Sunday Evening, April 1, 2012, at 8:30
Isaac Stern Auditorium / Ronald O. Perelman Stage

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY)
Iris Derke, Co-Founder and General Director
Jonathan Griffith, Co-Founder and Artistic Director

Presents

Distinguished Concerts Singers International

This Shining Night:
The Music of Whitacre and Lauridsen

ERIC WHITACRE, Composer and Conductor
Special Guest Artist MORTEN LAURIDSEN
TALI TADMOR, Piano

Program to be introduced from the stage

ERIC WHITACRE  Animal Crackers Vol. I
   I. The Panther
   II. The Cow
   III. The Firefly

Animal Crackers Vol. II (DCINY 2009 Premiere Project)
   I. The Canary
   II. The Eel
   III. The Kangaroo

A Boy and a Girl

Five Hebrew Love Songs
   I. Temuná (A picture)
   II. Kalá kallá (Light bride)
   III. Kalá kallá (Light bride)
   IV. Éyze shéleg! (What snow!)
   V. Rakút (Tenderness)

Lux Aurumque

Seal Lullaby

MORTEN LAURIDSEN  Sure on This Shining Night

Intermission

Please hold your applause until after the final movement.

PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.
NOTES ON THE Program

Works by ERIC WHITACRE:

Text of Animal Crackers Vol. I
Text by Ogden Nash

I. The Panther
The panther is like a leopard,
Except it hasn’t been peppered.
Should you behold a panther crouch,
Prepare to say Ouch.
Better yet, if called by a panther,
Don’t anther.

III. The Firefly
The firefly’s flame is something for
which science has no name
I can think of nothing eerier
Than flying around with an
unidentified glow on a
person’s posterier.

II. The Cow
The cow is of the bovine ilk;
One end is moo, the other, milk.

Text of Animal Crackers Vol. II
Text by Ogden Nash

I. The Canary
The song of canaries
never varies.
And when they’re moulting,
they’re pretty revolting.

II. The Eel
I don’t mind eels,
except as meals,
and the way they feels.
III. The Kangaroo
O Kangaroo, O Kangaroo,
Be grateful that you’re in the zoo.
And not transmuted by a boomerang
Into zestful, tangy Kangaroo meringue.

Text of A Boy and a Girl
Text by Octavio Paz

Stretched out on the grass,

a boy and a girl.
Savoring their limes,
giving their kisses like clouds
exchanging foam.

a boy and a girl.
Savoring their oranges,
giving their kisses like waves
exchanging foam.

Stretched out underground,
a boy and a girl.
Saying nothing, never kissing,
giving silence for silence.

Text of Five Hebrew Love Songs
Text by Hila Plitmann

I. Temuná (A picture)
A picture is engraved in my heart;
Moving between light and darkness;
A sort of silence envelopes your body,
And your hair falls upon your face
just so.

II. Kalá kallá (Light bride)
Light bride
She is all mine,
And lightly
She will kiss me!

III. Lárov (Mostly)
“Mostly,” said the roof to the sky,
“the distance between you and I is
everness;
But a while ago two came up here,
And only one centimeter was left
between us.”

IV. Éyze shéleg! (What snow!)
What snow!
Like little dreams
Falling from the sky.

V. Rakút (Tenderness)
He was full of tenderness;
She was very hard.
And as much as she tried to stay thus,
Simply, and with no good reason,
He took her into himself,
And set her down
In the softest, softest place.

(Please turn the page quietly.)
Text of Seal Lullaby
Text by Rudyard Kipling

Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us,
And black are the waters that sparkled so green.
The moon, o’er the combers, looks downward to find us,
At rest in the hollows that rustle between.

Where billow meets billow, then soft be thy pillow,
Oh weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease!
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark overtake thee,
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!

Text of the city and the sea
Text by ee cummings

i. i walked the boulevard
i saw a dirty child
pathetic dress fluttering
behind her a mothermonster with red grumbling face
cluttered in pursuit
pleasantly elephantine

while nearby the father
a thick cheerful man
with majestic bulbous lips and forlorn piggish hands
joked to a girlish bore

with busy rhythmic mouth and silly purple eyelids
of how she was with child

ii. the moon is hiding in her hair
the moon is hiding in her hair.
the lily of heaven full of all dreams, draws down.

