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Contact:

Kris@giantnoise.com, 512-382-9017

Kristen@giantnoise.com, 512-382-9017

Corinne@giantnoise.com, 512-382-9017

**CONSPIRARE PRESENTS THE POET SINGS: PABLO NERUDA
THE RENOWNED POET'S WORK COMES TO LIFE**

Conspirare, The Poet Sings: Pablo Neruda

Date: September 18-19, 2014

Time: Pre-concert talk, meet the composers, 7:00 p.m.
Concert, 8:00 p.m.

Venue: Bates Recital Hall, Butler School of Music, University of Texas at Austin

Tickets from \$24, available at Conspirare.org or by phone at 512-474-5664

Film Screening: "Pablo Neruda: The Poet's Calling"

Date: Sunday, September 14

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Venue: Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6406 N IH 35 # 3100 (Lincoln Village), Austin

Admission \$10 (\$8 for AFS members) at the door, available at Conspirare.org

(Austin, TX) – Aug 14, 2014 - Austin's acclaimed professional vocal ensemble **Conspirare Company of Voices**, led by renowned founding artistic director **Craig Hella Johnson**, will perform music set to poetry of Chilean poet Pablo Neruda. Neruda is one of the most revered poets of the twentieth century, and his breathtaking poetry will be reimagined and brought to life by Johnson, the Conspirare singers, and composers Cary Ratcliff, Donald Grantham, Shawn Kirchner, and Morten Lauridsen.

Conspirare's **The Poet Sings** will be offered in only two Austin performances. The program will also be performed in Goshen, IN on Sunday, September 21, and recorded September 22-26 for future release on the Harmonia Mundi label.

The Poet Sings program includes the following works:

- ***Ode to Common Things*** by Cary Ratcliff, world premiere of new chamber version
- ***La canción desesperada (Song of Desperation)*** by Donald Grantham, commissioned and premiered by Conspirare in 2005 and newly revised by the composer
- ***Tu sangre en la mia (Your Blood in Mine)*** by Shawn Kirchner
- ***Tu Voz (Your Voice)*** by Shawn Kirchner
- ***Soneto de la Noche (Sonnet of the Night)*** by Morten Lauridsen

“I can’t imagine a better way to kick off the fall season than with **The Poet Sings**,” says Johnson. “Pablo Neruda’s words are the inspiration and text for beautiful, captivating music. Revisiting this work is a true passion for me; this promises to be an extraordinary musical experience.”

Additionally, as a special pre-concert event, there will be a screening of the new documentary “**Pablo Neruda: The Poet’s Calling**,” presented by the Austin Film Society on September 14th and featuring a Q&A with film director Mark Eisner and Conspirare’s Craig Hella Johnson.

About Conspirare:

Conspirare Company of Voices is a dream team of singers from around the country. These gifted performers share an overarching commitment to ensemble artistry, delivered in one vibrant voice under the guiding hand of artistic director Craig Hella Johnson.

For more information, visit <http://conspirare.org/>