



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 21, 2015

Conspirare Announces 2015-16 Season *The Song Tells our Story*

Celebrating their 23rd season, Conspirare is a Grammy® award-winning vocal ensemble that creates exceptional concert experiences and recordings. With the world-class artistry of its extraordinary voices and the incomparable direction of conductor Craig Hella Johnson, Conspirare is one of the finest choirs performing today. Inspired by the power of music to transform lives, Conspirare performances are musical magic. Join us for a remarkable season of beauty, remembrance and captivating storytelling.

The September season opener, **The Poet Sings: Emily Dickinson**, is an intimate recital celebrating one of America's most beloved poets. **Conspirare Christmas** kicks off the holiday season with special guest Matt Alber, and just after the new year Conspirare Symphonic Choir sings the story of Anne Frank in the choral setting **Annelies** by James Whitbourn. Conspirare's own Craig Hella Johnson premieres his first concert-length work **Considering Matthew Shepard** in February, and 2016 concludes with a tribute to a prolific American composer in **Stephen Paulus: A Lyrical Life**.

Conspirare Youth Choirs present two breathtaking concerts this season: **Still** in the winter and **Enchanted** in the spring. **Conspirare Symphonic Choir** joins forces with the **Austin Symphony** in **The French Connection** at the Long Center this fall, and the audience is invited to explore their voice during one of Conspirare's free **Big Sing** events throughout the year.

Complete details and ticketing info can be found at www.conspirare.org. **Tickets on sale now!**

The Poet Sings: Emily Dickinson

09.13.15 4pm at Jessen Auditorium, University of Texas, Austin

Conspirare will celebrate the expressive power and range of one of America's most beloved poets. Hear some of the countless musical works that she has inspired, including the world premieres of two newly commissioned pieces. This intimate recital will feature soprano **Sonja DuToit Tengblad**, tenor **Eric Neville** and pianist **Michelle Schumann**.

Additional performance in Belton

Conspirare Christmas

12.05.15, 7:30pm at the Carillon on Exposition, Austin

Concert & Reception SOLD OUT

12.06.15, 2:30 & 8pm at the Carillon on Exposition, Austin

BOTH 12.06 SHOWS SOLD OUT

12.07.15, 8pm at the Long Center, Austin

12.08.15, 7:30pm at the Tobin Center, San Antonio

Tickets through the Tobin Center

Experience the enchantment of one of Austin's most treasured holiday events. With a variety of music unlike anything else, this concert will warm your heart and kick off the holiday season in grand fashion.

Matt Alber returns as our special featured guest.

Additional performances in Victoria and Houston

Annelies: The Voice of Anne Frank

01.08.16, 8pm at University Presbyterian Church, Austin

01.09.16, 8pm at University Presbyterian Church, Austin

Composer James Whitbourn's compelling work was the first major choral setting of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Come hear the Conspirare Symphonic Choir offer what is sure to be a poignant and deeply moving concert experience. Featuring soprano soloist Stefanie Moore.

Considering Matthew Shepard

02.20.16, 8pm at AISD Performing Arts Center, Austin

02.21.16, 4pm at AISD Performing Arts Center, Austin

Presenting Craig Hella Johnson's first concert-length work, this world premiere is his passionate musical response to the tragic death of a young man who has become an American icon and symbol for hope and empowerment. Johnson has set a rich variety of texts from Lesléa Newman, Hafiz and Hildegard von Bingen.

Stephen Paulus: A Lyrical Life

05.12.16, 8pm at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin

05.13.16, 8pm at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin

Paying tribute to this inspirational American composer's life, the extraordinary singers of Conspirare will bring their vocal virtuosity to a specially selected program from Paulus' bountiful repertoire. Expect to experience rarely heard choral gems and a 2007 Conspirare commission, *Poemas de Amor*.

Additional performance in Fredericksburg to be announced

Conspirare Youth Choirs present STILL

12.11.15, 7:30pm at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin

12.12.15, 7:30pm at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin

Embrace the stillness of the season with works by Duruflé, Holst, Dubinsky and Antognini.

Conspirare Youth Choirs present ENCHANTED

04.29.16, 7:30pm at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin

04.30.16 7:30pm at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin

Delight in an enchanting evening of song from the Broadway stages of decades past and today.

BIG SING

12.17.15, 6:30pm at the Blanton Museum of Art, Austin

Join maestro **Craig Hella Johnson** at this free event that inspires a sense of community and self-expression as hundreds of voices fill the room.

Additional BIG SINGS this season at www.conspirare.org

HIDDEN MUSIC

04.09.16

Support Conspirare by attending their annual fundraiser. It will be an exquisite evening with epicurean delights and an intimate performance by **Craig Hella Johnson** and special guest **Matt Alber**.

Tickets at www.conspirare.org

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

11.20.15 8pm at the Long Center, Austin

11.21.15 8pm at the Long Center, Austin

Don't miss Conspirare Symphonic Choir performing works of Ravel & Poulenc with the Austin Symphony in this concert featuring soloist Mela Dailey.

Tickets at www.austinsymphony.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Christy Butler

cbutler@conspirare.org

512.476.5775

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