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Conspirare presents

BIG SING

Where the audience is the choir!

Thursday, October 17, 6:30 p.m.

Blanton Museum of Art, 200 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Austin

FREE admission, no reservation needed

Information at www.conspirare.org or 512-476-5775

Directions and parking information at http://blantonmuseum.org/visit/maps_and_directions/

It's the first Big Sing of the new season! Conspirare collaborates with the Blanton Museum of Art to present the fall edition of the popular, free community outreach event *where the audience is the choir*. The fall Big Sing is presented in conjunction with the museum's exhibit [Imperial Augsburg: Renaissance Prints and Drawings, 1475–1540](#).

In a nod to the featured artwork, the varied program will include German Renaissance-era music by Hans Leo Hassler, Johann Walter, and Martin Luther, as well as songs from other times and places. Artistic director Craig Hella Johnson will lead the audience in singing together and the Conspirare Symphonic Choir will give a micro-performance.

About the Big Sing

Conspirare's acclaimed artistic director Craig Hella Johnson, the Texas State Musician for 2013, leads each Big Sing gathering in vocal warm-ups and short, melodic songs that can be easily learned. As musical hosts, Conspirare Symphonic Choir members sit among the audience to sing along and provide musical support and encouragement during the hour-long event. Song sheets are provided.

Musical selections at Big Sings range from familiar rounds, spirituals, and Beatles songs to the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's *Messiah* and popular 20th century standards from the Great American Songbook. Johnson hand-picks music for each Big Sing to delight, thrill, and sometimes challenge the singing audience, always with remarkably beautiful and inspirational results.

The Big Sing is open to everyone, regardless of musical training and experience. Through a fun, no-pressure group singing experience, audience members learn basic vocal technique and sing as one with hundreds of others.

The Big Sing is supported by the Rachael & Ben Vaughan Foundation, City of Austin Cultural Arts Division, and Texas Commission on the Arts.