Monday Evening, May 26, 2014, at 7:00

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

presents

Celebration & Reflection, Part 2

DISTINGUISHED CONCERTS SINGERS INTERNATIONAL
BOB CHILCOTT, Conductor

BOB CHILCOTT  Requiem
  I. Introit and Kyrie
  II. Offertorio
  III. Pie Jesu
  IV. Sanctus
  V. Agnus Dei
  VI. Thou Knowest, Lord
  VII. Lux aeterna

DANIELLE TALAMANTES, Soprano
CHRISTIAN REINERT, Tenor

Intermission

DISTINGUISHED CONCERTS SINGERS INTERNATIONAL
RENÉ CLAUSEN, Conductor

RENÉ CLAUSEN  Sure On This Shining Night

RENÉ CLAUSEN  Festival Te Deum  (World Premiere)

CECIL EFFINGER  An American Hymn
Orch. René Clausen

Please hold your applause until after the final movement.

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#CelebrationandReflection | @DCINY

Please make certain your cellular phone, pager, or watch alarm is switched off.
My work as a composer, particularly in the writing of this piece, has been informed greatly by the experiences that I have had both as a singer and as a conductor. As a chorister at King’s College in Cambridge, I sang in the War Requiem, conducted by Benjamin Britten, and each year on All Soul’s Day we alternated the singing of the Requiem settings by Fauré and Duruflé. I was also fortunate enough to sing the Pie Jesu soprano solo on the 1968 King’s recording of the Fauré Requiem, conducted by Sir David Willcocks. More recently in my work as a conductor, I have had the opportunity to conduct or prepare several very personal and strongly motivated works by Rutter, Brahms, Verdi, and also the Fauré, which still speaks to me now as strongly as it did in my youth.

My setting of the Requiem was commissioned for the concert hall to be paired in a program with Beethoven’s Mass in C Major. This gave me the luxury of soloists and I have chosen to use a soprano and a tenor. I have also used the same orchestration as the Beethoven—double woodwind, trumpets, timpani, and strings. This helped me to imagine the sound of the work, which I wanted fundamentally to be gentle and reflective. I also wanted to write a piece that could work equally in a liturgical setting and that could be sung by singers of all abilities. I have used the traditional Latin Mass text but have omitted the more fiery Dies Irae and the Libera me, choosing instead to include the beautiful text from the Book of Common Prayer, “Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts.”

—Bob Chilcott

Sure On This Shining Night is one of four nocturnes commissioned by the Great Falls (MT) Symphonic Association. This famous poem written by James Agee, purportedly written while conducting a night bombing run, is replete with dusky and nocturnal imagery, ripe for coloristic choral interpretation. Originally with piano accompaniment, this orchestral scoring is given its premiere performance today.

As is implied by the title, Festival Te Deum is intended to be a work of celebration. Over the centuries, this early Christian hymn of praise has been set by many composers in a variety of compositional styles and textures, reflecting the compositional era in which they were composed. The text itself generally follows the outline of the Apostles’ Creed, beginning with the adoration and veneration of God the Almighty, but then moves through a series of remembrances of the life of Christ—including his birth, suffering and death and subsequent resurrection in glory, offering several changes of textual mood.

In my approach to setting this traditional text, my attempt was to compose a work that could be used by amateur choirs and orchestras in festival situations where the amount of rehearsal time as well as the availability of a full concert orchestra may be limited. In this way, the piece relates to the German term Gebrauchsmusik, or “music for use,” in which the compositional style is relatively straightforward, avoiding much technical difficulty. Thus the work is scored for regular compliment of strings plus woodwind quintet.
and brass quintet, rather than full concert orchestra. This scoring still allows for the use of most of the distinctive colors and sounds of the orchestra, yet substantially smaller than the full concert orchestra that is many times not available to many conductors.

The compositional style of the work can be rather easily classified as neo-Romantic, with straightforward rhythms, harmonic language that does not significantly move beyond traditional tension/resolution, and vocal and instrumental writing that is idiomatic, yet takes full advantage of instrumental and vocal capabilities. Intended to reflect the changing mood and character of the text, the underlying theme of joyful celebration permeates the work.

**An American Hymn**

*An American Hymn* is a stirring setting of *America, The Beautiful* by Colorado composer Cecil Effinger. It was written as a commission for the 1962 opening and dedication of the magnificent and unique Chapel at the United States Air Force Academy near Colorado Springs, Colorado.

