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**Thursday 18th of December 2008**

**[CD Review – COOLSIDE OF YULETIDE](#)**

18 December 2008

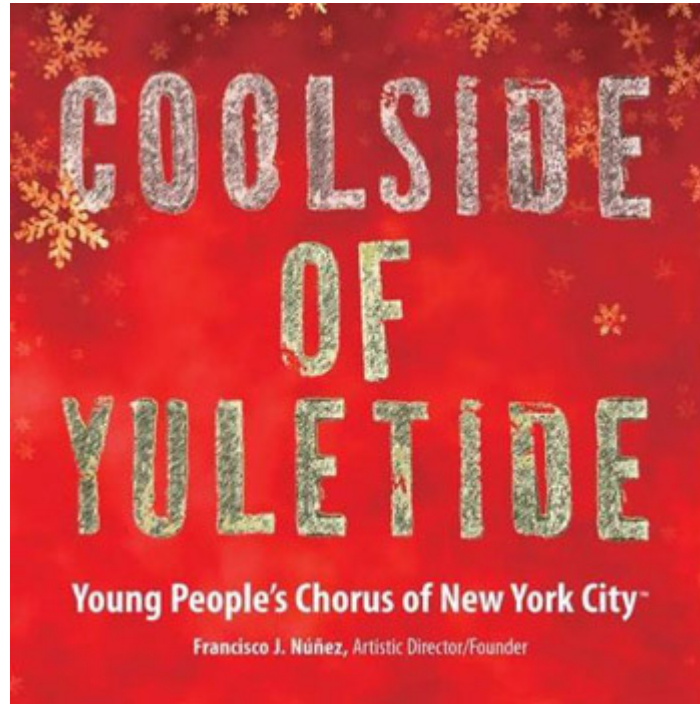
**Roseanne Cash  
and the Young People’s Chorus of New York City  
say, “Let It Snow!”**



**[By Seán Martinfield](#)  
Sentinel Fine Arts Critic  
*Photo by Lynn Imanaka***

**[YPC](#)** – The Young People’s Chorus of New York City have just released their CD – **[COOLSIDE OF YULETIDE](#)** – a fantastic collection of Holiday songs that are totally awesome. The opening tracks of Deck The Halls and Joy To The World set the tone of excellence for the **[YPC](#)** and its song arrangers, Jim Papoulis and Francisco J. Núñez. Traditional melodies and messages are treated to sparkling counter-melody lines and interwoven with clever rhythmic patterns that will warm your heart, delight your soul and chase away those winter chills. **[COOLSIDE OF YULETIDE](#)** includes three original pieces that are destined to become a part of standard choral Holiday repertoire. Jim

Papoulis' setting of Caryl Martine's poem *Where Are My Angels* features popular American Idol finalist, Phil Stacey. The classic structure and call for unity in *Sing For Peace and Give Us Hope* are all at once familiar and inviting. *How Many Christmases* (music by Jim Papoulis, lyrics by Mike Greenly) is an engineering feat in uniting Rosanne Cash with 65 children's choirs from around the world. *I Am Home* features a sweet narration of the poem by Eric Gamalinda with a hauntingly beautiful underscore Jim Papoulis. **YPC's CoolSide of Yuletide** is the best and most artistically satisfying Holiday album of 2008. Get this on your iPod now! **Click here to order the MP3 on-line: [COOLSIDE OF YULETIDE](#)**



CD – COOLSIDE OF YULETIDE

The impetus for this recording began with a call from a television network requesting that the YPC sing carols for one of its holiday specials, but they had to be “upbeat and cool.” “Nothing I found was cool enough,” said Mr. Núñez. So with Jim Papoulis they decided to create their own. “Our goal for CoolSide of Yuletide was to shake the tree, giving these carols a cool, young vibe that are enjoyable to singers and listeners alike.” Proceeds from the album will benefit the Young People’s Chorus of New York City and The Foundation for Small Voices, two not-for-profit organizations dedicated to creating music and empowering opportunities for children.

#### **MEET THE ARTISTS:**

Rosanne Cash is a Grammy-winning singer and songwriter. Her 14 record albums, released over the last 25 years, have charted 11 number-one singles. The daughter of country legend Johnny Cash, Ms. Cash is also an author of two books – “Bodies of Water” (Hyperion, 1995), and A children’s book, “Penelope Jane: A Fairy’s Tale”

(HarperCollins, 2000). Her essays and fiction have appeared in The New York Times and Rolling Stone.

Phil Stacey, the popular “American Idol” finalist, grew up listening to southern and contemporary music in his family home headed by his pastor father. He interrupted a budding country music career to enlist in the Navy following 9/11 and competed in American Idol as an active member of the service. His debut recording, self-titled “Phil Stacey,” was recently released by Lyric Street Records.



*ROSANNE CASH and PHIL STACEY*

Francisco J. Núñez is a composer, conductor, a leading figure in music education, and a visionary, whose strongly held ideas have resulted in the critical and popular success of the award-winning, multicultural Young People’s Chorus of New York City. Mr. Núñez also leads the University Glee Club of New York, the New York University Singers, and NYU Women’s Chorus and is often invited as guest conductor and master teacher for choral workshops, demonstrations, and festivals nationwide.

Jim Papoulis composes, orchestrates, and conducts music for dance, film, symphonies, quartets, pop bands, gospel, and choirs. His compositions are known for exploring new modes of musical communication by connecting classical and traditional forms with non-Western sounds. Jim’s approach unites classical with contemporary sounds, world rhythms, R&B, and voices, while combining live instruments with current composing and recording technology. He has worked with everyone from the Tokyo String Quartet and Aretha Franklin to Faith Hill and Maroon 5.

Mike Greenly, who conceived the song “How Many Christmases” as a new musical expression of “peace on earth,” has written lyrics for more than 100 songs for business audiences as a corporate executive and speechwriter. With Mr. Papoulis, he has written songs covering many genres, ranging from rhythm & blues to adult contemporary.



*YPC – The Young People's Chorus of New York City*