

Contact: Jennifer Wada
718-855-7101
jennifer.wada@verizon.net

**KENT TRITLE'S 2013-14 SEASON FEATURES THE EXPLORATION OF THE
"GREAT SPACES" OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE;
THREE GREAT BACH WORKS WITH THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE
DIVINE, THE ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, AND THE MANHATTAN SCHOOL
OF MUSIC; AND MORE NEW YORK MUSIC SCENE SYNERGY**

***Recording Made of Juraj Filas's Requiem "Oratio Spei," a Work Dedicated to
Victims of 9/11, with Prague Symphony Orchestra***

There is a thread of exploration in the 2013-14 season of Kent Tritle, called "New York's most in-demand choral conductor" by The New Yorker: he expands the presence of his choral concert series at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine by staging concerts in a variety of locations within the space; he has created high-profile collaborations for his groups with other major players in the New York music scene; and a recording that he has just completed of Juraj Filas's Requiem "Oratio Spei" (whose New York premiere he recently led) with the Prague Symphony Orchestra was made not only to be released on disc but to be made available to radio stations internationally on September 11.

And in the course of the season he leads three of J.S. Bach's choral masterworks with three of his organizations: *St. John Passion* at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine; *St. Matthew Passion* with the Oratorio Society of New York; and *Mass in B Minor* at the Manhattan School of Music.

In 2013-14, Kent marks his third year as Director of Cathedral Music and Organist of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, his ninth season as Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York and seventh season as Music Director of Musica Sacra. He is Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music; and a member of the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School, and is the host of the weekly radio show "The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle" on New York's WQXR and www.wqxr.org. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

- The third season of the revived ***Great Music in a Great Space*** series at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine includes **six choral concerts with the performers placed in four locations within the cathedral**: against the backdrop of the Rose Windows of the West End (A); the proscenium, or the edge of the cathedral's Great Choir (B); in the Great Crossing (C); and in the Chapel of St. James, one of the Chapels of the Tongues (D). The series also features Kent's annual organ recital (*October 16, 2013*).

- **“Prayers of the Animals”** is a cappella program by the Cathedral Choir of wide-ranging repertoire based on imagery from the animal kingdom (*September 25, 2013, at A*);
 - **“Most Elevating of Voices,”** a concert celebrating the musical legacy of Andrew Carnegie and his support of organ and choral music, features three of Kent's organizations: the Cathedral Choirs of St. John the Divine with the Oratorio Society of New York and the Manhattan School of Music Chamber Choir (*November 20, 2013, at B*);
 - **“Ornament of the World,”** the Cathedral Choir's third collaboration with Nina Stern's early- and world-music ensemble Rose of the Compass presents music from Renaissance Spain, including the Ladino tradition (*February 19, 2014, at D*)
 - **Bach's St. John Passion** is performed by the combined Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra (*April 8, 2014, at B*);
 - **The Cathedral Christmas Concert** features the combined Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra (*December 14, 2013, at C*); and the **New Year's Eve Concert for Peace** features the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra with guests Judy Collins and Harry Smith (*December 31, 2013, at C*).
- The past few seasons have seen **Kent's groups collaborating with other New York music organizations**; last season, these collaborations included Musica Sacra performing Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, and the New York Philharmonic's season-ending extravaganza “Philharmonic 360” featured singers from the Oratorio Society of New York and the Manhattan School of Music. In 2013-14, concerts for which Kent directs his ensembles in collaborations with other groups include, in addition to the Andrew Carnegie legacy concert mentioned above:
 - **Musica Sacra performing music of Ligeti with the New York Philharmonic, led by Alan Gilbert, in the orchestra's presentation of 2001: A Space Odyssey** film screening and live score performance, part of *The Art of the Score: Film Week at the Philharmonic* – in which Kent Tritle will be also performing as Philharmonic organist (*September 20 & 21, 2013*)
 - **Manhattan School of Music Symphonic Chorus featured in five performances of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, with the New York Philharmonic led by Alan Gilbert** (*October 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 2013*) and one **Young People's Concert** (*October 12, 2013*)
 - **Oratorio Society of New York performing Beethoven's Missa Solemnis with the Orchestra of St. Luke's led by Sir Roger Norrington** (*March 6, 2014, at Carnegie Hall*).
 - In July, Kent Tritle conducted the **recording of Juraj Filas's Requiem, Oratio Spei** – a work dedicated to the victims of 9/11 whose New York premiere performance he led at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in 2011 – in Prague with the **Prague Symphony**

Orchestra, soprano Ana María Martínez, tenor Matthew Plenk, baritone Filip Bandzak, and the Kühn Choir, a project of the New York-based Harmony Foundation, whose aim is to make the recording available on CD and to ask radio stations around the world to air the work on September 11, 2013, and every succeeding anniversary.

