



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Bueschel

President

Sheryl Kelsey, Ph.D.

Vice President

Laurie Meyer

Secretary

William H. Lynn, C.P.A.

Treasurer

Allegra Derryberry

Robert Gardner

Joshua Habermann, D. M. A.

Nina Hinson

Roxanne Howe-Murphy, Ed.D.

Christopher Ihlefeld

Lynn Lee

Barry Lyerly

Janice L. Mayer

Laurie Meyer

Andrew Ritch

Rebecca Tobey

Sarah Weiler

Susie Wilson, D.M.A.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Joshua Habermann

Music Director

Janice L. Mayer

Executive Director

Laura Pancoast

Development and Marketing

Associate

Emmalee Hinson

Artist and Community Liaison

Thomas Goodrich

Concierge

Joyce Pohl

Accounting Manager

THE SANTA FE DESERT CHORALE

311 East Palace Avenue

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

(505) 988-2282

DESERTCHORALE.ORG

Santa Fe Desert Chorale Announces 2016 Summer Festival Season.

**Festival Season Includes 17 Performances/ 5 Distinct Programs/
6 Venues.**

Tickets Are On Sale At The Box Office Today: March 1, 2016.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Santa Fe, New Mexico, March 1, 2016: The Santa Fe Desert Chorale

announced the programming and scheduling for the 2016 Summer Festival Season today. In making the announcement, Music Director Joshua Habermann said, "with a festival ranging from new American music to Jewish folk traditions to Russian masterworks, the 2016 season is a wonderful opportunity to show the depth and breadth of Desert Chorale's ability to sing in any style."

The 34th season opens with *American Voices* on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. at Christ Church Santa Fe (1213 Don Gaspar Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87505). Featured is the world premiere of a work commissioned by the Santa Fe Desert Chorale from Composer-In-Residence Jake Runestad (b. 1986) with text drawn from the journals of Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862). The program includes a second world premiere: Frank Ferko's (b. 1950) composition *Song of the Sky Loom*, set to a native Tewa poem. This work was commissioned by Sally Roberts in celebration of the 75th birthday of Don Roberts in 2013.

Additional works by composers David Montoya, Shawn Crouch, John Kelly, Meredith Monk, Sydney Guillaume, Randall Thompson, and Charles Ives will be performed. Arrangements by Joseph Jennings, Aaron Humble, and Moses Hogan round out the program. Music Director Joshua Habermann conducts. Pianist Debra Ayers returns for her third appearance with the Chorale. Subsequent performances will take place on Sunday, July 24, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at The Cathedral of St. John (18 Silver Avenue SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102), and Friday, July 29, 2016 and Thursday, August 4, 2016 both at 8:00 p.m. at Christ Church Santa Fe. Ticket prices are \$75, \$65, \$45, \$35 and \$20 in Santa Fe; \$55 and \$40 in Albuquerque. Free pre-concert talks by Jake Runestad will occur on July 24 and July 29, 2016 (see attached schedule for time and location).

While in residence, Jake Runestad and Frank Ferko will appear in a panel discussion about choosing and setting text, moderated by KHFM radio personality and Santa Fe Desert Chorale vocalist Kathlene Ritch. The event will

take place on Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Collected Works Bookstore and Coffee Shop (202 Galisteo Street, Santa Fe, NM 87501). Admission is free. Additionally, Mr. Runestad will make appearances at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, El Castillo, The Montecito Santa Fe, and will collaborate on a project with Creativity for Peace.

The opening night concert on July 19, 2016 will be preceded by a cocktail reception with American standards played by pianist Bert Dalton and a dinner with concert introductory remarks by composers Jake Runestad and Frank Ferko. The pre-concert event begins at 5:00 p.m. and will take place at Quail Run (3101 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87505). The cost per person is \$100 and advance reservations are required.

The second program of the season, *Sephardic Legacy*, will be presented in conjunction with the New Mexico History Museum's exhibit *Fractured Faiths: Spanish Judaism, The Inquisition, and New World Identities*. Vanessa Paloma, Santa Fe native and Sephardic music expert, will be the guest vocalist. Fattah Abbou joins the program performing the oud and percussion instruments. Performances will take place at the New Mexico History Museum (113 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501) on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.; Sunday, July 31, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. The program will be led by Joshua Habermann. Tickets for the performances are \$65 and \$45 each. Steven Ovistky, Executive Director of the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival and frequent lecturer on Sephardic music, will give free public talks prior to each concert. The talks, as well as a brunch on July 31, 2016 at 1:30 p.m., are sponsored by The Honorable Stephen and Jane Hochberg. The brunch buffet features strictly Kosher catering under the supervision of Chabad Center for Jewish Life and is \$50 per person (advanced registration is required).

