



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 ELEVENTH SEASON OF *GREAT MUSIC IN A GREAT SPACE***

*Season includes world premieres, celebrations of works by composers of Asian
and African descent*

COVID-19 vaccinations required for entry

New York (August XX, 2021) **The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, located at 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street)**, presents the eleventh season of **Great Music in a Great Space** under the direction of Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music and Organist. With choral and organ performances ranging from Joel Thompson's *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed* to J.S. Bach's *Magnificat*, this season provides a culturally diverse offering inside the Cathedral's gothic interior, joyfully reengaging with live music after a year of all-virtual offerings.

The season kicks off with a recital by Kent Tritle, followed by the world premiere of David Briggs' transcription for organ of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Cathedral Choir and soloists. Musica Sacra, the longest continuously performing professional chorus in New York City, and the Oratorio Society of New York join the Cathedral Choir to present music spanning from J.S. Bach's *Magnificat* to Arvo Pärt's *Berliner Messe*, and a world premiere by Wang Jie.

Holiday music is a beloved tradition at the Cathedral. The Cathedral's Christmas concerts include carols sung by the audience, and the New Year's Eve Concert for Peace, founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, continues this year with music of inspiration and social conscience.

A full series of organ recitals by Trittle, Artist in Residence David Briggs, newly appointed Associate Organist Daniel Ficarri, and Organ Scholar Samuel Kuffuor-Afriyie plumbs the riches of the repertory, includes premieres, and explores new avenues of composition and performance for the King of Instruments.

To safeguard concertgoers, musicians, and staff, the Cathedral will require all Great Music in a Great Space ticketholders to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before entry to the building. The following protocols will be in place:

- Upon entry to the Cathedral, all visitors will be required to show a hard copy or photo of their COVID-19 vaccination card or the NYS Excelsior Pass and a valid photo ID.
- Visitors must have received the final vaccine dose at least 14 days before entry.
- Masks are required for all visitors, staff, and clergy while in the Cathedral.
- Children between the ages of 2 and 12 are required to wear masks and must be accompanied by a fully vaccinated adult.
- Seating will be physically distanced according to current CDC guidance for all indoor events.

Tickets will be available on [the Cathedral's website](#) beginning September 8. Students are admitted free to select performances with valid school ID. Visit the Cathedral's website for more information about the 2021-2022 season of Great Music in a Great Space.

CHORAL CONCERT SERIES

All concerts start at 7:30 pm

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

DAVID BRIGGS, organ

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Trittle, conductor

Susanna Phillips, soprano

Kirsten Sollek, contralto

Bernard Holcomb, tenor

Joseph Beutel, bass-baritone

L. V. BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9 (world premiere of transcription for organ by David Briggs)

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

MUSICA SACRA CHORUS & ENSEMBLE 1047

Kent Tritle & Michael Sheetz, conductors

Nola Richardson, soprano

Helen Karloski, mezzo-soprano

James Reese, tenor

Peter Stewart, baritone

Sato Moughalian, flute

J. S. BACH *Orchestral Suite No. 2 in B minor*

J. S. BACH *Cantata 78, Jesu, der du meine Seele*

JOHANN MICHAEL BACH *Halt, was du hast*

JOHANN CHRISTOPH BACH *Fürchte dich nicht*

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

Kent Tritle, David Rosenmeyer & William Janiszewski, conductors

Raymond Nagem, organ

BENJAMIN BRITTEN *Festival Te Deum and Rejoice in the Lamb*

ARVO PÄRT *Berliner Messe and Two Slavonic Psalms*

GIOVANNI GABRIELI *Jubilate Deo, omnis terra* (a 8)

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Caleidoscópico! Unsung voices from Portugal

ROSE OF THE COMPASS & PARTHENIA

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, Nina Stern & Raymond Nagem, music directors

An exploration of rarely heard works from Portugal including the 13th-century female-voiced *Cantigas de Amigo*, symphonies of the converso Jewish heiress Isabella Duarte, and sacred and secular works of the 16th century Black composer Vicente Lusitano.

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK CHORUS & ORCHESTRA OF THE SOCIETY

Kent Tritle, conductor

*Hyeyoung Moon, soprano
*Jasmin White, mezzo-soprano
*Patrick Bessenbacher, tenor
*William Socolof, bass-baritone

J. S. BACH *Magnificat*, BWV 243
W. A. MOZART *Coronation Mass*, K 317

**Performers from The Juilliard School*

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Te Deum Laudamus: Centennial & World Premiere!