cover her briefness in singing
close her with intricate faint birds by daisies and twilights deepen her,

recite upon her flesh the rain’s

pearls singly-whispering.
iii. maggie and milly and molly
and may
maggie and milly and molly and may went down to the beach (to play one day)
and maggie discovered a shell that sang so sweetly she couldn't remember her troubles, and
milly befriended a stranded star whose rays five languid fingers were; and molly was chased by a horrible thing which raced sideways while blowing bubbles: and may came home with a smooth round stone as small as a world and as large as alone.
For whatever we lose (like a you or a me)
it's always ourselves we find in the sea

iv. as is the sea marvelous
as is the sea marvelous
from god's hands which sent her forth to sleep upon the world and the earth withers the moon crumbles one by one stars flutter into dust

but the sea does not change

and she goes forth out of hands and she returns into hands and is with sleep....

love, the breaking of your soul upon my lips

v. little man in a hurry
little man (in a hurry full of an important worry)
halt stop forget relax wait

(little child who have tried who have failed who have cried) lie bravely down

sleep

big rain
big snow
big sun

but the sea does not change

(Please turn the page quietly.)
**Text of Cloudburst**  
*Text by Octavia Paz; Adapted by Eric Whitacre; Translated by Lysander Kemp*

The rain...  
Eyes of shadow-water  
eyes of well-water,  
eyes of dream-water.  

Blue suns, green whirlwinds,  
birdbeaks of light pecking open  
pomegranate stars.

But tell me, burnt earth, is there no  
water?  
Only blood, only dust,  
Only naked footsteps on the thorns?

The rain awakens...

**Text of Sleep**  
*Text by Charles Anthony Silvestri*

The evening hangs beneath the moon  
A silver thread on darkened dune  
With closing eyes and resting head  
I know that sleep is coming soon

Upon my pillow, safe in bed,  
A thousand pictures fill my head,  
I cannot sleep, my minds aflight,  
And yet my limbs seem made of lead
If there are noises in the night,  
A frightening shadow, flickering light...

Then I surrender unto sleep,  
Where clouds of dream give  
second sight  
What dreams may come, both  
dark and deep  
Of flying wings and soaring leap  
As I surrender unto sleep  
As I surrender unto sleep.

**Text of With a Lily in Your Hand**  
*Text by Federico Garcia Lorca | Translated by Jerome Rothenberg*

O! o my night love!  
With a lily in your hand  
I leave you, o my night love!  
Little widow, Little widow of my  
single star  
I find you, I find you,  
Tamer of dark butterflies!  
I keep along my way, my way.

After a thousand years have gone  
you’ll see me, o, my night love!  
By the blue footpath,  
tamer of dark stars.  
I’ll make my way.  
Until the universe, until the universe,  
until the universe can fit inside my  
heart.
Works by MORTEN LAURIDSEN:

Text of *Sure on This Shining Night*
*Text by James Agee*

Sure on this shining night
Of star made shadows round,
Kindness must watch for me
This side the ground.
The late year lies down the north.
All is healed, all is health.

High summer holds the earth.
Hearts all whole.
Sure on this shining night I weep for
wonder wand’ring far
alone
Of shadows on the stars.

Text and Translation of *Dirait-on*
*Text by Ranier Maria Rilke, from Les Roses*

*Abandon entouré d’abandon,*
tendresse touchant aux tendresses…
*C’est ton intérieur qui sans cesse*
*se caresse, dirait-on;*

*se caresse en soi-même,*
*par son propre reflet éclairé.*
*Ainsi tu inventes le thème*
*du Narcisse exaucé.*

Abandon surrounding abandon,
tenderness touching tenderness…
Your oneness endlessly
careses itself, so they say;

self-caressing
through its own clear reflection.
Thus you invent the theme
of Narcissus fulfilled.
MEET THE Artists

ERIC WHITACRE

Eric Whitacre is one of the most popular and performed composers of our time, a distinguished conductor, broadcaster, and public speaker. His first album as both composer and conductor on Decca/Universal, *Light and Gold*, won a Grammy Award in 2012, reaped unanimous five star reviews, and became the number one classical album on the U.S. and U.K. charts within a week of release. His second album, *Water Night*, is scheduled for release on Decca in later this month. It features seven world premiere recordings and includes performances from his professional choir, the Eric Whitacre Singers, the London Symphony Orchestra, Julian Lloyd Webber, and Hila Plitmann. His compositions are also featured on multiple other recordings made in Europe, North America, and Australasia.

