



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

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS  
MUSICA SACRA: SILHOUETTES**

*World premiere of Migration by Pulitzer Prize finalist Michael Gilbertson*

*Kent Tritle, conductor  
Arthur Fiacco, cellist*

*Young performers from the Newark Boys Chorus to present pre-concert recital*



*Photo: Angel Gardner*

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***(FEB XX, 2019 – New York, NY) – The Cathedral of St. John the Divine’s 2018-19 season of Great Music in a Great Space continues with *Musica Sacra: Silhouettes*, conducted by Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music, on Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan.***

The performance features the world premiere of *Migration* by Michael Gilbertson, 2018 finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in music and one of the youngest finalists in the history of the award. Written specifically for Musica Sacra with text by Kai Hoffman-Krull, the

piece is a meditation on finding sanctuary and love amidst the constancy of change and the passage of time. Arthur Fiacco joins Musica Sacra as the cello soloist.

Byrd's exquisite Mass for 5 Voices frames this transcendent a cappella concert. The Mass is interspersed with vibrant works by Orlando Gibbons, Thomas Tallis, John Tavener, and Stephen Paulus, completing an evening of soothing and uplifting music. A pre-concert recital by the Newark Boys Chorus begins the evening of music, spotlighting the talents of young choral singers.

This performance is presented in conjunction with *The Value of Sanctuary: Building a House Without Walls*. This Cathedral-wide exhibition, on view through June 30, explores the question of sanctuary through the work of modern and contemporary artists. Using the Cathedral's sacred space as a canvas, these works illuminate the intersections between spiritual and social identity, and the ways in which personhood and community cohesion speak to and are formed by notions of dignity, inclusion, and exclusion.

Tickets start at \$25. To purchase tickets and for more information, please visit [this page](#).

### **Program**

Orlando Gibbons  
*O Clap Your Hands*

William Byrd  
*Kyrie and Gloria from Mass for 5 Voices*

Thomas Tallis  
*Salvator Mundi*

Michael Gilbertson  
*Migration* (world premiere)  
I. *Migration*  
II. *A Future Softening*  
III. *Silhouettes*

Intermission

William Byrd  
*Sing Joyfully*  
*Sanctus and Benedictus from Mass for 5 Voices*

John Tavener  
*The Lamb*

William Byrd  
*Agnus Dei from Mass for 5 Voices*

Thomas Tallis  
*O Sacrum Convivium*

William Byrd  
*Haec Dies*

Stephen Paulus  
*Pilgrims' Hymn*

### **About Musica Sacra**

Since its founding in 1964 by conductor Richard Westenburg, the mission of Musica Sacra has been to create definitive, professional, choral performances of the highest caliber for the widest possible audience. It supports its mission by presenting concerts, recording, commissioning and performing new choral works, and educating audiences, students, and the general public in the appreciation and history of choral music. To learn more, please visit [musicasacrany.com](http://musicasacrany.com)

### **About Kent Tritle**

Kent Tritle is one of America's leading choral conductors. Currently marking his 12<sup>th</sup> season as Music Director of Musica Sacra, "the brightest star in New York's choral music world" (The New York Times) is also Director of Cathedral Music and Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City and Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York, the acclaimed 200-voice volunteer 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. Also an acclaimed organ virtuoso, Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

Kent's 2018-19 season is marked by programs with Musica Sacra spanning the choral repertoire, including the acclaimed annual presentation of Handel's *Messiah*, as well as live score performances of *2001: A Space Odyssey* with the New York Philharmonic (a repeat collaboration) and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The Oratorio Society's Carnegie Hall season expands from three to four concerts, which include *Kullervo*, the rarely-performed symphonic poem by Sibelius, Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*, and Verdi's Requiem. And concerts by the Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine on the Cathedral's *Great Music in a Great Space* series feature the latest event in the choir's collaboration with early/world music ensemble Rose of the Compass: a program marking the centennial of the WWI Armistice and Armenian independence.

Among Kent's recent notable performances: with Musica Sacra, world premieres of music by Evan Fein, Juraj Filas, Michael Gilbertson, and Robert Paterson, and an acclaimed performance of Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*; at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the New York premiere of Einojuhani Rautavaara's *Vigilia* that Opera News called "a choral concert for the ages," programs of early music with the Cathedral Choir in the Chapel of St. James, and Verdi's Requiem, Mahler's "Symphony of a Thousand," and Britten's *War Requiem* performed by the Oratorio Society of New York and the Symphony and Symphonic Chorus of the Manhattan School of Music; and with the

Oratorio Society of New York, the world premieres of the Paul Moravec/Mark Campbell oratorio *Sanctuary Road* and Juraj Filas's *Song of Solomon*, and performances of Moravec's *The Blizzard Voices* and *Songs of Love and War*, Filas's Requiem "Oratio Spei," and Mozart's arrangement of Handel's *Messiah*. [www.kenttritle.com](http://www.kenttritle.com)

### **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. The 2017–2018 season is comprised of three concert series: the Great Choir choral series, the Great Organ recital series, and our holiday concerts celebrating the Christmas season and New Year's Eve. The repertoire of the choral series encompasses a musical palette from Renaissance polyphony to contemporary compositions, and also features explorations of less familiar traditions such as Spanish Renaissance music and Eastern Orthodox hymnody. The Great Organ recital series features evening organ recitals, from both Cathedral organists and internationally acclaimed guest artists.

### **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.

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