Program three has been created by Guest Conductor Dr. Richard Sparks. "*Sounds and Sweet Airs*" commemorates the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death. Musical selections programmed are based on Shakespearian texts and will include works by composers Sven-Eric Johanson (1919-1997); Frank Martin (1890-1974); Robert Applebaum (b. 1941); Ralph Vaughan Williams (1877-1909); and Sir George Shearing, OBE (1919-2011). Pianist Nathan Salazar, a native of Los Alamos, will make his Santa Fe Desert Chorale debut with this program. Actor Anna Farkas, Associate Artistic Director of Santa Fe's International Shakespeare Center, will perform spoken word selections between musical works. Performances are scheduled Thursday, July 28, 2016; Saturday, July 30, 2016; and Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. There will also be a Sunday matinee, August 7, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. All performances will be at Church of the Holy Faith (311 East Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501). Tickets are \$65 and \$40 per person. Free pre-concert lectures will be given an hour and a half before each performance by popular RENESAN instructor, Stephen Bellon.

Harry Bicket, Chief Conductor of The Santa Fe Opera and Artistic Director of The English Consort, will lead a program of Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's (1710-1736) *Stabat Mater*, Henry Purcell's (1659-1695) "Evening Hymn," and John Blow's (1649-1708) *Paratum cor meum*. Maestro Bicket appears courtesy of The Santa Fe Opera. Santa Fe Desert Chorale vocalists, soprano Meredith Ruduski and mezzo-soprano Helen Karloski are soloists in this program. David Felberg, Concertmaster of the Santa Fe Symphony will be joined in the performances by colleagues: Ruxandra Marquardt (violin II), Shanti Randall (viola), Sally Guenther (cello), and Jean-Luc Matton (bass). Performances will be held at the historic Loretto Chapel on Monday, August 1, 2016; Sunday, August 7, 2016; and Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$65, \$45 and \$20. Joshua Habermann, Santa Fe Desert Chorale Music Director, will lead pre-concert talks an hour and a half before each performance in the Tesuque Room at the Inn and Spa at Loretto (211 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501).

Sergei Rachmaninov's (1873-1943) *All-Night Vigil* is the final program of the 2016 Summer Festival Season. Joshua Habermann leads the enlarged 32-voice ensemble, in a reprise of the 'Vespers' which was last performed by the Desert Chorale in 2012. The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (131 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe, NM 87501) is the venue for the monumental work for a *cappella* chorus on Thursday August 11, 2016 and Saturday, August 13, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. The Albuquerque performance of the 'Vespers' on Sunday, August 14, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. is the final performance of the 2016 Summer Festival Season. Santa Fe ticket prices are: \$75, \$65, \$55, \$45, \$35, and \$20; Albuquerque prices are \$55 and \$40 per person. Assistant Music Director, Dr. Matthew Tresler, will give free pre-concert talks an hour and a half prior to each concert, in the performance venues.

Schedule at a glance:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Tuesday, July 19, 2016	5:00 p.m.	Opening Night Dinner	Club House, Quail Run
Tuesday, July 19, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>American Voices</i>	Christ Church Santa Fe
Sunday, July 24, 2016	2:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Kaseman Hall, Cathedral of St. John, ABQ
Sunday, July 24, 2016	4:00 p.m.	<i>American Voices</i>	Cathedral of St. John, ABQ
Tuesday, July 26, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Lobby, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Tuesday, July 26, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Sephardic Legacy</i>	Auditorium, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Thursday, July 28, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Thursday, July 28, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>"Sounds and Sweet Airs"</i>	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Friday, July 29, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Sagrado Theater, Christ Church Santa Fe
Friday, July 29, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>American Voices</i>	Christ Church Santa Fe
Saturday, July 30, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Saturday, July 30, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>"Sounds and Sweet Airs"</i>	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Sunday, July 31, 2016	1:00 p.m.	Pre-concert Brunch	Palace of the Governors Courtyard, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Sunday, July 31, 2016	3:30 p.m.	<i>Sephardic Legacy</i>	Auditorium, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Monday, August 1, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Tesuque Room, Inn and Spa at Loretto (SF)
Monday, August 1, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Pergolesi Stabat Mater</i>	Loretto Chapel (SF)
Tuesday, August 2, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Lobby, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Tuesday, August 2, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Sephardic Legacy</i>	Auditorium, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Wednesday, August 3, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Wednesday, August 3, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>"Sounds and Sweet Airs"</i>	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Thursday, August 4, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>American Voices</i>	Christ Church Santa Fe
Sunday, August 7, 2016	2:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Sunday, August 7, 2016	4:00 p.m.	<i>"Sounds and Sweet Airs"</i>	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Sunday, August 7, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Tesuque Room, Inn and Spa at Loretto
Sunday, August 7, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Pergolesi Stabat Mater</i>	Loretto Chapel (SF)
Wednesday, August 10, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Tesuque Room, Inn and Spa at Loretto (SF)
Wednesday, August 10, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Pergolesi Stabat Mater</i>	Loretto Chapel (SF)
Thursday, August 11, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Thursday, August 11, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Rachmaninov Vespers</i>	Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Saturday, August 13, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Saturday, August 13, 2016	8:00 p.m.	<i>Rachmaninov Vespers</i>	Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Sunday, August 14, 2016	2:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Kaseman Hall, Cathedral of St. John (ABQ)
Sunday, August 14, 2016	4:00 p.m.	<i>Rachmaninov Vespers</i>	Cathedral of St. John (ABQ)