Mr. Whitacre’s ground-breaking Virtual Choir, *Lux Aurumque*, received over a million views on YouTube in just 2 months (now three million), featuring 185 singers from 12 different countries. Virtual Choir 2.0, *Sleep*, was released in April 2011 and involved over 2,000 voices from 58 countries. Co-produced by DCINY, Virtual Choir 3, *Water Night*, received 3,746 submissions from 73 counties and will be premiered at Lincoln Center on April 2, 2012.

He has written for the London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Chanticleer, Julian Lloyd Webber and the Philharmonia Orchestra, Rundfunkchor Berlin, and The King’s Singers, among others. His musical, *Paradise Lost: Shadows and Wings*, won both the ASCAP Harold Arlen award and the Richard Rodgers Award, and earned ten nominations at the Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Awards. A versatile musician, he has also worked with legendary film composer Hans Zimmer, co-writing the Mermaid Theme for *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*. In 2011 Mr. Whitacre was one of the judges and conducted the winning entries of the Abbey Road 80th Anniversary Anthem Competition, recording the London Symphony Orchestra and his professional choir, the Eric Whitacre Singers, in Abbey Road Studio One.

His latest initiative, Soaring Leap, is a series of dynamic workshops for singers, instrumentalists, conductors, and composers to read, rehearse, and perform his works, digging deep into the poetry and exploring compositional tools. Guest speakers, other composers, and
musicians make regular appearances at Soaring Leap events.

An exceptional orator, he was honored to address the U.N. Leaders program and give a TEDTalk in March 2011 which earned the first full standing ovation of the conference. He has addressed audiences at Duke and Harvard, The Economist, Seoul Digital Forum, and JCDA Conference in Tokyo.

Many of Mr. Whitacre’s works have entered the standard choral and symphonic repertories and have become the subject of scholarly works and doctoral dissertations. He has received composition awards from the Barlow International Composition Competition, the ACDA and the American Composers Forum. In 2001 he became the youngest recipient ever awarded the coveted Raymond C. Brock commission by the ACDA, despite coming to classical music relatively late in life when he joined his college choir in Las Vegas. The first piece he ever performed—Mozart’s Requiem—changed his life. Inspired to compose, his first piece, “Go, Lovely Rose,” was completed at the age of 21. He went on to The Juilliard School, where he earned his master of music degree studying with Pulitzer Prize and Academy Award–winning composer John Corigliano.

Mr. Whitacre is currently composer-in-residence at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University, United Kingdom.

MORTEN LAURIDSEN

The music of Morten Lauridsen, composer-in-residence of the Los Angeles Master Chorale from 1994 to 2001 and professor of composition at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music for more than 30 years, occupies a permanent place in the standard vocal repertoire of the 20th century. His seven vocal cycles—Les Chansons des Roses (Rilke), Mid-Winter Songs (Graves), Cuatro Canciones (Lorca), A Winter Come (Moss), Madrigali: Six “FireSongs” on Renaissance Italian Poems, Nocturnes, and Lux Aeterna—and his series of sacred a cappella motets (O Magnum Mysterium, Ave Maria, O Nata Lux, Ubi Caritas et Amor, and Ave Dulcissima Maria) are featured regularly in concert by distinguished ensembles throughout the world. O Magnum Mysterium, Dirait-on (from Les Chansons des Roses), and O Nata Lux (from Lux Aeterna) have become the all-time best-selling choral octavos distributed by Theodore Presser, in business since 1783.

In speaking of Dr. Lauridsen’s sacred works in his book, Choral Music in the 20th Century, musicologist and conductor Nick Strimple describes Dr. Lauridsen as “the only American
composer in history who can be called a mystic, (whose) probing, serene work contains an elusive and indefinable ingredient which leaves the impression that all the questions have been answered... From 1993 [Dr.] Lauridsen’s music rapidly increased in international popularity, and by century’s end he had eclipsed Randall Thompson as the most frequently performed American choral composer.”

His works have been recorded on over a hundred CDs, three of which have received Grammy nominations, including *O Magnum Mysterium*, by the New York–based ensemble Tiffany Consort, led by Nicholas White, and two all-Lauridsen discs entitled *Lux Aeterna* by the Los Angeles Master Chorale conducted by Paul Salamunovich (RCM) and *Polyphony* with the Britten Sinfonia conducted by Stephen Layton (Hyperion). His principal publishers are Peermusic (New York/Hamburg) and Peer’s affiliate, Faber Music (London).

