

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

**CONDUCTOR KENT TRITLE'S SPRING 2012 SEASON
FEATURES HIS FIRST PERFORMANCE OF DVORÁK'S STABAT MATER &
WORLD PREMIERE OF FILAS'S SONG OF SOLOMON
WITH THE ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK,
MUSICA SACRA, TWO NEW RECORDINGS,**

**AND THE REVIVAL OF *GREAT MUSIC IN A GREAT SPACE* AT
THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE**

Having launched his inaugural season as Director of Cathedral Music and Organist of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in the fall, Kent Tritle revives the concert series title *Great Music in a Great Space* – under which the Cathedral presented a wide variety of music programs in the 1980s – which in spring 2012 presents two programs with the Cathedral's choral forces.

Also in spring 2012: as Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York, Kent leads a landmark program that is part of Carnegie Hall's 120th anniversary; as Music Director of Musica Sacra, he leads two chamber programs; and as Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music, he leads two concerts assisted by student conductors. In addition, two recordings of unique repertoire are released, and "The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle" continues in its second year.

- **Kent Tritle's inaugural season at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine continues under the revived name *Great Music in a Great Space*** with a program featuring Scarlatti's *Stabat Mater* and Bach's *Jesu meine Freude* (March 28, 2012); and a program of Armenian music with guest artists Nina Stern, recorders and chalumeau; Ara Dinkjian, oud; Arthur Fiacco, cello; Tamer Pinarbasi, kanun; and Glen Velez, percussion (May 1, 2012).
- **Oratorio Society of New York**, one of the organizations that provided the impetus for the creation of Carnegie Hall, performs a program that is part of the Hall's 120th anniversary season: a program of **Dvorák's *Stabat Mater*** (the first time Kent Tritle will conduct this work) and the **world premiere of Juraj Filas's *Song of Solomon for chorus and orchestra***, based on the biblical text, commissioned and performed by the Oratorio Society of New York. Juraj Filas, born in 1955 in the Slovak Republic, is one of the most prominent composers of the Czech Republic, where he has lived and worked for the past 35 years. Also a singer who has won several vocal competitions, Filas writes music which has been described as belonging to the Czech neo-Romantic movement. (April 26, 2012, at Carnegie Hall)

- Two chamber programs with **Musica Sacra** showcasing the chorus in its core repertoire: “A Bach Family Notebook” of works by J.S. Bach and his forebears (*February 23, 2012*), and “Songs and Romances” of Brahms, Schubert, and Schumann (*April 23, 2012*), both in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall
- Two programs with the forces of the **Manhattan School of Music** – of which Tritle is Director of Choral Activities – at which he will be joined by student conductors for selected repertoire: the MSM Chamber Choir performing Schumann, Brahms, and Mendelssohn (*April 3, 2012*); and the MSM Symphonic Choir and Brass Ensemble performing Jongen's Mass and various motets (*April 10, 2012, at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine*)
- “**The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle**” continues on WQXR (Sundays at 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM and on demand at www.wqxr.org/programs/choral/); upcoming programs will focus on new recordings, seasonal music, and current events in the choral world.
- Kent Tritle will lead his third annual master class for the **Metropolitan Opera Guild**, titled “Mass Appeal,” focusing on movements from masses including Bach's Mass in B Minor and others (*April 18, 2012*).
- Kent Tritle is co-chair, with John Daly Goodwin, of the New York Choral Consortium, which sponsors the second annual **Sing New York!** festival April 15 – June 15, 2012.
- Kent Tritle closes his final season at the **Church of St. Ignatius Loyola** with an **organ recital** featuring the repertoire of his first recording on the church's Mander organ – the installation of which he spearheaded in 1993 – works by Mendelssohn, Bach, de Grigny, Franck, Persichetti, and Duruflé.

New Recordings

Recordings of two programs from Kent's 2010-2011 season on the MSR label:

Just released: Cool of the Day: The Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola performing an a cappella program of music ranging from Gregorian chant and Palestrina to Strauss's *Deutsche Motette* – a work for a cappella choir and soloists divided into 20 parts spanning four octaves – to spirituals and pieces by Eric Whitacre, which was performed on the *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space* series on February 9, 2011.

To be released June 2012: Messages to Myself: Musica Sacra performing an a cappella program of five new works, which were presented in their world premiere (Daniel Brewbaker's *Mother, Father*, a setting of e.e. cummings text; and Michael Gilbertson's *Three Madrigals after Dowland*), and New York premiere (Zachary Patten's *Magnificat*, Behzad Ranjbaran's *We Are One*, and Christopher Theofanidis's *Messages to Myself*) performances on May 13, 2011. This is Kent Tritle's first recording with Musica Sacra – and the revival of the ensemble's recording tradition that includes more than ten releases on the RCA, Deutsche Grammophon, and BMG (Vanguard) labels.