Schedule by Program:American Voices

Tuesday, July 19, 2016	5:00 p.m.	Opening Night Dinner	Club House, Quail Run
Tuesday, July 19, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Christ Church Santa Fe
Sunday, July 24, 2016	2:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Kaseman Hall, Cathedral of St. John (ABQ)
Sunday, July 24, 2016	4:00 p.m.	Concert	Cathedral of St. John (ABQ)
Friday, July 29, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Sagrado Theater, Christ Church Santa Fe
Friday, July 29, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Christ Church Santa Fe
Thursday, August 4, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Christ Church Santa Fe

Sephardic Legacy

Tuesday, July 26, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Lobby, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Tuesday, July 26, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Sunday, July 31, 2016	1:00 p.m.	Pre-concert Brunch	Palace of the Governors Courtyard, New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Sunday, July 31, 2016	3:30 p.m.	Concert	New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Tuesday, August 2, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	New Mexico History Museum (SF)
Tuesday, August 2, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	New Mexico History Museum (SF)

"Sounds and Sweet Airs"

Thursday, July 28, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Thursday, July 28, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Saturday, July 30, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Saturday, July 30, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Wednesday, August 3, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Wednesday, August 3, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Sunday, August 7, 2016	2:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Palen Hall, Church of the Holy Faith (SF)
Sunday, August 7, 2016	4:00 p.m.	Concert	Church of the Holy Faith (SF)

Pergolesi Stabat Mater

Monday, August 1, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Tesuque Room, Inn and Spa at Loretto (SF)
Monday, August 1, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Loretto Chapel (SF)
Sunday, August 7, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Tesuque Room, Inn and Spa at Loretto (SF)
Sunday, August 7, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Loretto Chapel (SF)
Wednesday, August 10, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Tesuque Room, Inn and Spa at Loretto (SF)
Wednesday, August 10, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Loretto Chapel (SF)

Rachmaninov Vespers

Thursday, August 11, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Thursday, August 11, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)

Saturday, August 13, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Saturday, August 13, 2016	8:00 p.m.	Concert	Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis (SF)
Sunday, August 14, 2016	2:30 p.m.	Pre-concert talk	Kaseman Hall, Cathedral of St. John (ABQ)
Sunday, August 14, 2016	4:00 p.m.	Concert	Cathedral of St. John (ABQ)

Special ticket offers:

Students with valid identification are eligible for discounts at many performances in select seating sections. Groups of 10 or more for a single performance are eligible for a 10% discount.

About the Artists:

Santa Fe Desert Chorale: Entering its 34th season, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale is one of the longest continually performing professional music organizations in New Mexico, as well as one of the most distinguished. A recipient of the 2006 Mayor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts, in 2015 the *Santa Fe Reporter* named the ensemble one of the “Best of Santa Fe” in the Music Performance category. Scott Cantrell of *The Dallas Morning News* characterized the Chorale as presenting “stunning singing...incredible power,” during the 2015 Summer Festival.

Now in his eighth season as Music Director, Joshua Habermann leads the 24-voice professional Chorale in repertoire spanning seven centuries, from Medieval polyphony to contemporary works. The critically-acclaimed ensemble performs at historical sites in Santa Fe such as the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis and the Loretto Chapel, as well as other venues throughout the Southwest. A recent highlight was an invitational appearance at the 2015 American Choral Director’s Association National Conference in Utah which was later broadcast by Minnesota Public Radio.

The Santa Fe Desert Chorale presents both summer and winter festivals of concerts featuring a wide range of literature from around the world. The 2016 Summer Festival Season will take place from July 19 through August 14, 2016.

The composition of the Chorale is truly national in scope with artists drawn from coast-to-coast; many sharing the stage with peer groups from Boston’s Handel and Haydn Society to the Los Angeles Master Chorale, and including Chanticleer, Conspirare, and Seraphic Fire.

The Desert Chorale prides itself on its strong relationships within the community of Northern New Mexico, and enjoys collaborations with Creativity for Peace, the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, New Mexico History Museum, National Dance Institute – New Mexico, Performance Santa Fe, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Santa Fe Symphony and Chorus, Santa Fe Pro Musica, and The Santa Fe Opera. Community engagement is an integral part of the Desert Chorale’s mission. (www.desertchorale.org)

Joshua Habermann (Music Director): is in his eighth season with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale. Since joining the ensemble he has raised the ensemble’s artistic profile and broadened its programming to include choral-orchestral masterworks as well as cutting-edge *a cappella* programs.

Maestro Habermann has led honor choirs and choral festivals in North and Latin America, Europe and Asia. As a singer (tenor) he has performed with the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus (Eugene, Oregon), and Conspirare (Austin, Texas). Recording credits include three projects with Conspirare: *Through the Green Fuse*, *Requiem*, a GRAMMY® nominee for best choral recording in 2006, and *Threshold of Night*, a GRAMMY® nominee for best choral recording and best classical album in 2009.