A recipient of numerous grants, prizes, and commissions, Dr. Lauridsen chaired the Composition Department at the USC Thornton School of Music from 1990 to 2002, founded the School’s Advanced Studies Program in film scoring, and is currently distinguished professor of composition. In 2006 Dr. Lauridsen was named an American Choral Master by the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2007 he was the recipient of the National Medal of Arts from the president in a White House ceremony, “for his composition of radiant choral works combining musical beauty, power, and spiritual depth that have thrilled audiences worldwide.” The National Medal of Arts is the highest award given to artists and arts patrons by the United States government.

**TALI TADMOR**

Tali Tadmor began her musical career at the age of six, when she enrolled in Tel Aviv’s Israeli Conservatory for Music. Currently Ms. Tadmor is on the faculty of the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) after having earned her doctorate in keyboard collaborative arts from the University of Southern California (USC). Additional professional engagements include work with Los Angeles Opera’s Education and Community Programs and numerous performances collaborating with a wide variety of musicians, including her debut recital at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall in June of 2009 alongside soprano Courtney Huffman.
DISTINGUISHED CONCERTS INTERNATIONAL NEW YORK

Founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor) Distinguished Concerts International is driven by passion, innovative vision, a total belief in its artists, and unwavering commitment to bringing forth unforgettable audience experiences. DCINY is a creative producing entity with unmatched integrity that is a talent incubator, a star-maker, and a presenter of broadly accessible, world-class musical entertainment. For more information about Distinguished Concerts International in New York and upcoming DCINY musical events around the world, please visit: www.dciny.org, or call 212-707-8566.

As part of its educational mission, Distinguished Concerts International New York initiated its Premiere Project with the purpose of commissioning new works from prominent composers for world premieres.

DISTINGUISHED CONCERTS SINGERS INTERNATIONAL

Performing in Act 1
Desoto Central High School Chorale (MS), Megan Morgan, Director
Legacy Christian Academy Concert Choir (TX), Sandra Clark, Director
Orrville High School Choir (OH), Laurel Manning Labbe, Director
West Monroe High School Choir (LA), Greg A. Oden, Director
Winter Springs High School Chorus (FL), Kara Knowles, Director
And individuals from around the globe

Performing in Act 2
Classical Ensemble and Bel Canto Choirs (CA), Marti Martinez, Director
Delta State University Chorale (MS), Nicholaus B. Cummins, Director
The Lowell Choir (CA), Jason Chan, Director
molto cantabile (Switzerland), Andreas Felber, Director
Olive Branch High School Choir (MS), Michael Wegener, Director
Ridgeland High School Choir (MS), Lisa Fournet Clark, Director
River Dell High School Select Choir (NJ), Lisa Smith, Director
Rose Choir (NJ), Kelsey Rose, Director
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212-707-8566
DCINY 2012 SEASON

Please join us for one of our other events:

Sunday, April 22, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.
Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center

Over the Stone
A Welsh Celebration
Karl Jenkins Over the Stone (Harp Concerto)
Jonathan Griffith, DCINY Artistic Director and Principal Conductor
Catrin Finch, Harp
Bryn Terfel, Special Guest
Haydn: St. Nicholas Mass
Martin: The Awakening
Richard W. Weymuth, Guest Conductor
Kara Shay Thomson, Soprano
Doris Brunatti, Mezzo-soprano
David Guzman, Tenor
Stefan Szkafarowsky, Bass
Special appearance by KHORIKOS
Jesse Mark Peckham, Director
Featuring Distinguished Concerts Orchestra International and Distinguished Concerts Singers International

Bryn Terfel appears by kind permission of the Metropolitan Opera.

Monday, April 23, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.
Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center

Symphony of Voices from Turkish Lands
A. Adnan Saygun: Yunus Emre
Acclaimed Turkish oratorio
Rengim Gökmen, Conductor
Ferda Yetişer, Mezzo-soprano
Şenol Talinli, Tenor
Tuncay Kurtoğlu, Bass
TURKSOY Symphony Orchestra
Jonathan Griffith Singers
DCINY 2012 SEASON

Monday, May 28, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. (Memorial Day)
Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center
Of Faith and Freedom
Joseph Martin, Composer and Conductor
The Music of Joseph Martin
The Music of Dan Forrest
James Melton, Guest Conductor
Featuring Distinguished Concert Singers International

Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at 8:00 p.m.
Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall
Distinguished Concerts Artist Series
West Coast Sounds: The Pianist Program
from the Orange County High School of the Arts
Patricia Dobiesz, Director

Friday, June 15, 2012, at 7:30 p.m.
Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Allen Room
Distinguished Concerts Artist Series: What About Us?
Darcy Reese, Director
Robert Robinson, Soloist