit by the fire to warm up a minute and back out they'd go. The snow picked up, so I made the track match.”

Chip Davis, producer/arranger/recorders/drums/harpsichord/crumhorn/hurdy-gurdy/cimbalom/hammered dulcimer/Kurzweil 2000/Kurzweil 2600/bass

Arnie Roth, concertmaster / Louis Stout, orchestral assistant /

Orchestra had violins, violas, cellos, horns, trumpets, bass – Mannheim returns in hour 2

**Lindsey Stirling – Jingle Bell Rock (3:48)**

*Warmer in the Winter*, 2017 – written by Joe Beal/Jim Boothe – first recorded by Bobby Helms in 1957

Lindsey, violin / Hungarian Studio Orchestra, conducted by Peter Illenyi

**Jay Rowe – Joy to the World (3:06)** (followed by LINER Chimeri Auto [without HCW, with WXBA tag])

*Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas from Jay Rowe*, 2021 – 1719 hymn by Isaac Watts based on Psalm 98

Jay, piano/keyboards/perc. prog. / Andy Abel, guitar / Dave Anderson, bass / Trever Somerville, drums

**Billy Taylor – Deck the Halls (3:50)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1993)

*GRP Christmas Collection, Vol. III*, 1993 – Traditional

Billy, piano / Victor Gaskin, acoustic bass / Bobby Thomas, drums – John Nilsen version in hour 2

**Will Ackerman & David Cullen – What Strangers Are These (3:20)**

*A Windham Hill Christmas*, 2002 – Scottish carol that explored Nativity story (so did “What Child is This”)

Guitar duet: Will, baritone guitar/producer / David, guitar/arranger

**Jessy J – What Child is This (3:25)** (followed by Jay Mirabile Liner 3)

*California Christmas, Vol. 2*, 2022 – Traditional

Jessy, tenor sax / Jeff Lorber, piano/organ/keyboards/guitar/synth bass/arranger /

Gary Novak, drums // Jessy/Jeff, producers – Jay Rowe, heard earlier w/JTTW does version of WCIT next hour

**Brian Bromberg – The Christmas Song (5:19)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 2020)

*Celebrate Me Home: The Holiday Sessions*, 2020 – All musicians recorded remotely due to COVID lockdowns

Penned by Robert Wells/Mel Tormé during hot summer day, trying to keep cool

Brian, basses (nylon string piccolo/Kiesel B25 electric) / Ray Fuller, rhythm guitar / Tom Zink, keyboards /

Tony Moore, drums / Alex Acuña, percussion / The Social Distancing Orchestra, violins/violas/cellos

**Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band – I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day (4:25)**

*A Big Phat Christmas WRAP THIS!*, 2015 – Traditional

Featured soloists: Dan Fornero, trumpet / Gordon, tenor sax

Otherwise: Gordon, piano/arranger/conductor / Andrew Synowiec, electric guitar /

Kevin Axt, acoustic bass/tuba? / Bernie Dresel, drums / Joey DeLeon, percussion/vibraphone?

**David Benoit – Christmastime is Here (6:34, over at 6:21)** (followed by Bruce Leonard Liner 4)  
*Christmastime*, 1983 – music by Vince Guaraldi, lyrics by Lee Mendelson (Christmas Time, two words) for 1965 CBS TV special, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, presented by Coca-Cola (60<sup>th</sup> anniversary!) – tweaked after initial airing in same manner George Lucas tweaked the early *Star Wars* films  
David, piano / Wade Short, electric bass / Tony Morales, drums

**Craig Chaquico – Every Day's a Holiday (With You) (1:29)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 2005)  
*Holiday*, 2005 – written by Craig (acoustic & electric guitars)/Ozzie Ahlers (keyboards)  
Another duet; no other performers – Returns in hour 3 with more performers

**Jeff Johnson & Brian Dunning – Morning Has Broken (2:55)** (“Long Island’s 88.1 FM...”)  
*A Windham Hill Christmas: The Night Before Christmas*, 2005 – Traditional  
Jeff, piano/keyboards/percussion/producer/arranger/mixer/recording / Brian, flute/accordion /  
Tim Ellis, acoustic guitars / Phil Ellis, bass

