

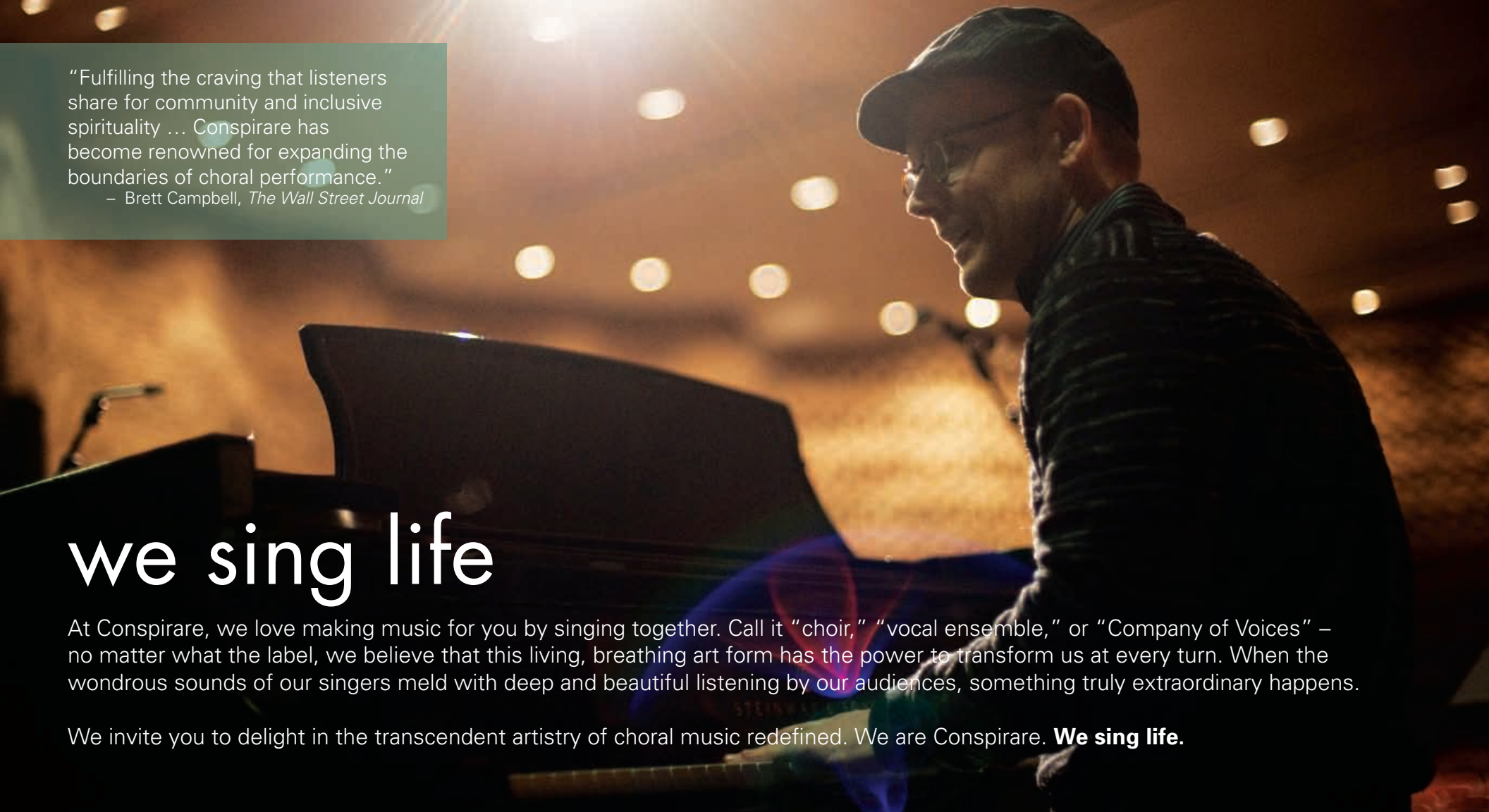
TRANSCENDENT ARTISTRY • GREAT COMPOSERS • EXCITING PREMIERES • BELOVED FAVORITES • MYSTICAL JOURNEYS



we sing life[™]
Conspirare

Craig Hella Johnson
& Company of Voices

SUBSCRIPTION
DEADLINE
SEPT. 23



"Fulfilling the craving that listeners share for community and inclusive spirituality ... Conspirare has become renowned for expanding the boundaries of choral performance."

