

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Cantata Singers Invited to Perform in New York City with Composer Sir Karl Jenkins

New York, N.Y. – January 25, 2016

Outstanding music program receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that The Cantata Singers, led by Will Wickham, have been invited to participate in the United States and Carnegie Hall Premiere of a new work by Sir Karl Jenkins on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. The new work is tentatively titled '*Cantata Memoria: For the children of Aberfan*', in dedication of the 50th Anniversary of the Mining disaster in the Welsh village of Aberfan. This performance will be in Isaac Stern Auditorium in Carnegie Hall on Sunday, January 15, 2017. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Sir Karl Jenkins will be present as composer-in-residence with DCINY's Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Jonathan Griffith as conductor of the performance and clinician for the residency.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Cantata Singers received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers as well as the exceptional quality of their audition recording. It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

Members of the Cantata Singers will spend 5 days and 4 nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. "The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5 day residency," says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to New York. Cantata Singers music director Will Wickham says: "We are establishing a special fund raising program to help as many singers as possible participate in this amazing and rare opportunity not only to perform in Carnegie Hall but also to be part of the premier of an extended work by one of today's most prolific choral composers." If you wish to contribute to this musical ambassadorship from the Southern Finger Lakes and Twin Tiers region, please contact Will Wickham by phone at (607) 796-5034 or via email at cantatasingers@ymail.com. "Members of the Cantata Singers come from a wide area of south-central New York State" says Wickham. "The entire region should be proud of the musical talent, training, and all the hard work that has contributed to earning the Cantata Singers this incredible recognition."

Composer/Conductor Sir Karl Jenkins

Karl Jenkins, educated at Gowerton Grammar School, Cardiff University and the Royal Academy of Music, London, is one of the most prolific, popular and performed composers in the world today. The *Armed Man: A Mass For Peace* alone has been performed over 700 times in 20

different countries since the CD was released, while his recorded output has resulted in 17 gold and platinum disc awards.

His style and integrity have transcended musical boundaries encompassing jazz-rock with Soft Machine, the global 'crossover' phenomenon Adiemus, soundtracks for Levis and British Airways, while stopping off along the way to score a Kiefer Sutherland movie, be a castaway on BBC "Desert Island Discs", be featured by Melvyn Bragg on the ITV seminal South Bank Show and be awarded the Freedom of the City of London. Recent recordings include Requiem, Stabat Mater and Quirk. He has composed music for HRH The Prince of Wales, Bryn Terfel, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Dame Evelyn Glennie and the London Symphony Orchestra amongst many others.

A Doctor of Music, he holds Fellowships, Honorary Doctorates and Professorships at five universities or conservatoires, including the Royal Academy of Music, where a room has been named in his honor. In recent years, he has consistently been the highest placed living composer in Classic FM's "Hall of Fame".

He holds the Classic FM 'Red f' award for 'outstanding service to classical music' and was awarded an OBE, by Her Majesty The Queen, in the 2005 New Years Honors List "for services to music".

www.karljenkins.com.

Cantata Singers to perform "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" in February

The Cantata Singers, a premier choral organization in the Southern Tier area since 1965, performs locally at least three times each year. "Our season begins with our first rehearsals in September and encompasses performances in early December, February or March, and May" according to the group's president Sally MacPherson Davis. "Coincidentally, we were already preparing for a February 28th performance of Sir Karl Jenkins' "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" when this opportunity came along" she added. According to the Cantata Singers web site, cantatasingers.com, the performance will be at the 1st United Methodist Church on West Broad Street in Horseheads at 3 pm on that Sunday. Davis continued "All of our concerts are offered without admission but a free-will offering will be collected to help defray the costs involved with the performance. This will be a great opportunity to preview the work of Karl Jenkins and to hear this wonderful group of talented local singers" added Wickham.

DCINY Productions

Founded by Iris Derke and Jonathan Griffith, DCINY is a leading producer of dynamically-charged musical entertainment in renowned venues. With its unforgettable, world-class concert experiences, empowering educational programs, and global community of artists and audiences, DCINY changes lives through the power of performance.

Tickets

For more information on tickets, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566 Ext. 307, or BoxOffice@DCINY.org.

Contact & Interviews

DCINY Interviews and press requests may be arranged by contacting Andrew Ousley at Unison Media at 212-707-8566 Ext. 316, or Press@DCINY.org.

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