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## RELEASE

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS  
*VENICE, CITY OF LIGHT*  
THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ROSE OF THE COMPASS  
WITH KENT TRITLE & NINA STERN, MUSIC DIRECTORS**



*Concert celebrates Venice as a diverse cultural crossroads*

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Rose of the Compass joins with the Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine to present *Venice, City of Light*, the final performance of the Cathedral's 2022-23 season of Great Music in a Great Space concerts, **on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street).**

Created by artistic directors Nina Stern and Kent Tritle, the program celebrates Venice as the great cultural crossroads from medieval times to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The presence of Jewish, Turkish and Armenian communities is explored alongside the musical creativity which emanated from the Basilica of San Marco, illustrating the cultural splendor of the luminous city of the lagoon.

Performers include Ara Dinkjian, oud; Tamer Pinarbasi, kanun; Glen Velez, percussion; Arthur Fiacco, cello; Nina Stern, recorders and chalumeau; Daniel Ficarri, organ; and Tracy Cowart, mezzo-soprano. Kent Tritle conducts the Cathedral Choir.

The performance will take place in person in the Cathedral's magnificent Chapel of St. James. Student Rush tickets will be available the day of at the box office. One free ticket per student ID. For tickets and more information, [visit the Cathedral's website](#).

**Venice, City of Light**  
**A thousand years of cross-cultural splendor**

Saint Mark, Patron Saint of Venice

Jubilemus Singuli

Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1613)

Deus, qui beatum Marcum

Giovanni Bassano (c.1558-1617)

San Lazzaro degli Armeni (The Armenian Presence)

Havoon, havoon

Grigor Narekatsi (900-1003)

Looyse

Ara Dinkjian, b. 1958

The Venetian Salon: Italian Madrigals

Al lume de le stelle

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

Anchor che col partire

Cipriano de Rore (c.1515-1565)

With divisions for recorder by Bassano

Fondaco dei Turchi (Influence of the Ottoman Empire)

Umidim Bagina Nurlar Sacildi

Bimen Şen (1873-1943)

Kimseye Etmen

Kemani Sarkis Efendi (1885–1944)

Sultani yagah

Sadi Istay (1899–1969)

Choral set: Music at San Marco, Basilica of St Mark

Dominus illuminatio mea

Claudio Merulo (1533-1604)

Deus, qui beatum Marcum (1597)

Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1613)

Jewish Ghetto

Mi al har chorev

Ovadia HaGer (Obadiah the Proselyte, born in Italy c.1070)

Falla con misuras

M. Gulielmus (1420-84)

Judentanz

Heckels Lautenbuch (c.1562)

Tzur mishelo

Traditional Sephardic

Venice, Renaissance Printing Capital of the World

Lauda, Jerusalem, Dominum (pub.1650)

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

**About the Artists**

**Nina Stern** has carved a unique and extraordinarily diverse career for herself as a world-class recorder player and classical clarinetist. Stern performs widely as a soloist and a principal player with prominent orchestras such as The New York Philharmonic, Orchestra of Saint Luke's, Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, Opera Lafayette, and American Classical Orchestra.

She has recorded for Erato, Harmonia Mundi, Sony Classics, Newport Classics, Wildboar, Telarc and Smithsonian labels. Stern's latest projects include performances of traditional music of Eastern Europe, Armenia, and the Middle East as a soloist and with the ensembles Rose of the Compass and East of the River. She was appointed to the faculty of Juilliard's Historical Performance program in 2012 and has served on the faculties of the Mannes College of Music – where she directed the Historical Performance Program from 1989 to 1996 – at the Civica Scuola di Musica (Milan, Italy), Oberlin Conservatory, and the Five Colleges in Massachusetts. Stern is the founder and artistic director of S'Cool Sounds, an award-winning, music education organization with the mission of using the power of music to inspire, educate, and connect children and communities in New York City and abroad. She serves as Director of Community Engagement for the Boston Early Music Festival.

**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.

### **About Great Music in a Great Space**

Revived in 2011, Great Music in a Great Space reprises the legendary concert series first held at the Cathedral in the 1980s. Great Music in a Great Space presents choral, orchestral, and instrumental music, in the magnificent, deeply spiritual setting of the world's largest Gothic cathedral. The beloved holiday traditions of the Christmas Concert and New Year's Eve Concert for Peace are an integral part of our concert series. Joined by Rose of the Compass, Musica Sacra, and the Oratorio Society of New York, the Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra, and a remarkable artistic team of organists and soloists bring the beloved space of the Cathedral to life with this transcendent music.

### **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.

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