– Brett Campbell, *The Wall Street Journal*

we sing life

At Conspirare, we love making music for you by singing together. Call it "choir," "vocal ensemble," or "Company of Voices" – no matter what the label, we believe that this living, breathing art form has the power to transform us at every turn. When the wondrous sounds of our singers meld with deep and beautiful listening by our audiences, something truly extraordinary happens.

We invite you to delight in the transcendent artistry of choral music redefined. We are Conspirare. **We sing life.**

Welcome to Conspirare's nineteenth concert season!



It is our great joy and privilege to sing for you some of the world's most extraordinary music for voices. From the complete choral music of Samuel Barber, to Joby Talbot's mystical sound world, to a compelling pairing of Baroque and modern works by composers you've been asking for, concerts by our professional Company of Voices will transport and inspire you.

The wonderful young singers of our Conspirare Youth Choirs take the stage on three occasions, once in collaboration with tenors and basses of the Conspirare Symphonic Choir. The Symphonic Choir will also be busy collaborating twice with the Austin Symphony in music of Holst, Stravinsky, and Bernstein. And we will have memorable musical fun when all of you raise your voices at our three Big Sing events.

The singers of Conspirare and I are passionate in our engagement with the choral art and dedicated to enlivening, transformative performances of great choral music. If you are already a part of our Conspirare audience, we thank you heartily and encourage you to bring new friends into the listening circle. If you are new to Conspirare or to choral music, it will be an honor and delight for us to introduce you to this beautiful, dynamic musical art.

I look forward to seeing you at our concerts!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Craig'.

Samuel Barber: American Romantic

lush, moving, uniquely American

An all-Barber program, soon to be the next great Conspirare recording! Hear *Agnus Dei*, the choral version of the famous *Adagio for Strings*. Savor other favorites like *Reincarnations*, *Sure on This Shining Night*, and many more. Revel in a new orchestration by Robert Kyr of Barber's sensual, rarely performed *The Lovers*, set to poetry of Pablo Neruda.

Friday, September 23 8pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Saturday, September 24 8pm Northwest Hills United Methodist Church

Sunday, September 25 3pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Free pre-concert talk by Margaret Perry before each performance

Also in Georgetown, Texas, at Klett Performing Arts Center on Thursday, September 22, presented by the Georgetown Performing Arts Alliance; tickets through the Georgetown Symphony Society at 512-864-9591.

Samuel Barber: American Romantic will be recorded for Conspirare's next CD to be released in fall 2012 by Harmonia Mundi. The recording is made possible through the generous support of friends and family of Fran Collmann in honor of her twelve years' leadership of the Conspirare Board of Directors, and by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Featured soloist David Farwig, baritone



Conspirare Christmas *love and light*

Music of many centuries and styles, artfully melded in Conspirare's unique and popular holiday collage concert. This year's guest artists are vivacious soprano Mela Sarajane Dailey and soulful singer-songwriter Matt Alber.

Friday, December 2 7pm Laurel Heights United Methodist Church *SAN ANTONIO*

Saturday, December 3 2:30 AND 8pm The Carillon on Exposition

Sunday, December 4 2:30 AND 8pm The Carillon on Exposition

Monday, December 5 8pm Long Center for the Performing Arts

Please see page 11 for information about the Holiday Gala.

SEASON SUSTAINING UNDERWRITER AND
SPONSOR OF THE HOLIDAY GALA



Victoria Performance: Thursday, December 1, 7:30 pm at First United Methodist Church in Victoria (in collaboration with the Victoria Bach Festival; tickets through the Festival at 361-570-5788).

“Conspirare’s annual gift ... musical choices [that] burrow into the universal human experience.”

– Mike Greenberg, incidentlight.com

“...[Dailey’s] voice sounds like it’s coated in Christmastime silver and gold.”

