

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## ***Love, Lust, and Light – A Valentine’s Day Concert***

**Orff’s *Carmina Burana* and Morten Lauridsen’s *Lux Aeterna***

**Sunday, February 14, 2010, 2:00 pm – Carnegie Hall**

*Music Illuminating the Human Spirit  
and the Power of Emotions*

NEW YORK, N.Y. – January 11, 2009 – **Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY)** Love, Lust, and Light... these are all elements found in the concert works being presented for Valentine’s Day at Carnegie Hall on Sunday, February 14, 2010 at 2:00 pm. Love and Lust are obvious in the ***Carmina Burana***, and Love and Light are prominent in the ***Lux Aeterna***, and all are most worthy of Valentine’s Day.

*More on Orff’s [Carmina Burana](#)*

Grammy award-winning Maestro Vance George will be making his Carnegie Hall debut, conducting Orff’s most famous piece, ***Carmina Burana***, for which Maestro George won the award with the San Francisco Symphony. Based on a medieval collection of poems of the same name, the selection covers a wide range of emotions and topics, including the nature of life, the return of spring and the excitement and pitfalls of love and lust. These basic and relevant themes are presented with both huge forces and a single voice, evoking both majesty and intimacy. The work has enjoyed popularity and longevity, due in large part to its crossover ability, having been used in movies and television commercials throughout the world.

*More on Morten Lauridsen’s  
[Lux Aeterna](#)*

Maestra Nancy Menk will also be at the podium conducting Morten Lauridsen’s ***Lux Aeterna***. Though written as a requiem to the composer’s mother, this piece is about life and the human spirit. It contains a certain radiance and calm which create a sense of well-being. *The Los Angeles Times* has described that “Lauridsen ... has found a way to illuminate the Brahmsian glow with contemporary energy sources. He follows Brahms’ model of refashioning old liturgical music, yet he does not sound archaic.” In the same way, the piece also highlights the possibility for contemporary music to communicate directly with the human heart. Its richness and complexity ensure that it will be enjoyed by captive audiences for a long time to come.

*Bio of Maestro George*

**DCINY Conductor Laureate Vance George's** performances and recordings have been lauded by audiences and critics alike. Today he is guest conducting and mentoring young conductors after serving as Chorus Director of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus from 1983-2007. His understanding of large choral-orchestral works and repertoire for chamber choirs is unsurpassed. Noted American composer Conrad Susa says it best: "Vance creates a sonority, a kind of sonic thumb-print for each performance." George has conducted in the U.S., Europe, India and East Asia. In recent years he has led performances of Mozart, Bach, Brahms, Verdi and Stravinsky in Minneapolis, Spokane, Indianapolis, Akron, Salzburg, Sydney, Australia, the Berkshire Festival and the Ventura Bach Festival.

*Bio of Maestra Menk*

**DCINY Guest Conductor Nancy Menk** holds the Mary Lou and Judd Leighton Chair in Music at Saint Mary's College. She earned the B.S. and the M.A. degrees in Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and the M.M. and the D.M.A. degrees in Choral Conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. At Saint Mary's College, Dr. Menk conducts the Women's Choir, the Collegiate Choir, and prepares the Madrigal Singers for the annual Christmas Madrigal Dinners. She is founder and conductor of the South Bend Chamber Singers, an ensemble of 30 select singers from the Michiana area. Winners of the 2004 ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming, the Singers were also finalists for the prestigious Margaret Hillis Award, given annually by Chorus America, in 2000. Dr. Menk also serves as Conductor of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus.

*DCINY Productions*

With offices in New York City, and **scores of concerts** to its credit in the most **prestigious venues** on both coasts and abroad, DCINY is a major American classical music production company. DCINY productions have ranged from solo and chamber music recitals to full-scale choral masterworks in **Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and The Town Hall**, as well as Los Angeles' **Walt Disney Concert Hall**. DCINY has produced world, North American, New York City, and a variety of international concert premieres of new work by some of the **leading composers** of our time, performed by **award-winning musicians**. DCINY invites you to visit their website at [www.DCINY.org](http://www.DCINY.org) for details of its exciting **2010 Season**.

*Ticket and Press Information*

Tickets may be purchased by calling **CarnegieCharge** at **212-247-7800** or by visiting [www.carnegiehall.org](http://www.carnegiehall.org). For more information on VIP packages, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566, Ext. 307 or [BoxOffice@DCINY.org](mailto:BoxOffice@DCINY.org). Further concert details for this event and other DCINY Productions can be found at <http://www.dciny.org/2010-opportunities>. Press inquiries and interviews may be arranged by contacting **Arupa Gopal** 212-707-8566, Ext. 308 or [Arupa@DCINY.org](mailto:Arupa@DCINY.org).