**Kenny G – White Christmas (3:01)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1994)  
*Miracles: The Holiday Album*, 1994 – Written by Irving Berlin for 1942 musical film *Holiday Inn*, starring/sung by Bing Crosby  
Kenny, soprano sax / Walter Afanasieff, piano / William Ross, string arrangements/conductor (no string credits)  
Bill has also conducted for Barbra Streisand

**Arturo Sandoval – O Come All Ye Faithful (3:54, over at 3:51)**  
*GRP Christmas Collection, Vol. II*, 1991 – Attributed to various authors; On this album, John Reading Arturo, Bb (B-flat) trumpet/piccolo trumpet / Richard Eddy, keyboards/arranger / Michael Orta, piano / Orlando Hernandez Sr., bass / Orlando Hernandez Jr., drums //  
Strings: David Everhart, cello / David Chappell, viola / Alexandra Prilutchi/Jorge Orbon, violin  
Recorded at Midland Studios in Coral Gables, FL

## **HOOR 2**

**T-Square – Your Christmas (4:50)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1989)  
*Wave*, 1989 – First album as T-Square; began as The Square  
Inspired Yumiko Kanki (now Kameya) when she composed Mute City theme for F-Zero  
Takeshi Itoh, EWI / Masahiro Andoh, writer/guitar/guitar synth/synth programming /  
Hirotaka Izumi, piano/keyboards/synth programming / Mitsuru Sutoh, bass /  
Hiroyuki Noritake, drums/drum programming / Nobuo Tsuji, additional synth programming

**Casiopea – Blessing (4:38)**  
*Marble*, 2004 – Minoru Mukaiya, writer/piano/keyboards / Issei Noro, guitar /  
Yoshihiro Naruse, bass / Akira Jimbo, drums  
Mukaiya borrowed elements from “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” and “What Child is This/Greensleeves”

**Jay Rowe – What Child is This (4:46)** (followed by LINER Chimeri Auto [without HCW, with WXBA tag])  
*Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas from Jay Rowe*, 2021 – Traditional  
Jay, piano / Dave Anderson, bass / Trever Somerville, drums – No Andy Abel

**David Arkenstone – I Saw Three Ships (4:35)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1988)  
*Narada: The Christmas Collection*, 1988 – (Emphasize first syllable in “Narada”) – Traditional  
David, Commodore Super Sequencer 64 software/Roland S-550/synths/drums/arranger / Daniel Chase, perc.

**Russ Freeman – God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen (4:15)** – Traditional

*Holiday*, 1995 – Another *Holiday* – Craig & Russ linked via *From the Redwoods to the Rockies*, '98  
Russ, arranger/acoustic & electric guitars/bass/keyboards/drum & percussion programming /  
Bob James, piano/keyboards (Disklavier?)  
Horn section: Jerry Hey/Gary Grant, trumpets/flugelhorn / Steve Holtman, trombone  
Same horn section as on Fourplay cover of “Snowbound” and “Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town”  
We’ll hear Richard Elliot’s version later this hour

**Fourplay – The Ivy Variations (3:37)** (followed by Bruce Leonard Liner 4)

*Snowbound*, 1999 – Title track is cover of Steely Dan song on '93 album *Kamakiriad*  
Bob James, writer/arranger/piano/keyboards (Disklavier?) / Larry Carlton, electric guitar /  
Nathan East, bass/vocals / Harvey Mason, drums/percussion / Tim Heintz, keyboard programming

**Herb Alpert – My Favorite Things (2:17)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 2025)

*Christmas Time is Here*, 2025 – “Two words,” as Vince Guaraldi intended  
Herb’s third Christmas album, second without the Tijuana Brass – Herb & TJB & Other Delights at Tilles Center exactly three months from tonight – *Whipped Cream...*, *Going Places* released the same year *A Charlie Brown Christmas* premiered...and the film adaptation of *The Sound of Music* ('59 musical) – Music and lyrics by Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein – Song became Christmas standard despite no lyrical references – Jack Jones was the first to put it on a Christmas album – *The Jack Jones Christmas Album*, '64  
Herb, trumpet/arranger/mixer/producer w/Jochem van der Saag (“yokum von der sog”)  
Jochem, keyboards/programming / Mitchell Long, guitar / Andre de Santanna, bass / Jaz Sawyer, drums / Jon Gilutin, additional string pad / Ryan Dragon, trombone (part of live band; elsewhere on ...*WRAP THIS!*)  
We’ll hear Nick Colionne’s take on this song in hour 3