In 2011, Joshua Habermann was named Chorus Director of the Dallas Symphony Chorus, the official vocal ensemble of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, where he prepares the 185-voice chorus for classical and pops series concerts. Highlights with the DSO include performances of Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion*, Verdi’s *Requiem*, Berlioz’

Te Deum, and Britten's *War Requiem*, which was performed for the national meeting of the American Choral Directors' Association in 2013.

From 1996-2008 Joshua Habermann was assistant conductor of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus and Professor of Music at San Francisco State University, where under his direction the SFSU Chamber Singers received international engagements in Havana, Cuba, and undertook concert tours in Germany and the Czech Republic, and China. In 2006 he led a collaboration between the SFSU Chamber Singers and the L'Orchestre des Jeunes de la Méditerranée based in Aix-en-Provence in music of Poulenc and the *Requiem* of Maurice Duruflé in concerts throughout France. National invitations include the Waging Peace Festival in Eugene, Oregon, multiple appearances at the California Music Educators Convention, and an appearance at the American Choral Directors' Association regional convention in 2008.

From 2008-2011 Habermann was director of choral studies at the University of Miami Frost School of Music, where he led the graduate program in conducting, and directed the Frost Chorale. Notable projects in Miami included an appearance at the Florida Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association convention, and collaborations with the New World Symphony and conductor Michael Tilson Thomas in music of Ives, Schubert and Beethoven. During this same period Maestro Habermann led the Masterchorale of South Florida in performances of masterworks such as Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Haydn's *Creation*, and Mozart's *Requiem*.

Guest Artists:

Fattah Abbou (Oud and Percussion, *Sephardic Legacy*): Fattah Abbou was born and raised in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco, where he began playing traditional Tamazight "Berber" music at the age of seven. He is proficient on several string instruments, including banjo, lotar, oud, sintir, ribab, and an array of percussion instruments.

Recognized as a master of North African music, Fattah has studied and performed Tamazight (Berber) music, as well as other North African musical styles, for over thirty years. He recorded several CDs in Morocco with his former band Imdiazen, and has collaborated on recordings with many national and international artists. He is also a producer of several cultural events, and the recipient of multiple grant awards for traditional arts and the preservation of indigenous culture.

Fluent in English, French, Arabic, and his native tongue, Fattah is also a sought-after music and cultural educator who has presented at schools and universities throughout the United States, in addition to performing nationally and internationally with the world music sextet AZA.

Stephen Bellon (Lecturer, *"Sounds and Sweet Airs"*): Stephen Bellon received an Master's of Arts degree from the University of Southern California. He recently retired after a 40-year career in private high school education in the Los Angeles area where he taught history, theater, and literature with a focus on Shakespeare. In 2015, he gave the RENESAN lecture "Shakespeare: A Clearing in the Woods." His most recent RENESAN classes were "Winifred Wagner: Bayreuth's Mistress and Hitler's Muse" and "Shakespeare: *Richard II.*" He is currently teaching an over-enrolled RENESAN course on "Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure.*"

Harry Bicket (Guest Conductor, *Pergolesi, Stabat Mater*): Internationally renowned as an opera and concert conductor of distinction, Harry Bicket is especially noted for his interpretation of baroque and classical repertoire. He was named the Artistic Director of The English Concert in 2007, one of the UK's finest period orchestras. He became Chief Conductor of Santa Fe Opera in 2013 and opened the 2014 season with a critically-acclaimed *Fidelio*.

Maestro Bicket is in demand by the world's finest opera companies, including the Bayerische Staatsoper, Canadian Opera Company, Gran Teatre del Liceu, Houston Grand Opera, Los Angeles Opera, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Australia, The Metropolitan Opera, Royal Danish Opera, and the the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden where he conducted Handel's *Orlando*, in a production nominated for an Olivier Award for "Best New Opera

Production.” Festival opera appearances include the Aldeburgh Festival, Edinburgh Festival, and Glyndebourne Festivals in the U.K. and the Glimmerglass and Spoleto Festivals in the U.S.

His extensive performance and touring schedule with The English Concert includes appearances at venues including the Barbican Centre, London; Carnegie Hall, New York; and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris. Harry Bicket has conducted the Bayerische Rundfunk, Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. The Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and the symphonies of Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, and Seattle, among others.

Harry Bicket’s discography includes five recordings with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, including a collection of Handel opera arias with Renée Fleming (Decca) and Ian Bostridge (EMI), as well as selections from Handel’s *Theodora*, *Seise*, and the cantata *La Lucrezia* with Lorraine Hunt Lieberson (Avie), which was nominated for a GRAMMY® Award. His Gramophone Award-nominated CDs include *Sento Amor* with David Daniels featuring arias by Gluck, Handel and Mozart (*Virgin Veritas*) and *Il tenero momento* with Susan Graham featuring arias by Mozart and Gluck (Erato). His Virgin Classics recording in 2008 (his first with The English Concert), featured Bach arias and cantatas with David Daniels, Handel Duets with Sarah Connolly and Rosie Joshua (Chandos), and most recently with Lucy Crowe on Harmonia Mundi.

Born in Liverpool, he studied at the Royal College of Music and Oxford University and is an accomplished harpsichordist.