—Dr. René Clausen

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**Texts and Translations**

**Requiem**

BOB CHILCOTT

I. Introit & Kyrie

*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

*Te decet hymnus Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.*

*Exaudi orationem meam.*

*Ad te omnis caro veniet.*

*Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison.*

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine on them.

Thou art praised in Sion, O God, and homage shall be paid to thee in Jerusalem.

Hear my prayer.

All flesh shall come before thee.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

II. Offertorio

*Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas omnium fidelium defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu.*

*Libera eas de ore leonis, ne absorbeat tartarus, ne cadant in obscurum.*

*Hostias et preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus.*

*Tu suscipe pro animabus illis, quarum hodie memoriad facimus.*

*Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam, quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.*

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, free the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hell and from the deep pit.

Free them from the jaws of the lion, lest hell engulf them, lest they fall into darkness.

In praise we offer to thee, Lord, sacrifices and prayers.

Receive them for the souls of those we remember this day.

Make them, Lord, pass from death to life, as thou didst promise Abraham and his seed.

Please turn the page quietly.
III. Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.

Gentle Lord Jesu, grant them rest.
Gentle Lord Jesu, grant them eternal rest.

IV. Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

V. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them rest, eternal rest.

VI. Thou knowest, Lord

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Savior, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee.

VII. Lux aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Requiem aeternam.

Eternal light shine on them, O Lord, with thy saints forever, for thou art good.
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and light perpetual shine on them.
Eternal rest.

Sure On This Shining Night

RENE CLAUSEN
Text: 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.
Lincoln Center

**Festival Te Deum** (World Premiere)

RENÉ CLAUSEN

You are God we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All of creation worships you.
To you all angels, and all the pow’rs of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing endless praise.
Holy, Holy Lord,
Lord God of pow’r and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of the prophets praise you.
The white robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you.
Father, of majesty unbounded
Your true and only Son, worthy of worship
And the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You are Christ, the King of Glory,
The eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free
You did not spurn the Virgin’s womb.
And overcame the sting of death.
And opened the kingdom of heav’n to all believers.
You are seated at God’s right hand in glory.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
Bought with the price of your own blood,
Bring us with your saints together to glory everlasting.
Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.
Govern them, and uphold them now and always.
Day by day we bless you.
We praise your name forever.
Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.
Have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Lord, show us your love and mercy;
For we can put our trust in you.
In you Lord is our hope:
And we shall never hope in vain.
We put our trust in you.
Let me never be confounded.
You are God we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All of creation worships you.
To you all angels, and all the pow’rs of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing to you in endless praise.
Holy, Holy Lord,
Lord God of pow’r and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Amen.

**An American Hymn**

CECIL EFFINGER

*Text: Katharine Lee Bates*

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
Meet the Artists

**BOB CHILCOTT**
*Composer and Conductor*

Bob Chilcott sang as a chorister and Choral Scholar at King’s College, Cambridge, and later sang and composed for the King’s Singers. Those experiences, his passionate commitment to young and amateur choirs, and his profound belief that music can unite people, have inspired him both to compose full-time and, through proactive workshopping, to promote choral music worldwide. His catalogue of works, published by Oxford University Press and recorded widely, reflects his wide taste in styles and his commitment to writing singable and communicative music.

Mr. Chilcott is principal guest conductor of The BBC Singers, and has conducted choirs in 30 countries over the last ten years. Described by *The Observer* as “a contemporary hero of British choral music,” he is one of the most widely performed composers of choral music in the world.

**RENÉ CLAUSEN**
*Composer and Conductor*

Dr. René Clausen is professor of music at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota and has served as conductor of the Concordia Choir since 1986. Additionally, he is the artistic director of the award-winning Concordia Christmas Concerts, which are frequently featured by PBS stations throughout the nation.

Dr. Clausen is a renowned composer and arranger, having written more than 100 commissioned compositions including *Memorial* and *Crying for a Dream* for the American Choral Directors Association. He is also a frequent guest conductor, composer-in-residence, clinician, and lecturer. Dr. Clausen has conducted such works as Mozart’s *Requiem*, Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony*, Brahms’ *Requiem*, Britten’s *War Requiem*, and several of his own works. His *Gloria* was performed at Carnegie Hall, where he also recently conducted Handel’s *Messiah*. On September 11, 2011, he conducted his *Memorial* at Lincoln Center to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Dr. Clausen graduated from St. Olaf College, in Northfield, Minnesota, and received master of music performance and doctor of musical arts degrees from the University of Illinois in Urbana. In 1996 Dr. Clausen was named the Paul J. and Eleanor Christiansen Chair in choral music at Concordia.