**John Nilsen – Deck the Halls (2:22)** – Traditional (“Long Island’s 88.1 FM...”)

*A Midnight Clear: Music of Christmas*, 1991 – Like Billy Taylor version in hour 1, this was a trio recording  
John, piano/keyboards / Rob Thomas, bass / Jason Moore, percussion

**Mannheim Steamroller – Hallelujah (4:42)** – From George F. Handel’s “The Messiah” (not Leonard Cohen)

*Christmas Extraordinaire*, 2001  
“The arranging technique that Chip [Davis] used was to quote the main melodic sections until the counterpoint. The counterpoint is exactly from the original, creating a Mannheim/Handel duet.”  
Chip Davis, producer/arranger/conductor/recorders/drums / Jackson Berkey, harpsichord / Ron Cooley, guitar/lute/bass / Arnie Roth, concertmaster / Louis Stout, orchestral assistant/liner notes

**Joe Sample – I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus (5:24)** (followed by InsInvOnWCWP2)

*Making Spirits Bright: A Smooth Jazz Christmas*, 2001 – Joe, solo piano/arrangement  
Music and lyrics by British songwriter Tommie Connor – first recorded by American singer Jimmy Boyd in 1952 when he was 13 years old (as was Joe Sample) – notably covered by The Jackson 5 in 1970 before Michael turned 12

**Richard Elliot – God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen (3:59)** – Traditional, sometimes with comma after “merry”

*Making Spirits Bright: A Smooth Jazz Christmas*, 2001 – Heard Russ Freeman version earlier  
Richard, tenor sax / Jeff Lorber, keyboards/synth bass/co-arranger (heard with Jessy J in hour 1 on “WCIT”) / Steven Dubin, drum prog./producer/co-arranger / Tony Maiden, guitar

**Cindy Bradley – Do You Hear What I Hear (3:29, over at 3:26)**

*Trippin’ ‘N’ Rhythm: The Very Best of Christmas*, 2009 – Another Nativity story, but written in 1962 as a plea for peace during Cuban Missile Crisis – Married co-writers: Gloria Shayne, music; Noel Regney, lyrics  
Cindy, flugelhorn / Michael Broening, keyboards/synth bass/drum prog./arranger / Thano Sahnas, ac. guitar

### **HOOR 3**

**David Lanz & Paul Speer – Rock the Herald Angels (4:09)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1992)

*Narada Christmas Collection, Volume 2*, 1992 – Recorded in May 1988 and March '92

David Lanz, piano/synths / Paul Speer, guitars / Neal Speer, drums / Gary Lanz, bass / James Reynolds, synth  
“Hark” originally composed by Felix Mendelssohn (long before Lee Mendelson), arranged by David & Paul

**Marion Meadows – We Three Kings (4:12)** – Traditional

*Christmas with You*, 2019

First recorded a version on *The Carols of Christmas: A Windham Hill Collection*, 1996 – Nightnoise medley from that album later this hour

Marion, tenor sax / Rahni Song, synth/tube bells/arranger/horn & string arrangement /  
Mark Stubenrach, piano / Jason Newsome, acoustic bass / Damarius Wooten, drums

**Craig Chaquico – Jingle Bells/Jingle Bells (Slight Return) (7:21)**

(followed by LINER Chimeri Auto [without HCW, with WXBA tag])

*Holiday*, 2005 – Not to be confused with “Jingle Bell Rock”

Arranged by Craig (elec. guitars)/Ozzie Ahlers (keybs.)/Bill Heller (add'l keybs/piano/organ)

