

CHICAGO CHORALE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 10, 2011

Contact: Megan Balderston

megan@chicagochorale.org

CHICAGO CHORALE PRESENTS NORTHERN LIGHT

Works by Grieg, Nystedt, Pärt, Sisask, Lindberg, Olsson, Sandström, and Rautavaara

Featuring baritone soloist Michael Cavalieri

Friday, November 18, 2011, 8:00 pm at Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue

Saturday, November 19, 2011, 8:00 pm at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1010 W. Webster Avenue

About Northern Light

This program showcases the sophisticated, technically-demanding choral traditions of the Scandinavian and Baltic countries. Composed in the last 100 years, this music is characterized by sharp contrasts between a basic neo-romantic harmonic language, and surprising dissonance; between complex, driving rhythms, and passages that seem to hang motionless in the air; between idiomatic reflection of bleak, dark, northern winter, and a yearning for the warmth of spring. The program includes Edvard Grieg's final major work, *Four Hymns*, with baritone soloist Michael Cavalieri; music of Knut Nystedt, including his most famous motet, *O crux*; celebrated Estonians Arvo Pärt and Urmas Sisask; Swedes Nils Lindberg, Otto Olsson, and Jan Sandström; and Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara, whose *Vigilia* Chorale performed and recorded in December, 2010.

Artistic Director Bruce Tammen asserts, "This is powerful, beautifully-crafted music, expressive of the extreme region of the globe which fostered it, and of its inhabitants. Chorale will utilize all the sonic possibility and variety of its two venues to present these musical contrasts, and to engage listeners in the superb quality and the magical sound of this repertoire."

A free, pre-concert lecture will be presented by award-winning choral conductor and composer Anne Heider, one hour prior to the concert at each venue.

TWO PERFORMANCES:

Friday, November 18, 8:00 pm

Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue

Saturday, November 19, 8:00 pm

St. Vincent DePaul Parish, 1010 W. Webster Avenue

ABOUT CHICAGO CHORALE

Over the last ten years, Chicago Chorale has gained a reputation for sensitive, thought-provoking performances of great music throughout the city. Led by Artistic Director Bruce Tammen, the 60-voice ensemble performs repertoire from the sixteenth century to the present day, from well-loved choral works to overlooked masterpieces—but always music that stimulates and engages its singers and audiences. Past performances include appearances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest, and the Baroque Band. Chorale has appeared numerous times on "Live from WFMT" with host Kerry Frumkin and has recorded five CDs.

BRUCE TAMMEN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

1100 East 55th Street • Chicago, Illinois 60615 • 773.306.6195 • info@chicagochorale.org • www.chicagochorale.org

Chicago Chorale is a non profit 501(c)(3) organization.

ABOUT BRUCE TAMMEN

Chicago Chorale Artistic Director Bruce Tammen holds degrees from Luther College, Northwestern University, and the University of Chicago. He has taught voice and directed choirs at Luther College, the University of Chicago, and the University of Virginia. Tammen studied extensively in France with Dalton Baldwin and Gerard Souzay, as well as several years with Max Van Egmond at Oberlin's Baroque performance Institute. He has performed several seasons under Helmuth Rilling at the Oregon Bach Festival and with the Robert Shaw Choral Institute in Souillac, France. Tammen is baritone soloist on the Telarc/Shaw CDs *Appear and Inspire* and *Liebeslieder Waltzes*.

CHICAGO CHORALE 2010-11 SEASON AT A GLANCE

Subscription Series

Northern Light

Works by Grieg, Nystedt, Pärt, Sisask, Lindberg, Olsson, Sandström, and Rautavaara

Friday, November 18, 8:00 pm

Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue

Saturday, November 19, 8:00 pm

St. Vincent DePaul Parish, 1010 W. Webster Avenue

Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*

Monday, March 5, 7:30 pm

Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Avenue

Tickets are available by phoning the Symphony Center box office, 312-294-3000, after October 1, 2011. Season subscribers will receive a discount code.

Voices Aloft

Featuring Vierne's *Messe Solennelle* and works by Bach and Schoenberg

Sunday, May 13, 3:00 pm

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, 5850 S. Woodlawn Avenue

Tickets, venue details and other information at chicagochorale.org or 773-306-6195.

Non-Subscription

Solemn Vespers for Advent

Sunday, December 4, 5:00 p.m.

Monastery of the Holy Cross

3111 S. Aberdeen St.

Tickets, venue details and other information at chicagochorale.org or 773-306-6195.

BRUCE TAMMEN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

1100 East 55th Street • Chicago, Illinois 60615 • 773.306.6195 • info@chicagochorale.org • www.chicagochorale.org

Chicago Chorale is a non profit 501(c)(3) organization.