**CHRISTIAN REINERT**
*Tenor*

Described by the *New York Times* as having “an appealing smoothness and assurance” tenor Christian Reinert was most recently seen as the Steuermann in Wagner’s *Der fliegende Holländer* with Arizona Opera and was last heard with DCINY singing Jenkins’ *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*. Recent operatic engagements include the new work *My Friend’s Story* with New Yale Opera, and productions of *La bohème*, *Roméo et Juliette*, and *Madama Butterfly*. Concert works include Rachmaninoff’s *The Bells* with the Danbury Symphony, *La Vie Bohème* with the Portland Symphony and Verdi’s *8 Romanze per Tenore* with Alabama Symphony.
“It’s not often that a fortunate operagoer witnesses the birth of a star!,” noted a San Francisco reviewer of Soprano Danielle Talamantes’ recent role debut as Violetta in La traviata. Ms. Talamantes first earned a spot on the Metropolitan Opera roster in Spring 2011, covering the role of Najade in Ariadne auf Naxos, and was subsequently re-engaged to cover the role of the Flower Maiden in Wagner’s Parsifal; the soprano in the quartet of lovers in the Baroque pastiche, The Enchanted Island; and most recently to perform in Strauss’ Die Frau ohne Schatten.

This evening Danielle Talamantes debuts at Alice Tully Hall as the soprano soloist in Bob Chilcott’s Requiem. This season she will also perform Elijah with the Blacksburg Master Chorale, Mozart’s Mass in C minor with the City Choir of Washington, and the role of Mimi in Puccini’s La bohème with Capital City Symphony, as well as the soprano lead in a world premiere production of Janice Hamer’s Lost Childhood with the National Philharmonic in Washington, D.C. Her recent opera engagements include the roles of Papagena in Die Zauberflöte with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Gretel in Hänsel und Gretel with Opera on the James. Other previous roles include Pamina in Die Zauberflöte, Micâela in Carmen, Alexandra in Regina, Susanna in Le nozze di Figaro, and Rosina in Il barbiere di Siviglia.

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 performer and 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 DCINY.org.

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Coro de la Universitat Politècnica de València (Spain), José Francisco Sánchez-Iborra, Director
Coro Polifonico Castelbarco (Italy), Luigi Azzolini, Director
Sonoma State University Symphonic Chorus (CA), Jenny Bent, Director
Vocal Sollíys and Kamerkoor Concertato (The Netherlands), Steven van Kempen, Director
Vocal Spotlight (OH), Donnalynn Holiday Laver, Director
And individuals from around the globe

Performing Sure On This Shining Night, Festival Te Deum, and An American Hymn

Brookdale Concordia Chorale (NJ), John & Cynthia Balme, Directors
Chancel Choir, First Baptist Church (VA), James L. Jones, Director
Choral Society of West Georgia (GA), Elizabeth W. Biggs, Director
Khorikos (NY), Jesse Mark Peckham, Director
The Master Chorale Of Fargo-Moorhead (MN), Aaron Zinter, Director
And individuals from around the globe
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DCINY would like to thank our Performing Arts Partners, who, with their financial support, have made this performance possible.

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2014 DCINY Concert and Artist Series

Please join us for one of our other events:

Sunday Afternoon, June 8, 2014 at 2:00
Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage, Carnegie Hall
BLUEGRASS & GRAY: SOUNDS OF AMERICANA
Jefferson Johnson, DCINY Debut Conductor
Michael Adelson, DCINY Debut Conductor
Carol Barnett, Composer-in-Residence
John Purifoy, Composer-in-Residence
With Special Guest: Dailey & Vincent
Featuring Distinguished Concerts Orchestra and Singers International
Barnett: The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass
Purifoy: The Chronicles of Blue and Gray (New York Premiere)

Saturday Evening, June 14, 2014 at 7:00
Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center
DREAM A BETTER WORLD... IGNITE THE SPIRIT
Lincoln Gospel Choir with Special Guests Tonia Hughes, Darnell Davis, and the Remnant
Darcy Reese, Director

Sunday Afternoon, June 22, 2014 at 2:00
Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage, Carnegie Hall
UNDER THE WESTERN SKY
Cristian Grases, DCINY Debut Conductor
Music for Treble Voices, including the world premiere of a new Latin American-inspired setting of the Gloria composed by Grases
Featuring Distinguished Concerts Orchestra and Singers International
Michael Huff, Director
Utah Voices

Dates, repertoire, and artists subject to change.
For a full season listing, visit DCiNY.org