– Lana Sweeten-Shults, *Times Record News*

“Versatile and sophisticated ... [Alber’s] voice is rich, silky and expressive.”

– amazon.com

Joby Talbot: Path of Miracles *southwestern U.S. premiere*

Experience a musical journey along the famous Camino de Compostela in Spain. *Path of Miracles* is a wondrous new work by British classical and film composer Joby Talbot; its magical mix of Renaissance-style polyphony and eastern echoes will transport you on a journey that still attracts thousands of seekers each year. The musical trip with our Company of Voices will linger long in your heart.

Thursday, January 19 7:30pm St. Mary's Catholic Church *FREDERICKSBURG**

Friday, January 20 8pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Saturday, January 21 8pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 22 3pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Free pre-concert talk by Margaret Perry before each performance

** PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FREDERICKSBURG FRIENDS OF CONSPIRARE*



Promotional partner for *Path of Miracles: Spanish Steps*, providing transformative Camino opportunities for modern-day pilgrims. www.spanishsteps.com

Whitacre & Lewis: New Year's Special *sneak preview & world premiere!*

Complete your Conspirare weekend with a special concert of music by celebrated American composer Eric Whitacre. Includes a sneak preview of his long-awaited new piece commissioned by Conspirare! Also featuring the world premiere of *The Changing Light* by Peter Scott Lewis, based on poetry of Lawrence Ferlinghetti and also written for Conspirare.

Saturday, January 21 5pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Handel & Pärt:

Brilliant Baroque, Sublime Silences

compelling contrasts

Delight in a season finale of music by composers you've requested. Hear Handel's dynamic *Dixit Dominus* and Arvo Pärt's luminous *Berliner Messe*, plus *On the Beach at Night* by Andrew Imbrie, set to a text by iconic poet Walt Whitman. The Company of Voices is joined by the rich sound of a string orchestra. Two contrasting performances – come early for the clear light of day, or come late for dramatically lit atmosphere.

Saturday, June 9 5:30 AND 9pm St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Free pre-concert talk by Margaret Perry before each performance

Victoria Performance: Friday, June 8, 7:30 pm at Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria (collaboration with the Victoria Bach Festival; tickets through the Festival at 361-570-5788).

CONSPIRARE.ORG

we sing masters



From the British Isles *royal wedding music with conspirare symphonic choir*

The Conspirare Symphonic Choir tenors and basses and Conspirare Youth Choirs perform music from Great Britain's rich choral tradition. You won't want to miss selections from the Royal Wedding, including *Jerusalem* and *I Was Glad* by Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry. Conducted by Rick Gabrillo, Conspirare Associate Director and Conspirare Youth Choirs Co-Director.

Saturday, October 8 7:30pm University Presbyterian Church
Tickets through TLC Tickets.

Conspirare Symphonic Choir *with austin symphony orchestra*

Conspirare collaborates in two outstanding programs on the Austin Symphony's subscription series.

Friday, October 14 and Saturday, October 15

8pm Long Center for the Performing Arts

The Symphonic Choir sopranos and altos perform with the ASO in Gustav Holst's monumental *The Planets* and Claude Debussy's dreamy *Nocturnes*.

Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5

8pm Long Center for the Performing Arts

Craig Hella Johnson shares the podium with Peter Bay in this exciting collaboration. Johnson will conduct Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Bay will conduct Igor Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms*, and each will conduct one of Leopold Stokowski's celebrated Bach transcriptions.

Tickets at austinsymphony.org, (512) 476-6064, or toll-free 1-888-4MAESTRO





BIG SING

where the audience is the choir

Come sing with Conspirare! Hosted by the Symphonic Choir and led by Craig Hella Johnson, each inspirational Big Sing is open to everyone, regardless of musical background. Learn basic vocal technique and make beautiful music at this fun, informal, and **free** event!

“I was filled with awe
and gratitude for the
music we made.”

