

PROGRAM NOTE:

*Christmas Eve, Bells* was written in 1991 for the Dale Warland Singers' *Echoes of Christmas* concert. I set the first three stanzas from Alfred, Lord Tennyson's *In Memoriam, canto XXVIII*, imagining the voices as bells ringing the changes – exploring the variations of their tunes – from “four hamlets round, from far and near, on mead and moor,” the background hum always present in their combined overtones, and a sense of wistful nostalgia for days gone by.