Bert Dalton (Pianist, Opening Night Event): One of five recipients of the 2013 Santa Fe Mayor's Award for Excellence In The Arts. Jazz pianist, arranger, educator, and producer Bert Dalton, originally from Chicago, has been living and performing in Santa Fe for 20 years. He has led a number of groups such as the Chicago Jazz Exchange, Yoboso, the Bert Dalton Trio, the Dalton Brothers Trio, and most recently the Brazil Project.

The pianist received his music education at Northern Illinois University, studying with Dr. J. B. Floyd and performing with Ron Modell’s award-winning NIU Jazz Ensemble. He has performed in concerts, clubs, and jazz festivals throughout the continental US, Alaska, Hawaii, New Zealand, and Australia. He has performed with Herbie Mann, Anita O’Day, Bud Shank, Butch Miles, Howard Alden, Frank Morgan, Bobby Shew, Eddie Daniels, Regina Carter, Ali Ryerson, Dr. Art Davis, Gene Lees, Daniel Binelli, Von Freeman, Pete Barbutti, Mike Vax, Don Burrows, Victor Mendoza, Chris Calloway, Greg Abate, Doug Lawrence, and the Smothers Brothers,. He has recorded with John Clayton and Jeff Hamilton. In addition, he has opened for Tito Puente, Pete Escovedo, Grover Washington Jr., Pancho Sanchez, and the Count Basie Orchestra.

David Felberg (Violin, Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*): Violinist David Felberg, an Albuquerque native, is the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of Chatter, a groundbreaking and award-winning chamber ensemble whose mission it is to highlight new music from contemporary composers. Maestro Felberg conducts many of the 60 concerts a year that the group presents in Albuquerque’s Kosmos performance space, often premiering 20th- and 21st-century pieces of music that have never before been heard in New Mexico. He is Concertmaster of The Santa Fe Symphony, Music Director of the Albuquerque Philharmonic, and Instructor of Music at New Mexico School for the Arts. He also teaches contemporary music at the University of New Mexico and is the Associate Concertmaster of the New Mexico Philharmonic.

His robust conducting career includes conducting the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, New Mexico Philharmonic, and The Santa Fe Symphony, as well as his work with Chatter. David Felberg, who made his New York violin recital debut in Merkin Hall in the spring of 2005, performs throughout the southwest as a concerto soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. He received a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Arizona and a Master of Music in Conducting from the University of New Mexico, and has taken advanced string quartet studies at the University of Colorado with the Takacs Quartet. He studied conducting at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen, and has worked with Harold Farbermann at the Bard Conducting Institute.

For more than twelve years, he has been Music Director of the Albuquerque Philharmonic Orchestra, for which he established a successful new summer chamber series. He serves as guest conductor for many orchestras and ensembles; he conducted The Santa Fe Symphony's "Voyages of Discovery IV: The Majesty of Music and Mathematics" collaboration with the Santa Fe Institute in 2013, and continues to regularly conduct performances with the New Mexico Philharmonic (including its annual performances of The Nutcracker). He also directed the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra in numerous concerts, and conducted both the Beaux Arts Festival Symphony and Emerald City Opera in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

David Felberg plays an 1829 J.B. Vuillaume violin.

Frank Ferko (Composer *Song of the Sky Loom, American Voices*): Hailed as "...one of America's handful of truly great choral composers" by *American Record Guide*, the music of Frank Ferko (b. 1950) is regularly heard in live performances and radio broadcasts around the world. His music has been presented in such prominent venues as the Festival Oude Muziek (Netherlands), Jusq'aux oreilles (Montreal) and national conventions of the ACDA, Chorus America, and the American Guild of Organists. His choral works have been performed by such distinguished ensembles as the Nederlands Kamerkoor, VU-Kamerkoor (Netherlands), Commotio, Trinity College Choir (U.K.), Jubilate Singers (New Zealand), Akateeminen Laulu (Finland), Cantori New York, Dale Warland Singers, Bella Voce, Harvard Glee Club, Choral Arts (Seattle), The Esoterics, Seattle Pro Musica, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, South Bend Chamber Singers, Peninsula Women's Chorus, and Schola Cantorum (Palo Alto), as well as college, community, church, and cathedral choirs across the U.S. His vocal solo music has been performed by renowned opera singers Jeanne-Michèle Charbonnet, Nancy Gustafson, Sylvia McNair, Juliana Rambaldi, Nathan Gunn, Keith Phares, and Robert Orth and his orchestral music has been presented by college and community orchestras in the Midwest. Mr. Ferko's works are published exclusively by E. C. Schirmer Music Company, and they have been recorded on more than 30 compact discs from such labels as Arsis, Cedille, Gasparo, Herald, Hyperion, Loft, Pro Organo and Raven.