Jim Reitzel, bass / Wade Olson, drums / Marquinho Brasil, percussion // Phrases from other songs toward end  
Bill's work on *From the Redwoods to the Rockies* collab with Russ Freeman led him to join the Rippingtons

**John Nilsen – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (4:11)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1991)

*A Midnight Clear: Music of Christmas*, 1991

Translated lyrically from Latin to English in 1851 by English hymnwriter John Mason Neale

John, piano/keyboards/guitars / Joseph Berger, French horn / Rob Thomas, bass / Jason Moore, percussion  
Peggy Duquesnel version later this hour

**Jaared – Winter Wonderland (3:01)** (followed by Bruce Leonard Liner 4)

*Trippin 'N' Rhythm: The Very Best of Christmas*, 2009

Written in 1934 by Felix Bernard (music)/Richard Bernhard Smith (lyrics) – Like “My Favorite Things,” it's a song with a seasonal theme that became associated with Christmas – Jaared, alto sax / Gary Grainger, bass / Greg Grainger, drums / Robert “Wa Wa” LeGrand, electric guitar / Dan Reynolds, piano/keyboards //  
Dan, Graingers alumni of Ken Navarro's band – Graingers, Jay Rowe now in Acoustic Alchemy  
Heard Jay in hour 1 with “Joy to the World,” hour 2 with show's second rendition of “What Child is This”

**Gary Burton – O Tannenbaum (3:11)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 1988)

*A GRP Christmas Collection*, 1988 – Traditional – Gary, vibraphone (for sure) / Makoto Ozone, piano / Donald McCaslin, tenor sax / Gildas Boclé (French), acoustic bass / Martin Richard, drums

**Alex de Grassi – Good King Wenceslas (2:58)**

*A Windham Hill Christmas: The Night Before Christmas*, 2005

Lyrics written in 1853 by John Mason Neale (him again) in collaboration with music editor Thomas Helmore  
Duet: Alex, guitar/arranger/producer/recording / Marcia Sloane, cello

**Nick Colionne – My Favorite Things (4:23)** (followed by Chimeri More Music)

*Just Come On In*, 2003 – Heard recently-released Herb Alpert version in hour 2

Nick, guitar/keyboards/prog./producer / “Downtown” Tony Brown, bass / Ernie Adams, drums/percussion

**Peggy Duquesnel – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (4:19)** (preceded by WCWP Remembers 2013)

*All I Ask for Christmas (Instrumentals)*, 2013 – 2-CD album; CD 2 is vocal songs

Peggy, piano/producer / Brian Bromberg, acoustic bass (played electric basses in hour 1) /

Brian Kilgore, percussion/marimba? / Joe LaBarbera, drums (“Joe LaBarbera on drums” Bill Evans clip)

**Nightnoise – Hark, the Herald Angels Sing/Angels We Have Heard On High (Medley) (3:10)**

*The Carols of Christmas: A Windham Hill Collection*, 1996 – Heard “Rock the...” by DL/PS earlier this hour  
Arranged/produced by Nightnoise // Triona Ní Dhomhnaill, piano/keyboards / Mícheál Ó Dhomhnaill, guitar /  
Brian Dunning, flute/accordion? (heard earlier in hour 1 with Jeff Johnson) / Johnny Cunningham, fiddle

**Alison Brown Quartet with Joe Craven – Sleigh Ride (3:43) (followed by InsInvOnWCWP2)**

*Evergreen*, 2008

Light orchestra standard composed by *Leroy Anderson* in 1948, lyrics added by Mitchell *Parish* in '50  
Alison, banjo / Joe Craven, mandolin/percussion (incl. sleigh bells/whip)/Santa? / John R. Burr, piano /  
Garry *West*, bass (Alison's husband) / David Heyer, drums

**David Benoit – Skating (4:40, over at 4:37)**

*Remembering Christmas*, 1996 – Vince Guaraldi instrumental for *A Charlie Brown Christmas*

David, piano / Earl Klugh, acoustic guitar / John Patitucci, acoustic bass / Harvey Mason, drums  
Heard Mase in hour 2 with Fourplay