- **Musica Sacra's** 2013-14 season features a program devoted to contemporary composers **Jocelyn Hagen and Meredith Monk**, with the New York premiere of Hagen's *amass*, set to Roman Catholic mass texts as well as poetry from Saint John of the Cross, medieval Mystic Meister Eckhart, and Hindu poet Tukaram; and works by Monk including excerpts from *ATLAS, Part III: Invisible Light* as well as *Nightfall*, a 1995 work written for and recorded by Musica Sacra; the composer will also perform with the group (*March 31, 2014, at Alice Tully Hall*). The season also includes the group's annual Carnegie Hall performances of Handel's *Messiah*, described last year as a "wonderfully natural and flowing performance" by Anthony Tommasini in *The New York Times* (*December 12 & 14, 2013*), and subscriber-only performance of English Renaissance a cappella repertoire at the Chapel of St. James at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine (*October 23, 2013*). Read the [Musica Sacra 2013-14 season press release](#).
- In addition to the St. John the Divine and Orchestra of St. Luke's collaborations mentioned above, the **Oratorio Society of New York** performs its annual three-concert season at Carnegie Hall led by Kent: a fall program featuring Mendelssohn's *Die Erste Walpurgisnacht* and Mozart's Requiem (*November 4, 2013*); the annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* (*December 23, 2013*); and Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with soloists including Nicholas Phan as the Evangelist, and Susanne Mentzer (*May 20, 2014*).
- After the October performances of Beethoven with the New York Philharmonic, Kent's season of performances with the choral forces of the **Manhattan School of Music** include a performance of Bach's Mass in B Minor with the Symphonic Chorus, Chamber Choir and Orchestra (*February 12, 2014, at Borden Auditorium*); and a concert featuring Honegger's *King David* and Stravinsky's Mass (*April 4, 2014, at Borden Auditorium*).
- Kent will lead members of the Cathedral Choristers of St. John the Divine along with members of the Cathedral Choir and Chorale and choral scholars from the Manhattan School of Music in a weeklong **residency at St. Paul's Cathedral in London** this summer during which they will sing services (*August 25-31, 2013*).
- At the 2014 **Berkshire Choral Festival**, Kent will lead the festival participants in Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* (*August 2, 2014*). This marks Kent's third time conducting at the festival.

Organ Performances in 2013-14

Kent plays a solo organ recital at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine of music by Mendelssohn, Bach, Liszt, and Widor (*October 16, 2013*), a program he will then perform in two communities to which he has close ties: St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Columbia, Missouri, where Kent was

organist for a year while an undergraduate at Stephens College (*October 18, 2013*); and First Congregational Church in Spencer, Iowa – the nearest large town to his home town of Spirit Lake – where Kent often played for the local community theater (*October 20, 2013*).

The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle,” the hour-long radio show, returns in the fall for its third season on WQXR (Sundays at 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM and on demand at www.wqxr.org/programs/choral/), continuing to shine a spotlight on the vibrant genre of choral music and the breadth of activity in the choral community.

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, the longest continuously performing professional chorus in New York City.

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. He is the host of the weekly radio show “The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle,” a weekly hour-long radio program on New York's Classical 105.9 WQXR and www.wqxr.org. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Kent is co-chair of the New York Choral Consortium, an advocacy organization for the choral arts composed of more than 50 New York City-based groups.

Kent Tritle has made more than a dozen recordings on the Telarc, AMDG, Epiphany, Gothic, VAI and MSR Classics labels. His recent CDs with the Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola, *Cool of the Day*, an a cappella program of music ranging from Gregorian chant, Palestrina, and spirituals to Strauss's *Deutsche Motette*, and Ginastera's *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* and Schnittke's Concerto for Choir, have been praised by Gramophone, the American Record Guide, and The Choral Journal; his most recent disc is *Messages to Myself*, a recording with Musica Sacra of five new works.

