



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

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**RELEASE**

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS  
MUSICA SACRA: LIGHT OF LIGHT –  
MUSIC OF LASSUS AND LAURIDSEN, WITH GREGORIAN CHANT**

*Performance Continues 2017-2018 Season of Great Music in a Great Space*



*Photo Credit: Joshua South*

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**(February X, 2018 – New York, NY) – The Cathedral of St. John the Divine** continues its 2017–2018 season of *Great Music in a Great Space* on **Tuesday, March 6 at 7:30 pm** with ***Musica Sacra: Light of Light – Music of Lassus and Lauridsen, with Gregorian Chant***, conducted by Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan.

This musical tour through the Renaissance extends back to the earliest roots of polyphony, with performances of the great Flemish composer Orlando di Lassus's *Missa super Osculetur me* and *Surgens Jesus* and Josquin Des Prez's extraordinary *Ave Maria*. The program also includes the vibrant American voices of Morten Lauridsen and Kevin

Oldham, adding a contemporary element to the evening's performance.

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. Musica Sacra is the longest continuously performing professional chorus in New York City and stands alone in its ability to positively change one's perception of choral singing forever.

A pre-concert recital by the Concert Chorus of the Newark Boys Chorus School will begin at 7 pm.

Tickets start at \$25. To purchase tickets and for more information on future concerts, please visit: <http://www.stjohndivine.org/visit/calendar/events/music/17899/musica-sacra-light-of-light-music-of-lassus-and-lauridsen-with-gregorian-chant>.

### **Concert Program**

Orlando di Lassus

*Missa super Osculetur me*

*Surgens Jesus*

Josquin Des Prez

*Ave Maria*

Morten Lauridsen

*O nata lux*

Kevin Oldham

*My Lord, thou art in every breath I take*

### **About Kent Tritle**

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 seventh season as Director of Cathedral Music and organist at New York's Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine. He is also Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York and of Musica Sacra. He is Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music and on the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School. He is organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Tritle holds graduate and undergraduate degrees from The Juilliard School in organ performance and choral conducting. He has been featured on *ABC World News Tonight*, *National Public Radio*, and *Minnesota Public Radio*, as well as in the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

### **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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