



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lauren Kannry
Choral Arts Communications
lkannry@thorpesearl.com or 202.491.1001

THE CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON ANNOUNCES 52nd SEASON

Season highlights include the company's first solely produced Berlioz Requiem, Christoph Eschenbach's farewell performances with the National Symphony Orchestra, and a world premiere commission by Jake Runestad

Washington, DC – The Choral Arts Society of Washington (Choral Arts) today announced its 2016-2017 season. Choral Arts will present its first-ever solely produced performance of Berlioz's Requiem on November 20, 2016 in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall and has also commissioned Jake Runestad to compose a new work to be performed in conjunction with Mozart's Requiem on April 23, 2017. "We are thrilled that the 2016-2017 season lineup incorporates a mix of beloved choral masterworks, first-ever performances and exclusive new pieces. Music on this scale is best experienced live in the concert hall," said Scott Tucker, Artistic Director.

This season marks the third season of the Choral Arts Chamber Singers, which will include debut performances at the Dumbarton Concerts series, Live! at 10th & G, and The Church of the Good Shepherd in Burke, VA.

The 52nd season opens with *The Art of the Italian Madrigal*, a performance by the Chamber Singers on Saturday, October 15, 2016. The season is accented by guest appearances with the National Symphony Orchestra, including music director Christoph Eschenbach's final concerts with the orchestra; annual holiday concerts; and the energized, highly-anticipated *A Family Christmas*.

This season Choral Arts will celebrate its 36th Annual Holiday Concert and Gala under the gracious honorary patronage of His Excellency the Ambassador of Switzerland and Mrs. Anita Dahinden. The evening includes a performance of *A Choral Arts Christmas* featuring a nod to Swiss culture in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall, followed by an elegant evening of dinner, dancing and a silent auction.

Education initiatives for the 2016-2017 season include the continuation of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Community Initiative at the Kennedy Center with the presentation of the

14th annual Humanitarian Award, Concert for Students, study guides, educational resources and recordings for classroom use, a community ticket initiative, and a series of young men's singing events focusing on middle and high school students.

CHORAL ARTS 2016-2017 SEASON CALENDAR:

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 15, 2016 | 8:00 pm

The Art of the Italian Madrigal

Choral Arts Chamber Singers

Co-presentation with Dumbarton Concerts

Historic Dumbarton Church

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 20, 2016 | 5:00 pm

Hector Berlioz: Requiem, Op. 5, *Grande Messe des morts*

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 17, 2016 | 1:00 pm

A Family Christmas

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Sunday, December 18, 2016 | 7:00 pm

A Choral Arts Christmas and *7th Annual Carols & Cocktails*

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Monday, December 19, 2016 | 7:00 pm

A Choral Arts Christmas and *36th Annual Holiday Concert and Gala*

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Wednesday, December 21, 2016 | 7:30 pm

Christmastime in the City

Choral Arts Chamber Singers

Live! at 10th & G

Saturday, December 24, 2016 | 1:00 pm

A Choral Arts Christmas

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 19, 2017 | 7:00 pm

Living the Dream...Singing the Dream

A Choral Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Co-presentation with Washington Performing Arts

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 | 11:00 am

Living the Dream...Singing the Dream - A Concert for Students

GW Lisner Auditorium

APRIL

Sunday, April 23, 2017 | 5:00 pm

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Requiem, K.626

Jake Runestad: World Premiere Commission

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

All Choral Arts performances conducted by Artistic Director Scott Tucker.

GUEST APPEARANCES*

MAY

Sunday, May 21, 2016 | 6:00 pm

Choral Arts Chamber Singers in Concert

The Church of the Good Shepherd

JUNE

June 15 – 17, 2017

Farewell to Christoph Eschenbach featuring Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

Guest appearance with National Symphony Orchestra

Christoph Eschenbach, conductor

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

June 22 – 24, 2017

The Music of John Williams

Guest appearance with National Symphony Orchestra Pops

Steven Reineke, conductor

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Guest appearance with **Alexandria Symphony Orchestra** to be announced.

* Tickets for guest appearances are available through the presenting organization.

TICKETS

Choral Arts season ticket packages will be available in late April.

Choral Arts single tickets will go on sale in September.

To subscribe, please visit choralarts.org or call 202.244.3669

ABOUT CHORAL ARTS

In its 50 years The Choral Arts Society of Washington (Choral Arts) established and maintains a dedication to excellence. Led by Artistic Director Scott Tucker, Choral Arts' commitment to artistic excellence is demonstrated by frequent invitations to perform regularly with the National Symphony Orchestra and other world-class orchestras including London Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony, and the Mariinsky Orchestra, as well as alongside legendary conductors such as Christoph Eschenbach, Valery Gergiev, Marin Alsop, and Yannick Nézet-Séguin. Choral Arts is committed to connecting choral music to the country's growing diversity and partnering with global organizations to develop inspiring programs. Choral Arts also stands on a secure and stable financial and governance foundation.

Founded in 1965 by Artistic Director Emeritus Norman Scribner (1936 – 2015), Choral Arts stands out as a leader among its peers, earning awards, not only for its artistic excellence, but its administrative leadership and educational portfolio. Under the executive direction of Debra L. Kraft, Choral Arts has consistently operated in the black since 2004, remaining fiscally strong in spite of recent economic challenges.

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