Kent Tritle founded the *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space* concert series at New York's Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, and led it to great acclaim from 1989 to 2011. From 1996 to 2004, Mr. Tritle was Music Director of the Emmy-nominated Dessooff Choirs, winners of the ASCAP/Chorus America award for adventurous programming of contemporary music.

Website: www.kenttritle.com

Kent Tritle on Facebook: www.facebook.com/kenttritle

Kent Tritle on Twitter: www.twitter.com/kenttritle

“The Choral Mix” on WQXR: www.wqxr.org/programs/choral

KENT TRITLE 2013-14 SEASON

Friday & Saturday, September 20 & 21, 2013, at 8:00 PM

Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Alan Gilbert, conductor

Musica Sacra, Kent Tritle, director

The Art of the Score: Film Week at the Philharmonic

2001: A Space Odyssey (with screening of complete film)

Wednesday, September 25, 2013, at 7:30 PM

***Great Music in a Great Space* at the [Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)**

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, conductor

“Prayers of the Animals: All Creatures Great and Small”

CHRISTINA WHITTEN THOMAS “Choral de Bêtes” (“Songs of the Animals”)

ROBERT CONVERY “The Lamb”

IVOR DAVIES “Prayers from the Ark”

JOHN TAVENER “The Lamb”

ERIC WHITACRE “I thank you, god”

Madrigals and motets of the high French, Italian, and English Renaissance based on imagery from the animal kingdom.

October 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 2013

Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Alan Gilbert, conductor

Participating artists to include:

Manhattan School of Music Symphonic Chorus, Kent Tritle, director

MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE *Frieze (U.S. premiere)*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 9*

Wednesday, October 16, 2013, at 7:30 PM

***Great Music in a Great Space* at the [Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)**

KENT TRITLE, organ

MENDELSSOHN *Sonata IV in B flat major*

BACH *Fantasy and Fugue in C Minor, BWV 537*

LISZT *Prelude and Fugue on BACH*

WIDOR *Symphonie V in F minor*

Friday, October 18, 2013, at 7:30 PM

[St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Columbia, Missouri](#)

KENT TRITLE, organ

MENDELSSOHN Sonata IV in B flat major
BACH Fantasy and Fugue in C Minor, BWV 537
LISZT Prelude and Fugue on BACH
WIDOR Symphonie V in F minor

Sunday, October 20, 2013, at 3:00 PM

[First Congregational Church, Spencer, Iowa](#)

KENT TRITLE, organ

MENDELSSOHN Sonata IV in B flat major
BACH Fantasy and Fugue in C Minor, BWV 537
LISZT Prelude and Fugue on BACH
WIDOR Symphonie V in F minor

Wednesday, October 23, 2013, at 7:30 PM – *Special event for subscribers*

Cathedral of St. John the Divine – Chapel of St. James

[MUSICA SACRA](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

BYRD Mass for 5 Voices
Motets by Thomas Weelkes and Orlando Gibbons

Monday, November 4, 2013, at 8:00 PM

Carnegie Hall

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor
Jennifer Zetlan, soprano
Jennifer Feinstein, mezzo-soprano
Aaron Blake, tenor
Sidney Outlaw, baritone
Soloman Howard, bass

MENDELSSOHN *Die Erste Walpurgisnacht*
MOZART Requiem

Wednesday, November 20, 2013, at 7:30 PM

***Great Music in a Great Space* at the [Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)**

CATHEDRAL CHOIRS OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC CHAMBER CHOIR

Kent Tritle, conductor

“Most Elevating of Voices”

The Musical Legacy of Andrew Carnegie: A Transatlantic Celebration

MENDELSSOHN “Thanks be to God” from *Elijah*

HANDEL “Worthy is the Lamb” from *Messiah*

Works by Herbert Howells and Edgar Leslie Bainton

Tudor anthems by William Byrd, Peter Phillips, Thomas Tallis, and Thomas Weelkes

Organ music of J.S. Bach and Mendelssohn performed by Raymond Nagem and Kent Tritle

Thursday, December 12, 2013, at 8:00 PM

Carnegie Hall

[MUSICA SACRA](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

Leslie Fagan, soprano

Ian Howell, countertenor

Colin Balzer, tenor

Sidney Outlaw, baritone

HANDEL *Messiah*

Saturday, December 14, 2013, at 7:00 PM

***Great Music in a Great Space* at the [Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)**

CATHEDRAL CHOIRS AND ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, conductor