– Big Sing participant

November 17 6pm First Baptist Church

February 23 6pm Northwest Hills United Methodist Church

May 17 6pm St. Martin’s Lutheran Church



Be a Conspirare subscriber and save

Pick three performances and receive a discount by ordering an advance season package. Choose three or more selected performances and enjoy these subscriber benefits:

- **Best seats at best prices**
- **Guaranteed admission – no sell-out worries**
- **15% savings compared to single ticket purchase**
- **Exchange privileges within same concert series – no exchange fee**

.....
Ticket exchanges may be made within the same concert series only, are subject to availability, and must be requested at least 72 hours in advance. All sales are final.
.....

Look for the order form in this brochure and buy your season package today!
Subscription orders must be received by **September 23, 2011**.

we sing together

In their seventh concert season, the acclaimed **Conspirare Youth Choirs** explore world music to evoke thought and inspiration. Music and poetry will shape listeners' minds and souls, with singing and expression that will bring forth "a thousand joys." In a highly anticipated collaboration with the Conspirare Symphonic Choir, the children sing music inspired by this summer's Royal Wedding, a performance reminiscent of English cathedral boychoirs (see page 8 for details). CYC's popular holiday concert features Rutter's complete *Dancing Day* set with harp, and the spring concert offers a bouquet of delightful and imaginative music from Ecuador, Brazil, England, and our own homeland. Join us!

This Endris Night

The Youth Choirs' popular holiday concert.

Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10
7:30pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Looking Glass

Inspired by the words of James Allen, the Youth Choirs explore adventures of the mind through music.

Saturday, April 28 ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY!
7:30pm St. Martin's Lutheran Church



Mind is the master power that molds and makes,
And we are Mind, and evermore we take
The tool of thought, and shaping what we will,
Bring forth a thousand joys, a thousand ills,
We think in secret, and it comes to pass –
Our world is but our looking glass.

– James Allen



SPECIAL EVENTS

SPONSOR OF THE HOLIDAY GALA



CONSPIRARE HOLIDAY GALA

Monday, December 5 5:30pm Kodosky Donor Lounge,
Long Center for the Performing Arts

Conspirare’s sparkling evening of food, libations, and music to launch the holidays. Enjoy fine wines and sumptuous dining before the finale performance of Conspirare Christmas, plus a champagne and dessert after-party with the artists. Call 512-476-5775 to make Gala reservations.

Note: So that you may choose your desired ticket price, concert seating is not included with Gala reservations. Please order your December 5 performance tickets separately.

MIDWINTER DINNER

Saturday, January 21 6pm The Byrne-Reed House
(Humanities Texas), 1410 Rio Grande Street

Enjoy conversation with other music lovers at a buffet dinner between Conspirare performances, just steps from the concert venue. By advance reservation only, 512-476-5775.

HIDDEN MUSIC VII

Tuesday, April 10 6pm

University of Texas Alumni Center

Conspirare’s intimate spring fundraiser includes dinner, auction, and special entertainment by Craig Hella Johnson and musical friends, featuring singer-songwriter Patrice Pike. Save the date! Call 512-476-5775 for an invitation.



.....
“[Pike’s] voice, with an edge that suggested country and rock sympathies, was extraordinarily beautiful.” –Mike Greenberg, incidentlight.com
.....

MIDWESTERN TOUR Spirituals and Whitacre world premiere

March 3-10

The Company of Voices will be featured at the American Choral Directors Association/Central Division annual convention in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and will be presented in public concerts in select Midwestern cities including Fort Wayne, Bloomfield Hills, Kalamazoo, and others to be announced.

The repertoire is American choral music, featuring the world premiere of a Conspirare-commissioned piece by Eric Whitacre and selections from Conspirare’s new CD *Sing Freedom! African American Spirituals*. Visit conspirare.org for tour details.

CONSPIRARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES ITS GENEROUS
SEASON SUSTAINING UNDERWRITER & SPONSOR OF THE HOLIDAY GALA

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Conspirare
we sing life
Craig Hella Johnson
& Company of Voices



New CD *Sing Freedom!* African American Spirituals to be released September 2011.
Sign up for our e-newsletter, like us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter to learn the latest about availability, release party, and more!

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