From 2001 to 2003 Mr. Ferko held the position of Composer-in-Residence with the Dale Warland Singers, long regarded as one of America's finest *a cappella* choirs. He has been the recipient of awards and/or grants from the American Composers Forum, American Music Center, ASCAP (every year since 1989), American Guild of Organists, Jerome Foundation, Alice M. Ditson Fund, Meet the Composer, Arts International, and the Illinois Arts Council. (www.frankferko.com)

Anna Farkas (Actor, "*Sounds and Sweet Airs*): Anna Farkas is the founder and artistic director of Upstart Crows of Santa Fe, a youth Shakespeare troupe. She has been performing Shakespeare for over ten years including productions with the Madison Shakespeare Company and the International Shakespeare Center. She has performed and directed for The Young Shakespeare Players, The Lupercalians, Fourth Wall Players, Chrysostomos at St. John's College, and Upstart Crow Productions in Madison, Wisconsin. She has studied Shakespeare at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and was a member of the 2016 class of St. John's College. She lives in Santa Fe.

Helen Karloski (Mezzo-soprano soloist, Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*) Winner of the Ellen Lopin Blair Award for First Place in the 2015 Lyndon Woodside Oratorio Solo Competition, Helen Karloski is in demand as a soloist with orchestras and ensembles nationwide. A versatile artist, she is at home in a variety of musical styles including oratorio, opera, and chamber music. Miss Karloski's 2015-2016 season includes performances of Dvořák's *Stabat Mater* with the Omaha Symphony, Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*, and the premier of *Deborah*, a newly commissioned work by American composer Evan Fein with Musica Sacra, Copland's *In the Beginning* with Sacred Music in a Sacred Space, Bach's *St. John Passion* with the St. Andrew Chorale and Orchestra, and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Choral Society at Grace Church in New York City.

The New York Times wrote of her performance in Georg Philipp Telemann's rarely-performed oratorio *Der Tag des Gerichts*, "Helen Karloski commanded attention as Reason." Miss Karloski made her Lincoln Center debut in Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* with the Mostly Mozart Festival under the baton of Iván Fischer. Her other solo engagements include Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Haydn's *Theresienmesse* with

Voices of Ascension, Bach's *Magnificat* with the Victoria Bach Festival, Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* and Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody* with St. Andrew's Music Society, and Duruflé's *Requiem* with Ars Musica and the Delaware Valley Chorale. Favorite performances include *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Hen), *Le Grande Macabre*, and *My Fair Lady* starring Kelsey Grammar and Kelli O'Hara with the New York Philharmonic, *Les Huguenots* and *Oresteia* at Bard SummerScape, and the New York City premier of Elliot Goldenthal's *Grendel*, directed by Academy Award-nominated Julie Taymor. An accomplished ensemble singer, Miss Karloski performs regularly with Conspirare, where she was featured on the GRAMMY® Award-winning recording *The Sacred Spirit of Russia*, Voices of Ascension, Musica Sacra, and the Handel and Haydn Society. The mezzo-soprano is returning to the Santa Fe Desert Chorale for her third season in summer 2016.

Steven Ovitsky (Lecturer, *Sephardic Legacy*) Steven Ovitsky is Executive Director of the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. His previous positions were President and Executive Director of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Vice President and General Manager of the Minnesota Orchestra, and Artistic Director/General Manager of the Grant Park Music Festival in Chicago.

For 10 years he was a regular faculty member for the Chicago Jewish Community Center's Elderhostels teaching courses on Jewish music as well as symphonic music and opera. He continues to speak on a wide range of Jewish music topics and was the 2016 keynote speaker for the Albuquerque Jewish Community Center Day of Jewish Learning.

Ovitsky is music director of the Hollywood Theatre of the Ear's "Audie" Award-winning recordings of *The Dybbuk* starring Theodore Bikel, Edward Asner and Carl Reiner; *Sweeney Todd and the String of Pearls*; and *St. Joan*.

Since moving to Santa Fe, Steve has played horn with the New Mexico Symphony, New Mexico Philharmonic, Santa Fe Symphony, and Opera Southwest. As a performer of Baroque music on original instruments, he played recorder with the Lyric Opera, Basically Bach and The City Musick in Chicago, and natural horn with the Lyra Concert in Minneapolis and Ensemble Musical Offering in Milwaukee. His arrangement of Giovanni Gabrieli's massive *Sonata No. 20* was performed by the Minnesota Orchestra on subscription and tour concerts at Carnegie Hall and Boston's Symphony Hall.

Ovitsky is shofar soloist in a recording of Tekiatot by Hugo Weisgall with Gerard Schwarz and the Seattle Symphony Orchestra on a Naxos CD as part of the Milken Foundation Archive of Jewish-American Music.

Vanessa Paloma (Guest Vocalist, *Sephardic Legacy*) Vanessa Paloma is a performer who has performed and lectured on five continents. Her groundbreaking work has been featured on PBS, NPR, PRI, in *The New York Times*, France24, and *Al Jazeera International* among others. *The New York Times* describes Paloma as "a kind of one-woman roving museum of her own."

Vanessa Paloma has repeatedly performed at the World Festival for Sacred Music Los Angeles (2002, 2005, and 2008) and Sephardic Music Festival in Manhattan (2010 and 2012). Other recent performances focused on Sephardic repertoire include the National Museum of Colombia (2014), as a soloist for the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony (2012), Spertus Institute in Chicago (2012), Tangier Trance Festival in Zürich (2010), and at Mekor Haim Synagogue in Porto (2007). She recently performed traditional Andalusian repertoire at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris (2014) as well as being featured in an avant garde opera on the Song of Song's at the Alchemy in Hollywood (2016).