MUSICA SACRA CHORUS & ORCHESTRA

Kent Tritle, conductor

Nicole Joy Mitchell, contralto

John Riesen, tenor

VIKTOR KALABIS *Canticum Canticorum*

ARVO PÄRT *Te Deum*

WANG JIE World Premiere, TBD

JOHANNES BRAHMS “Schaffe in mir, Gott,” Op. 29, No.2

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

CATHEDRAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle & Bryan Zaros, conductors

Nola Richardson, soprano

Tracy Cowart, mezzo-soprano

Andrew Fuchs, tenor

Joseph Beutel, bass-baritone

ANTONIO VIVALDI *Concerto in D Minor*, RV 565

ALISSA FIRSOVA *Stabat Mater* (New York City premiere)

FRANCIS POULENC *Litanies à la Vierge Noire* (1947 version orchestrated with strings and timpani)

JOSÉ MAURÍCIO NUNES GARCIA *Requiem*

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

All concerts start at 7:00 pm

Friday, December 10, 2021

Saturday, December 11, 2021

**CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
CATHEDRAL CHOIRS & ORCHESTRA**

Kent Tritle & Bryan Zaros, conductors

Halley Gilbert, soprano

Katie Geissinger, mezzo-soprano

BENJAMIN BRITTEN *A Ceremony of Carols*

ANTONIO VIVALDI *Gloria*

Christmas carols

Friday, December 31, 2021

NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT FOR PEACE

CATHEDRAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, Bryan Zaros, & Jie Yi, conductors

Jamet Pittman, soprano

Harry Smith, host

J. S. BACH *Dona Nobis Pacem* from *Mass in B Minor*

COMMON "Glory"

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL *Water Music* Suite in D

DAVID HURD *When Night Fell*

JOEL THOMPSON *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*

Music includes Joel Thompson's *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*, the Oscar Award-winning song "Glory" by American rapper Common, singer John Legend featured in the motion picture *Selma*, David Hurd's *When Night Fell*, works from Asian composers including Chen Yi, *Dona Nobis Pacem* from J. S. Bach's *Mass in B Minor*, and "This Little Light of Mine."

GREAT ORGAN: A RECITAL SERIES

All concerts start at 7:30 pm

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

KENT TRITLE, DIRECTOR OF CATHEDRAL MUSIC & ORGANIST

Works by J. S. Bach, George Crumb, Maurice Duruflé, and César Franck.

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

DAVID BRIGGS, ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

German, French and English Romantic fireworks, including Julius Reubke's Sonata on the 94th Psalm.

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

**SAMUEL KUFFUOR-AFRIYIE, ORGAN SCHOLAR
RAYMOND NAGEM, MINISTER OF MUSIC AT BRICK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Works by Chelsea Chen, Sigfrid Karg-Elert, Alfred Hollins, Thomas Kerr, and Ad Wammes.

March 1, 2022

Gothic Hymn: Music for Organ and Violin

DANIEL FICARRI, ASSOCIATE ORGANIST

STELLA CHEN, VIOLIN (winner, 2019 Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition)

Works for organ and violin, including the world premiere of Ficarri's *Gothic Hymn*.

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

DAVID BRIGGS, ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

The world premiere of David Briggs's transcription of César Franck's Symphony in D Minor.

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About Kent Tritle

Kent Tritle is one of America's leading choral conductors. Called "the brightest star in New York's choral music world" by The New York Times, he is Director of Cathedral Music and Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City; Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York, the acclaimed 200-voice volunteer chorus; and Music Director of Musica Sacra, New York's longest continuously performing professional chorus.

In addition, Kent is Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music and is a member of the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic and on the organ faculty of the Manhattan School of Music.

Kent Tritle founded the Sacred Music in a Sacred Space concert series at New York's Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, and led it from 1989 to 2011. From 1996 to 2004, he was Music Director of New York's The Dessoff Choirs. Kent hosted "The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle," a weekly program on New York's WQXR, from 2010 to 2014. Kent Tritle's discography includes recordings on the Telarc, AMDG, Epiphany, Gothic, Pro Organo, VAI and MSR Classics labels, and he received a 2021 Grammy nomination for the Naxos recording of Paul Moravec/Mark Campbell oratorio *Sanctuary Road* with the Oratorio Society of New York. kenttritle.com

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.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cathedral has responded to changing needs in the local community and across the city and state. People from many faiths and communities worship together in daily services held online and in person; the soup kitchen serves roughly 50,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs to safely provide resources and aid to the hardest-hit New Yorkers; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Advancing the Community of Tomorrow, 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.