Nacole Palmer, soprano (Angel)

Katie Geissinger, mezzo-soprano (Mary)

Marc Day, tenor (Joseph)

“Cathedral Christmas Concert”

RESPIGHI *Laud to the Nativity*

Renaissance motets and Christmas carols

Sunday, December 15, 2013, at 8:00 PM

Carnegie Hall

MUSICA SACRA

Kent Tritle, conductor

Leslie Fagan, soprano

Ian Howell, countertenor

Colin Balzer, tenor

Sidney Outlaw, baritone

HANDEL *Messiah*

Monday, December 23, 2013, at 8:00 PM

Carnegie Hall

ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

Kent Tritle, conductor

Kathryn Lewek, soprano

Rebecca Ringle, mezzo-soprano

Nicholas Phan, tenor

Dashon Burton, bass-baritone

HANDEL *Messiah*

Tuesday, December 31, 2013, at 7:00 PM

***Great Music in a Great Space* at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine**

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, conductor

Jamet Pittman, soprano

John Michael Moore, baritone

Raymond Nagem, organ

Guest artist: Judy Collins

Host: Harry Smith

“New Year’s Eve Concert for Peace”

HANDEL Organ Concerto in F Major, Op. 4, No. 4

MOZART Symphony No. 41, “Jupiter”

Traditional spirituals arranged by Moses Hogan

HAYDN *Creation* (excerpts)

Wednesday, February 12, 2014, at 7:30 PM

Borden Auditorium, [Manhattan School of Music](#)

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC SYMPHONY, SYMPHONIC CHORUS, AND CHAMBER CHOIR

Kent Tritle, conductor

BACH Mass in B Minor

Wednesday, February 19, 2014, at 7:00 and 9:00 PM

Great Music in a Great Space at the [Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, conductor

with Rose of the Compass

Nina Stern, recorder and chalumeau

Glen Velez, percussion

Ara Dinkjian, oud

Tamer Pinarbasi, kanun

Arthur Fiacco, Jr., cello

“The Ornament of the World”

Music from Renaissance Spain, including the Ladino tradition

Thursday, March 6, 2014, at 8:00 PM

Carnegie Hall

[ORCHESTRA OF ST. LUKE'S](#)

Sir Roger Norrington, conductor

Susan Gritton, soprano

Julie Boulianne, mezzo-soprano

Michael Schade, tenor

Nathan Berg, bass-baritone

Oratorio Society of New York, Kent Tritle, director

BEETHOVEN *Missa Solemnis*

Monday, March 31, 2014, at 7:30 PM

Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center

MUSICA SACRA

Kent Tritle, conductor

Meredith Monk, vocalist

Tom Bogdan, vocalist

Katie Geissinger, vocalist

Jennifer Zetlan, soprano

John Matthew Myers, tenor

Mischa Bouvier, baritone

Arthur Fiacco, Jr., cello

JOCELYN HAGEN *amass* (New York premiere)

MEREDITH MONK *Nightfall*

MEREDITH MONK *ATLAS, Part III: Invisible Light* (excerpts)

“Other Worlds Revealed”

“Explorers’ Junctures”

“Return to the Earth”

MEREDITH MONK *Hocket*

Friday, April 4, 2014, at 7:30 PM

Borden Auditorium, [Manhattan School of Music](#)

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC SYMPHONIC CHORUS AND CHAMBER CHOIR

Kent Tritle, conductor

HONEGGER *King David*

STRAVINSKY *Mass*

Tuesday, April 8, 2014, at 7:30 PM

***Great Music in a Great Space* at the [Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)**

CATHEDRAL CHOIRS AND ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, conductor

Lawrence Jones, tenor (Evangelist)

Neil Netherly, bass-baritone (Christus)

Amy Justman, soprano

Kirsten Sollek, contralto

John Tiranno, tenor

Peter Stewart, baritone

BACH *St. John Passion*

Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 8:00 PM
Carnegie Hall

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

Nicholas Phan, tenor (Evangelist)

Kevin Deas, bass (Christus)

Leslie Fagan, soprano

Susanne Mentzer, mezzo-soprano

Mathew Plenk, tenor

Kelly Markgraf, baritone

BACH *St. Matthew Passion*

Saturday, August 2, 2014

[BERKSHIRE CHORAL FESTIVAL](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

ELGAR *Dream of Gerontius* (English)

As of 7/29/13