She is raising awareness of Moroccan Judeo-Spanish repertoire throughout Morocco at venues such as the Festival Voix des Femmes in Tetouan (2008), Tarab Tanger (2010), Mawazine in Rabat (2011), Slat el Fassiyine for the Mimouna Caravane in Fes (2014), Villa des Arts, Casablanca (2014) throughout the Institut Français in Morocco (2014-2015) and in repeat appearances at Tangier American Legation Institute for Moroccan Studies. She has appeared on Moroccan television, radio and in the press on numerous occasions.

She has lectured throughout the US including Indiana University, Bloomington; the University of California, Los Angeles; the University of California, Santa Barbara; the University of California, Long Beach; Lewis and Clark; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; the University of Kentucky, Lexington; the University of Portland; the San Francisco Conservatory; the University of Wyoming; and Yeshiva University.

She is currently a Research Associate of the Hadassah Brandeis Institute of Brandeis University, a Ph.D. Candidate at the Sorbonne's CERMOM research group of the INALCO (Institut National des langues et civilisations orientales), a 2014-2016 Posen Fellow, and a 2015-2018 Research Fellow of the Tangier American Legation Institute for Moroccan Studies. She was a Senior Fulbright Research Scholar to Morocco from 2007-2008.

Vanessa Paloma has published two works of fiction: *Mystic Siren: Women's Voice in the Balance of Creation* (2007) and *The Mountain, the Desert and the Pomegranate: Stories from Morocco and Beyond* (2011) and three CDs: *Flor de Serena* (2004), *Songs of Praise* (2009) and *Cantares de las Antiguas* (2016).

She is the founder and director of KHOYA: Jewish Morocco Sound Archive, which aims to create a sound archive which includes historical recordings, commercial and field recordings and oral histories on Jewish life in Morocco for access to the general public. She currently is based in Casablanca.

Kathlene Ritch (Soprano and Moderator, Collected Works Panel)

Kathlene Ritch appeared as soloist in Liszt's *Dante's Inferno* with American Symphony Orchestra at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. She also performed and recorded Hermione, opposite Deborah Voigt's Helen, in *Die ägyptische Helena* with the same orchestra. At the 2015 Oregon Bach Festival, she appeared as soloist in Arvo Pärt's *Passio*. As a choral artist, she has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, London Sinfonietta, and the Vienna Philharmonic, as well as the GRAMMY® Award-winning ensemble, Conspirare. She is returning for her eighth season with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale in summer 2016.

Kathlene' Ritch's true passion is musical theater. Two career highlights were performing *Sweeney Todd* at Lincoln Center with George Hearn, Patti Lupone and Neil Patrick Harris, as well as the concert-version of *Carousel* at Carnegie Hall with Audra McDonald and Hugh Jackman.

A resident of Santa Fe, she accompanies the Santa Fe High School Choral Department and directs the Royal School of Church Music and Bell Choir at Holy Faith Episcopal. Miss Ritch is also an on-air announcer for Classical 95.5 KHFM Santa Fe/Albuquerque. She holds a Bachelor's of Music Studies degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Jake Runestad (Composer, Commission Work) Jake Runestad (b. 1986) has commissions from Washington National Opera, Netherlands Radio Choir, Louisiana and Dayton Philharmonics, Seraphic Fire, Virginia Arts Festival, Spire Chamber Ensemble, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and GRAMMY® Award-winning Conspirare. He holds a Master's degree in composition from the Peabody Conservatory of The Johns Hopkins University where he studied with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts. He is published by Boosey & Hawkes and JR Music. For more information please visit Mr. Runestad's website: www.jakerunestad.com

Meredith Ruduski (Soprano Soloist, Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*) Praised for her "delicate, mellifluous voice" (*Arts and Culture Texas*) and "radiant soprano," (*South Florida Classical Review*), Meredith Ruduski is a soprano of unusual versatility and artistry. From Hildegard to Sondheim, the soprano excels both as an onstage performer and recording artist.

Miss Ruduski is returning for her sixth season with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale. She also appears regularly with groups such as, GRAMMY® nominated Seraphic Fire, Ars Lyrica, and the Texas Early Music Project. This season she

performed to sold-out audiences in her debut as soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the Austin Symphony Orchestra and was the soprano soloist in Brahms' *Requiem* with Chorus Austin.

Meredith Ruduski is the Operations Coordinator at Texas Early Music Project, where she in Handel's *Messiah* co-produced, co-wrote, and stage-directed their latest opera pastiches. Praised for its "pure slapstick joy" and "musicality," the critically-acclaimed *The Camping Trip* and *That's Amore: An Early Valentine* feature as some of her most recent work. She also writes, produces, and hosts TEMP's "Music History Shorts", an educational YouTube series for music history fans everywhere.

