



The Cathedral
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the Divine

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RELEASE

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS
ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT FOR PEACE**

*Combined Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra Perform Boyce, Mozart, Convery, Lang,
and NY Premiere by Wayne Oquin*

Kent Tritle, Conductor



Photo: Neal Slavin

(December XX, 2018) The Cathedral of St. John the Divine will present its annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace on **Monday, December 31 at 7:00 PM at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street), Manhattan.** The Cathedral Choirs will join forces under the leadership of **Kent Tritle**, Director of Cathedral Music and one of America's leading choral conductors. This signature event is one of many comprising the 2018–2019 season of *Great Music in a Great Space*.

Legendary American composer/conductor Leonard Bernstein, born 100 years ago this year, founded the New Year's Eve Concert for Peace at the Cathedral in 1984. This year's



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performance begins with instrumental music from William Boyce and Mozart. Soloist Sidney Outlaw joins the orchestra and choir for a stirring performance of Robert Convery's *I have a dream*, a powerful setting of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s immortal speech. The choir will perform works by David Lang and J.S. Bach, as well as the New York premiere of a piece by Wayne Oquin. The Cathedral Choir's own Jamet Pittman will again lead the audience in *This little light of mine* as we light candles to welcome the new year with hope, joy, and affirmation. The night will also feature special guest appearances and performances by Artists in Residence Jason Robert Brown, Paul Winter, and David Briggs, and will once again be hosted by Harry Smith.

General Admission seats are free and open to the public on the night of the show. There are also premium seats and preferred seating available for purchase. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit [this page](#).

PROGRAM

William Boyce

Symphony No. 1 in B-flat

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Symphony No. 29 in A

David Lang

make peace

Wayne Oquin

Alleluia (NY Premiere)

Robert Convery

I have a dream

Johann Sebastian Bach

Dona nobis pacem

About Great Music in a Great Space

Revived in 2011, *Great Music in a Great Space* reprises the legendary concert series first held at the Cathedral in the 1980s. Great Music in a Great Space presents choral, orchestral, and



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organ music, in the magnificent, deeply spiritual setting of the world's largest Gothic cathedral. Concerts take place in many locations: the vast space of the Crossing, the more intimate setting of the Great Choir, and the exquisite Chapels of the Tongues. The beloved holiday traditions of the Christmas Concert and New Year's Eve Concert for Peace are an integral part of our concert series.

About Kent Tritle

Kent Tritle is one of America's leading choral conductors. Called "the brightest star in New York's choral music world" by the *New York Times*, he is Director of Cathedral Music and Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City; Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York, the acclaimed 200-voice volunteer chorus; and Music Director of Musica Sacra, New York's longest continuously performing professional chorus.

In addition, Kent is Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music and is a member of the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic and a member of the organ department at the Manhattan School of Music.

Kent Tritle founded the *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space* concert series at New York's Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, and led it to great acclaim from 1989 to 2011. From 1996 to 2004, he was Music Director of New York's The Dessoff Choirs. Kent hosted "The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle," a weekly program on New York's WQXR, from 2010 to 2014. Kent Tritle has made more than 20 recordings on Telarc, AMDG, Epiphany, Gothic, Pro Organo, VAI, and MSR Classics.

About Sidney Outlaw

Lauded by The *New York Times* as a "terrific singer" with a "deep, rich timbre" and the *San Francisco Chronicle* as an "opera powerhouse" with a "weighty and forthright" sound, Sidney Outlaw was the Grand Prize winner of the Concorso Internacional de Canto Montserrat Caballe in 2010 and continues to delight audiences in the U.S. and abroad with his rich and versatile baritone and engaging stage presence.

During the 2017 season Sidney made his debut as Frank Lloyd Wright in Daron Hagen's *The Shining Brow* with Urban Arias in Washington D.C. He also debuted with Minnesota Opera in *Fellow Travelers* as Tommy McIntyre, and sang the role of Dizzy Gillespie in *Yardbird* with both the Atlanta Opera and Arizona Opera.

In September 2018, Sidney released a major recording as a soloist of Handel's *Messiah* with the Baltimore Symphony. 2018 also brought his debut as Artist in Residence of



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the Manchester Chamber Music Festival with his long time collaborative partner and mentor, Warren Jones. 2019 brings a return to Minnesota Opera and debuts with San Francisco Opera and the National Symphony. Sidney is currently working on his doctorate degree at Stonybrook University and has served as Professor of Voice at the Aaron Copland School of Music in New York City for the past 4 years.

About The Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership. People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.

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