



music by **Spicer Carr**
libretto by **Rose Freeman & Spicer Carr**
concept by **Gabriel Preisser**

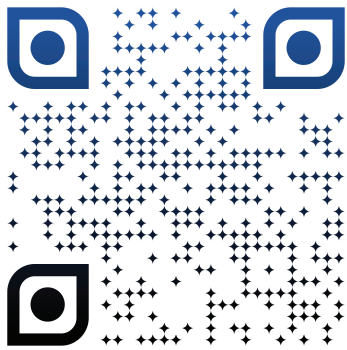
commissioned by



PIANO WORKSHOP (public performance)
Sunday | February 4, 2024 at 2 p.m.
Timucua Arts Foundation
Orlando, FL

WORLD PREMIERE
Friday-Sunday | December 6-8, 2024
Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
Orlando, FL

Kyle Naig, conductor
Rose Freeman, stage director



www.OperaOrlando.org/Santas

www.SpicerCarrComposer.com
www.RoseFreeman.org

SYNOPSIS

Four Lost Santas is the story of a barbershop quartet of Santas (Barry, Gary, Larry, and Terry) who are lost and stranded on the side of the road with a broken down car, missing their big break at SantaCon. A mother and son (Judy and Rudy), who are running late to perform in a production of *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, see them, and Rudy is amazed at the sight. He insists that he and his mother should help them, but Judy is reluctant to help as she is anxious to get to the show. Rudy, however, reminds her that, "The most important rule or creed is to help those in need!" After a lot of Christmas carol singing, friendship, and even a little love, Judy yields. Not able to fix the car, everyone piles into Judy's car and they head to the theater. They arrive to a stage manager in full panic mode. All three kings and the page have bailed on the production to go sing in a quartet at SantaCon. The production is almost canceled until the Santas realize they can save the day and play the parts, because, "everyone's done *Amahl* before!" The show is saved, and everyone gets their Christmas wish.

The work is intended as a preview opera that leads in to *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. The cast can be matched to voice types and characters in Menotti's quintessential Christmas opera, but also works as a standalone one act.

production length: ~25 minutes

CAST

(1 women / 4 men / 1 boy soprano / 1 speaking role | doubles *Amahl* cast)

JUDY - (mezzo-soprano, plays MOTHER | 30s-40s woman, any race)
She is a loving but busy single mother who wants to spend quality time with her son, Rudy. She tries to be patient but is barely keeping it together.

RUDY - (boy soprano, plays AMAHL | child, any race)
He is a good-hearted and imaginative boy.
He just wants his mother's attention and will do anything to get it.

SANTA BARRY - (bass, plays BALTHAZAR | 30s-40s man, black)
He is a singer who is tired of taking terrible gigs. Leading man on stage but a nervous wreck offstage, he just wants something meaningful in his life. He is always putting his foot in his mouth.

SANTA GARY - (bass-baritone, plays MELCHIOR | 30s-40s man, any race)
He is a singer in desperate need of this gig to pay off his student loans from the conservatory. He is the anal-retentive leader of the quartet.

SANTA LARRY - (tenor, plays KASPAR | 50s-60s man, any race)
He is an old war horse of opera, has done every show EVER. A bit of a prima donna, he knows everyone in the business and for some reason lives in Florida.
He is far too good for this gig, thank you very much.

SANTA TERRY - (bass, plays PAGE | 20s man, any race)
He is the newest member of the quartet. A young artist fresh out of graduate school, he is desperate to impress ANYONE and EVERYONE.

STAGE MANAGER - (speaking role, any age, race, or gender)
They are the stage manager for the community theater production of *Amahl*, just trying to keep this show on the road.

INSTRUMENTATION (subject to change)

flute / clarinet / bassoon / violin I & II / viola / cello / percussion / piano
9 musicians total

For more information about **Four Lost Santas**
contact **Gabriel Preisser** at GPreisser@OperaOrlando.org.



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