

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONSPIRARE CHRISTMAS WITH CARRIE RODRIGUEZ TO BE PERFORMED IN AUSTIN, SAN ANTONIO, HOUSTON AND VICTORIA DECEMBER 7-14.



Fall in love with Christmas all over again at [Conspirare Christmas](#). This joyful celebration of songs to renew our souls and unite our hearts tours to four Texas cities in December. Artistic Director Craig Hella Johnson's compelling blend of musical styles including classical, folk, pop, world, and seasonal favorites will be performed by special guest [Carrie Rodriguez](#) and Austin's Grammy® award-winning choir, Conspirare.

Austin-based Ameri-Chicana singer/songwriter and violinist Carrie Rodriguez will infuse her style of culturally-blended music, inspired by Texas, Ranchera songs, and family roots into this year's program. Johnson recently shared his thoughts on this year's program, commenting, "We love the people we get to sing for every December. It feels like this great coming together and we always feel that our listeners are the most responsive and engaged anywhere across the country. It has become this great Texas tradition where we sing our way into a vision of a world in which we truly learn to love each other and celebrate who we are together. We hope to make many new friends this year through music." Rodriguez remarked on the collaboration, saying, "Working with Craig has been such a joy! Not only has he kept me laughing and smiling throughout all of our collaborative meetings, but he has also blown me away with his musical and artistic vision for this soulful program. I've been so inspired by the creative process that I've almost forgotten that the best is yet to come...singing with Conspirare! I truly cannot wait." Guitarist [Mitch Watkins](#) joins the ensemble for his first Conspirare Christmas engagement alongside percussionist [Thomas Burritt](#). Craig Hella Johnson and Carrie Rodriguez will offer a special sneak peek of the program during a ticketed [Concert Conversation](#) at Gusto Restaurant on November 28.



Conspirare Christmas tours Texas with return performances in Austin, San Antonio, Houston, and Victoria. Victoria Bach Festival Executive Director Nina DiLeo remarked, "Conspirare Christmas has become a beloved holiday tradition in Victoria and communities across Texas including Houston, Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio. The Conspirare Christmas program elicits a strong emotional response from listeners. Its message of love and connection is a beautiful start to the holiday season." Conspirare's Austin performance venues include The Long Center (including special pre-concert caroling by Conspirare Youth Choirs), the Carillon on Exposition, and an outreach performance at the Travis County Correctional Center.

CONSPIRARE CHRISTMAS TEXAS TOUR DATES

ALL TICKETS / INFO: <https://conspirare.org/event/conspirare-christmas-2017/>

{Complete listing on next page.}

AUSTIN

12/09/17 (8:00pm), Saturday **The Carillon**, 2630 Exposition Blvd
12/11/17 (7:30pm), Monday **Dell Hall, The Long Center**, 701 W. Riverside Dr.
12/13/17 (8pm), Wednesday **The Carillon**, 2630 Exposition Blvd.
12/14/17 (8pm), Thursday **The Carillon**, 2630 Exposition Blvd.

SAN ANTONIO

12/10/17 (7:30pm), Sunday **H-E-B Hall, The Tobin Center**, 100 Auditorium Cir.

VICTORIA (presented by the Victoria Bach Festival):

12/07/17 (7:30pm), Thursday **First United Methodist Church**, 407 N Bridge St.

HOUSTON (presented by St. Luke's UMC):

12/08/17 (7:30pm), Friday **St. Luke's United Methodist Church**, 3471 Westheimer Rd.

Upcoming Conspirare Events

[Holiday Big Sing](#)

11/28/17. 5:30pm, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin, TX

Conspirare's free sing-a-long where the audience is the choir returns to St. Martin's.

[Conspirare Youth Choirs: Breath of Heaven](#)

12/1/17-12/2/17. 7:30pm, University Presbyterian Church, Austin, TX

The Conspirare Youth Choirs, under the direction of Nina Revering, present an enriching holiday experience to share with the entire family. The stunning voices of our brilliant young artists will usher in your Holiday season in beauty. Join us to hear Benjamin Britten's beloved Ceremony of Carols, interspersed with other favorites of the British choral tradition including Purcell, Rutter, Blake, Page, and Parry.

[The Poet Sings: Dashon Burton with Craig Hella Johnson](#)

2/2/18. 8:00pm, Jessen Auditorium, Homer Rainey Hall, University of Texas, AUSTIN

Info / Tickets: <https://conspirare.org/event/dashon-burton-2018/>

[Considering Matthew Shepard: Encore Performances](#)

2/21/18 – 2/28/18. Dallas, TX, Lincoln, NE, Oxford, MS, Hattiesburg, MS

Conspirare's current touring project, *Considering Matthew Shepard*, is a Grammy-nominated three-part fusion oratorio composed by Craig Hella Johnson. The work, which debuted at number four on Billboard's Traditional Classical Chart, is an evocative and compassionate musical response to the murder of Matthew Shepard.

Info / Tickets: <https://conspirare.org/event/considering-matthew-shepard-encore-2018/>

About Conspirare

Celebrating their 25th season, Conspirare is a professional choir under the direction of Craig Hella Johnson. Inspired by the power of music to change lives, the Grammy®-winning vocal ensemble engages singers from around the world who join forces to deliver extraordinary live musical experiences and recordings.

[Conspirare press kit page](#) (images for download, info pdf)