

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2016

Austin, Texas

Conspirare invited to perform at the St. Olav Festival in Trondheim, Norway

Twenty-eight Conspirare singers and Craig Hella Johnson have been invited to the annual St. Olav Festival in Trondheim, Norway to premiere of a new work by the young Grammy®-nominated Norwegian composer Kim André Arnesen. Conspirare will also perform a full-length recital, curated by Johnson and a mass. This will mark Conspirare's third appearance in Europe.

Conspirare opens the festival with the world premiere of *The Wound in the Water*, an hour-long choral symphony for choir, soprano soloist, strings, piano, and harp. "One of the reasons for inviting Conspirare and Craig Hella Johnson to premiere this work is for their versatility and openness to all kinds of music, and their respect for various artistic directions," said Kim André Arnesen. Soprano Elin Manahan Thomas will join Conspirare and the Trondheim Soloists.

This year's festival theme is MAMMON, which is a symbol for the pursuit of money, material wealth and greedy gain. Arnesen's original work explores this theme, the sacrifices we make to obtain wealth and also the toll it takes on Mother Earth. "In addition to Conspirare's highest artistic level, I believe they share some of the values that I find important, both human and musically," said the composer.

This 10-day festival is in its 52nd year and is traditionally scheduled around Olsok, a national day of celebration in many Northern European countries. Other notable festival performers include Joan Baez and Mary Chapin-Carpenter.

www.olavsfestdagene.no

7.28.16

The Wound in the Water

Nidaros Cathedral (Nidarosdomen)

7.29.16

St. Olav Mass

Nidaros Cathedral (Nidarosdomen)

7.30.16

Conspirare Recital

Vår Frue Kirke Trondheim

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. conspirare.org

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