



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the Divine

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RELEASE

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE ANNOUNCES
THE FIFTH SEASON OF *GREAT MUSIC IN A GREAT SPACE*
CONCERT SERIES**

*Exhilarating Season of Performances Resounding Throughout the Unique Spaces
of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine*

New York (July XX, 2015) The Cathedral of St. John the Divine presents its fifth season of **Great Music in a Great Space** under the direction of **Kent Tritle**, featuring an exquisite array of choral and organ music exploring the unique sounds that can only be produced by the compilation of music and the distinct spaces at the Cathedral located at **1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street)**.

Great Music in a Great Space is comprised of three concert series: the **Great Choir choral series**, the **Great Organ recital series**, and **holiday concerts** celebrating the Christmas season and New Year's Eve. The musical repertoire this season spans many centuries, and features the works of Schütz, Mahler, Sibelius and more.

Performances span from **October 2015 through April 2016**. Located throughout the vastness of the Cathedral, concerts will take place in the Great Choir, the Crossing, the nave, or in one of the Chapels of the Seven Tongues, along the Cathedral's eastern periphery.

The acclaimed Cathedral Choir and Cathedral Orchestra will be joined by soloists, including dramatic mezzo-soprano Sara Murphy, Broadway actress Amy Justman, bass Adam Lau, and a number of young artists from the Manhattan School of Music.

Great Choir: A Choral Concert Series

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

7:30pm

Four Quarters of Jerusalem

The 2015–2016 season of Great Music in a Great Space kicks off by celebrating the vibrant cultures and sounds that make up the Four Quarters of Jerusalem—Jewish,



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Muslim, Armenian and Christian—with a revised reprise of the 2013 collaboration between the Cathedral Choir and world music ensemble Rose of the Compass. This concert also celebrates the release of a CD of this repertoire on the Pro Organo label.

Thursday, February 25, 2016

7:30pm

Gustav Mahler, Symphony No. 8

Continuing last year's collaboration with the Manhattan School of Music and Oratorio Society of New York, the Cathedral presents Gustav Mahler's 8th Symphony. Often referred to as "The Symphony of a Thousand," this symphony calls for a full symphony orchestra, an off-stage brass ensemble, two SATB choirs, a children's choir, and eight soloists.

SOLOISTS

Sara Murphy, *mezzo-soprano*

Adam Lau, *bass*

and a cast of soloists from the Manhattan School of Music

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

7:30pm

Bach, Vivaldi, and Schütz

The music of Holy Week is some of the most profound in the repertoire. Join the Cathedral for three heart-wrenching pieces from the Baroque and become immersed in the final weeks of the Lenten season. Our meditation begins with the moving *Musikalische Exequien* of Heinrich Schütz, written in the midst of the devastating Thirty Years' War; continues with the *Stabat Mater* of Antonio Vivaldi; and ends blissfully with one of J.S. Bach's greatest cantatas, *Christ lag in Todesbanden*.

SOLOISTS

Amy Justman and Michele Kennedy, *sopranos*

Katie Geissinger and Kirsten Sollek, *mezzo-sopranos*

Michael Steinberger and Marc Day, *tenors*

Malcolm J. Merriweather and Peter Stewart, *baritones*

PROGRAM

Heinrich Schütz: *Musikalische Exequien*

Antonio Vivaldi: *Stabat Mater*

Johann Sebastian Bach: *Christ lag in Todesbanden, BWV 4*

Great Organ: A Recital Series

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

7:30pm

Frederick Hohman



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Acclaimed virtuoso Frederick Hohman returns to the Cathedral in a program of symphonic transcriptions for organ, including stirring favorites by Bach and Tchaikovsky. Hohman's flair for this repertoire is a perfect match for the limitless color and thrilling power of the Great Organ.

PROGRAM

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: Romeo & Juliet Fantasy-Overture
Johann Sebastian Bach: Arioso

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

7:30pm

Kent Tritle

Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music and Organist, presents a program featuring the dazzling Triptych of the late Stephen Paulus, as well as a trio of French works: Maurice Duruflé's heartfelt tribute to his friend Jehan Alain, César Franck's serene Cantabile, and Charles-Marie Widor's incandescent Symphony No. 7.

PROGRAM

Stephen Paulus: Triptych
Maurice Duruflé: Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'ALAIN
César Franck : Cantabile
Charles-Marie Widor : Symphony No. 7 in A Minor, Op. 42, No. 3

Monday, November 23, 2015

7:30

The Music of Jean Sibelius

In tribute to the 150th birthday of Jean Sibelius, Finnish organist and pianist Kalle Toivio joins forces with New York soprano Sharon Harms to celebrate the legacy of Finland's most famous composer.

PROGRAM

Intrada for Organ, Op. 111a
Six Songs, Op. 86
Five Songs, Op. 37

Thursday, April 7, 2016

7:30pm

Gustav Mahler, Symphony No. 8

Join the Cathedral with a reprise of Mahler's astounding 8th Symphony from earlier in the season. In the place of an orchestra, this performance will feature the world premiere of a new organ transcription by David Briggs.

SOLOISTS



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Sara Murphy, *mezzo-soprano*
Adam Lau, *bass*
and a cast of soloists from the Manhattan School of Music

Tuesday, April 19, 2016
7:30pm

Raymond Nagem

Raymond Nagem, Associate Organist of St. John the Divine and C.V. Starr Doctoral Fellow at The Juilliard School, showcases organ music from Germany in a program ranging from J.S. Bach's Prelude and Fugue in D Major to Paul Hindemith's elegiac Third Sonata. The second half of the program is devoted to Sigfrid Karg-Elert's magnificent—and rarely played—Organ Symphony.

PROGRAM

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Overture to *Die Zauberflöte*

Paul Hindemith: *Sonata III*

Johann Sebastian Bach: *Prelude and Fugue in D Major, BWV 532*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert: *Symphony for Organ in F-sharp Minor, Op. 143*

Holiday Concerts

Saturday, December 12, 2015

7:00pm

Cathedral Christmas Concert

The annual Cathedral Christmas Concert, which ushers in the holiday season, takes place in the Great Crossing and features the Combined Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra and soloists. This year's program features J.S. Bach's beloved *Magnificat*. Exuberant trumpets and timpani introduce this setting of the song of Mary, which was intended for use at major feast days, including Christmas. The triumphant brass, festive choruses, and dancing rhythms herald the arrival of the Christmas season. The angelic voices of the Cathedral Choristers will adorn

the program with seasonal selections and the audience joins to sing in favorite Christmas Carols! Don't miss this joyous occasion when friends, family and neighbors come together to celebrate the Christmas story.

SOLOISTS

Amy Justman, Jamet Pittman, and Michele Kennedy, *sopranos*

Katie Geissinger and Kirsten Sollek, *mezzo-sopranos*

Marc Day, *tenor*

Hans Tashjian, *bass*

Thursday, December 31, 2015



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New Year's Eve Concert for Peace

Founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, the annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace is a signature Cathedral event, gathering old friends and new for more than a quarter of a century. This year we honor the legacy of Leonard Bernstein with a performance of his *Chichester Psalms*, a profound work that is sure to inspire a spirit of peace in the audience as we begin a New Year together, renewed in hope for the world we share.

SOLOISTS

Jamet Pittman, *soprano*

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About The Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership. People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.