



The Cathedral  
Church of **Saint John**  
**the Divine**

**RELEASE**

1047 Amsterdam Ave.  
at 112th Street  
New York, NY 10025  
T (212) 316-7490  
stjohndivine.org

For further information please call  
Alena Meyerovich, Rubenstein Communications  
(212) 843-9273 / ameyerovich@rubenstein.com

Isadora Wilkenfeld, Cathedral of St. John the Divine  
(212) 316-7468 / iwilkenfeld@stjohndivine.org

**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS  
THE 33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT FOR PEACE**

*Featuring the U.S. Premiere of See the Wretched Strangers by Lucas Wiegierink  
With Host Harry Smith and Guest Artists Judy Collins and Jason Robert Brown  
Jamet Pittman and Arthur Fiacco, Soloists  
Kent Tritle, Conductor*



*Photo: Neal Slavin*

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**(January xx, 2017 – New York, NY)** – The Cathedral of St. John the Divine rings in 2018 with the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace on **Sunday, December 31, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan.** This signature event is one of many comprising the 2017–2018 season of *Great Music in a Great Space*.



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This year's concert begins with Joseph Haydn's glorious *Te Deum*. The program continues with the U.S. premiere of *See the Wretched Strangers* by composer Lucas Wiegerink; the text, written by Shakespeare, is an impassioned commentary on immigration and refugees. A series of choral songs about our shared Earth continues the theme of neighborly compassion, inspiring a renewal of hope for the coming year.

In addition to performances by Jason Robert Brown and Judy Collins, joined by host Harry Smith, with soloists Jamet Pittman and Arthur Fiacco, this year's concert honors the centennial of Leonard Bernstein. Bernstein founded the New Year's Eve Concert for Peace in 1984, and is remembered in excerpts from his *Mass*. This annual concert bears Bernstein's imprint, and has become one of the Cathedral's most celebrated events.

A limited number of general admission seats are free and open to the public, on a first-come, first-served basis. Ticketed seating is also available, at \$40 (general admission), \$100 (preferred seating), and \$150 (premium seating). For additional information and to purchase tickets, please visit: <http://www.stjohndivine.org/visit/calendar/events/music/4035/new-years-eve-concert-for-peace-5>

**Program**

Joseph Haydn  
*Te Deum*

Lucas Wiegerink  
*See the Wretched Strangers* (2016, U.S. premiere)

Rupert Lang  
*Earth Teach Me*

Frank Ticheli  
*Earth Song*

Leonard Bernstein  
*Chorales from Mass*

**Soloists**

Jamet Pittman, *soprano*  
Arthur Fiacco, *cello*

**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. The 2015–2016 season is comprised of three concert series: the Great Choir choral series, the Great Organ recital series, and our holiday concerts celebrating the Christmas season and New Year's Eve. The repertoire of the choral series encompasses a musical palette from Renaissance polyphony to contemporary compositions, and also features explorations of less familiar traditions such as Spanish Renaissance music and Eastern Orthodox hymnody. The Great Organ recital series features evening organ recitals, from both Cathedral organists and internationally acclaimed guest artists.

**About Kent Tritle**



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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*, Tritle is in his fifth season as Director of Cathedral Music and organist at New York's Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine. He is also Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York and of Musica Sacra. He is Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music and on the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School. He is organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Tritle holds graduate and undergraduate degrees from The Juilliard School in organ performance and choral conducting. He has been featured on *ABC World News Tonight*, *National Public Radio*, and *Minnesota Public Radio*, as well as in the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

**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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