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, Tritle is in his inaugural season as Director of Cathedral Music and organist at New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The 2011-2012 season marks his seventh season as Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York and fifth 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. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

He is also the host of "The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle," a weekly hour-long radio program on New York's Classical 105.9 WQXR and www.wqxr.org devoted to the vibrant genre of choral music and the breadth of activity in the choral community.

In 1989, when he became Director of Music Ministries at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, Kent Tritle founded the *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space* concert series, and over 22 years made it an acclaimed part of the New York concert scene. He will lead his last concerts in the series in the 2011-2012 season.

Visit www.kenttritle.com; Kent Tritle's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/kenttritle

KENT TRITLE SPRING 2012

Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 8:00 PM

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

MUSICA SACRA

Kent Tritle, Conductor

Bach Family Notebook: Works by J.S. Bach and his forebears

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Movements from the Partita *Sei gregüsset, Jesu gütig*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH *Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Selections from the Cello Suites

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH *Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf*

JOHANN CHRISTOPH BACH *Fürchte dich nicht*

JOHANN BACH *Unser Leben ist ein Schatten*

JOHANN MICHAEL BACH *Halt, was du hast*

JOHANN LUDWIG BACH *Das ist meine Freude*

JOHANN LUDWIG BACH *Das Blut Jesu Christi*

JOHANN LUDWIG BACH *Sei nun wieder zufrieden, meine Seele*

Wednesday, March 28, 2012, at 7:30 PM

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, Conductor

SCARLATTI *Stabat Mater*

BACH *Jesu meine Freude*

Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 7:30 PM

[Manhattan School of Music](#)

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC CHAMBER CHOIR

Kent Tritle, Conductor, with student conductors (*)

BRAHMS *Gesänge für Frauenchor*, Op. 17*

BRAHMS *Nänie*, Op. 82

MENDELSSOHN *Abendlied**

MENDELSSOHN *Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich**

BRAHMS *O Heiland, reiss die Himmel auf*, Op. 74, No. 2*

BRAHMS *Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz*, Op. 29, No. 2*

MARJORIE MERRYMAN *Beauty, Grief and Grandeur*

SCHUMANN *Schön-Rohtraut*, Op. 67, No. 2*

Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at 7:30 PM

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine

MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC SYMPHONIC CHORUS AND BRASS ENSEMBLE

Kent Tritle, Conductor, with student conductors (*)

JONGEN *Mass for Choir, Organ and Brass*, Op. 130 (1945)

BRUCKNER *Ecce sacerdos magnus**

GABRIELI *Angelus ad pastores ait* for 12 voices*

BRUCKNER *Os justi**

BAIRSTOW *Sing ye to the Lord**

DUPRE *Quatre Motets*, Op. 9*

SCHÜTZ *Jauchzet dem Herren, alle Welt* (Psalm 100), SWV 36

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS *O Clap Your Hands*

Wednesday, April 18, 2012, at 6:30 PM

[METROPOLITAN OPERA GUILD](#)

Master Class with Kent Tritle: “Music for the Masses”

Monday, April 23, 2012, at 8:00 PM

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

[MUSICA SACRA](#)

Kent Tritle, Conductor

Anna Shelest, Piano

Songs and Romances: The Romance of Brahms, Schubert, and Schumann

BRAHMS *Four Songs for Women's Chorus, Two Horns and Harp*, Op. 17

BRAHMS *Zigunerlieder*, Op. 103

SCHUBERT *Songs for Male Chorus*

SCHUMANN *Quartets for Chorus and Piano*

SCHUMANN *Piano Sonata in F-Sharp Minor*, Op. 11

Thursday, April 26, 2012, at 8:00 PM

Carnegie Hall

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

Kent Tritle, Conductor

DVORÁK *Stabat Mater*

JURAJ FILAS *Song of Solomon* (World Premiere)

(Part of Carnegie Hall 120th Anniversary Celebration)

Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at 7:30 PM

[The Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, Conductor

Nina Stern, Recorders and Chalumeau

Ara Dinkjian, Oud

Arthur Fiacco, Cello

Tamer Pinarbasi, Kanun

Glen Velez, Percussion

Music from Eastern Europe and Armenia

Wednesday, June 6, 2012, at 7:30 PM

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

[SACRED MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE](#)

KENT TRITLE, Organ

MENDELSSOHN Sonata in F Minor, Op. 65, No. 1

J.S. BACH Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 542

NICOLAS DE GRIGNY *Recit de Tierce in taille*

FRANCK Chorale No. 3 in A Minor

PERSICHETTI *Shimah B'Koli*

DURUFLÉ *Prelude and Fugue on Alain*, Op. 7

As of February 22, 2012