Meredith Ruduski received her Master's in Music at the University of Houston and her Bachelor's Degree in Music at the University of Texas at Austin. More about the artist and her concert/recording schedule may be found on her website: www.meredithruduski.com.

Nathan Salazar (Pianist, "Sounds and Sweet Airs") Nathan Salazar has been featured in performances at Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor (MI), The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C., and Carnegie Hall in New York City. He made his orchestral debut in 2004 with the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra. His musical travels have taken him to England, Scotland, Italy, and Russia, as well as all over the United States. He performed in the International Festival of Spanish and Latin American Music where he worked with Teresa Berganza. In January 2014, he was invited to be a part of Marilyn Horne's 80th birthday celebration through the series "The Song Continues" at Carnegie Hall, where he worked with Ms. Horne, Martin Katz, and the legendary Christa Ludwig. He received a fellowship to Songfest in Los Angeles in 2013, where he studied with pianists Margo Garrett, Graham Johnson, and Martin Katz, and worked with composers Jake Heggie, John Musto, and Libby Larsen. He recently took part in Songfest's first commercial recording, which will be available in 2016. A native of Los Alamos, Nathan Salazar attended the University of Kansas, and holds a Master's degree in Collaborative Piano from the University of Michigan where he studied with Martin Katz.

Richard Sparks (Guest Conductor, "Sounds and Sweet Airs") Richard Sparks is a conductor familiar with both the professional and academic worlds. He founded Seattle Pro Musica and with them conducted three ensembles (a chamber choir, chamber orchestra, and the Bach Ensemble, which had a monthly Bach cantata series) from 1973-1980 leading them in over 70 concerts; conducted the Seattle Symphony Chorale from 1990-94 (preparing the choir for nine recordings on the Delos label); founded and conducted Choral Arts in Seattle from 1993-2006 (with whom he made three recordings on the Gothic label); and was Artistic Director of Pro Coro Canada (Edmonton, AB) from 1999 to 2011. A professional chamber choir, Pro Coro toured regularly across Canada and broadcast on CBC Radio.

As a guest conductor, he appeared in North America at the Anchorage Music Festival, Pacific Northwest Bach Festival, and with the Exultate Chamber Singers in Toronto, the Northwest Chamber Orchestra, the Portland Symphonic Choir, and the Portland Baroque Orchestra. He was also the first non-Canadian conductor to direct the Canadian National Youth Choir. In 2008 he was Music Director/Conductor for a production of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* with period instruments in Edmonton.

An expert on Swedish choral music, Dr. Sparks' dissertation, "Swedish *A Cappella* Music Since 1945," won the ACDA's Julius Herford Award at the University of Cincinnati in 1997 and was later published as *The Swedish Choral Miracle*. The first American in more than 30 years invited to conduct the Swedish Radio Choir, Richard Sparks collaborated with the ensemble for the first time in 2002, and was re-engaged in 2007 and 2008. He had the distinction of preparing the Choir for a performance of the Brahms *Requiem* with Valery Gergiev, which was released on the BIS label as a DVD. In November 2015 he was a pre-concert lecturer for their 90th anniversary celebration concerts in Stockholm.

Dr. Sparks was a faculty member at Mount Holyoke College from 1980-1983. At Pacific Lutheran University, where he was Director of Choral Activities from 1983-2001, he led the Choir of the West on regular tours and made eight recordings with the ensemble. He is currently the Chair of Conducting & Ensembles for the College of Music at the University of North Texas. Since 2009, he has led the Collegium Singers to the Boston Early Music Festival three

times, to the Berkeley Early Music Festival, and to the 2015 National Collegiate Choral Organization Conference in Portland. A highlight of his tenure was a performance of Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610* in a new edition edited by UNT faculty member Hendrik Schulze and published by Bärenreiter. The Collegium Singers/Baroque Orchestra performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria*, led by Richard Sparks, has over 1.3 million hits on YouTube.

Matthew Tresler (Tenor, Assistant Music Director, and Lecturer, *All-Night Vigil*) Praised for his “feathery light acrobatics” (*The OC Register*) and voice of “unearthly beauty,” (*Miami Herald*), Matthew Tresler is currently the Academic Chair of Music and Director of Vocal Music at Irvine Valley College, in Irvine, CA. An active ensemble singer, he performs with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Conspirare, Seraphic Fire, Bach Collegium of San Diego, True Concord, and Vox Humana. In the past, the tenor has also appeared with the Phoenix Chorale and Spire. Matthew Tresler has also worked as a studio singer for film soundtracks in Los Angeles. As a soloist, he has appeared with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, New World Symphony, Flagstaff Symphony, Les Surprise Baroque, Baroque Festival Corona del Mar, and Early Music Hawaii, among others. A popular performer and lecturer, he will return for his seventeenth season with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale in summer 2016. Dr. Tresler holds degrees in voice and conducting from Northern Arizona University, and the University of Miami.

Press Contact:

Janice L. Mayer, Executive Director

Janice@desertchorale.org and (505)988-5835

For images and photo credits, please contact:

Laura Pancoast, Development and Marketing Associate

Laura@desertchorale.org and (505)988-2282 ext. 3