

PRESS RELEASE

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L O S A N G E L E S

MASTER CHORALE

GRANT GERSHON, KIKI & DAVID GINDLER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Los Angeles Master Chorale to Open Salzburg Festival in July 2019 with Performance of Orlando di Lasso's *Lagrima di San Pietro* Directed by Peter Sellars

Salzburg Engagement Precedes Master Chorale's 2019-20 season in Walt Disney Concert Hall Featuring Three World Premieres and Vast Range of Contemporary Composers



Nico Muhly, Nilo Alcala, Gabriel Kahane, and Caroline Shaw who have works featured in the 2019-20 season.

2019-20 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:

World premiere of a new score for F.W. Murnau's 1927 Academy Award-winning film *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans* by Emmy Award-winning composer Jeff Beal, with the film screened in Walt Disney Concert Hall



135 NORTH GRAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-3013
213-972-3122 | LAMASTERCHORALE.ORG

Celebration of American choral legend Alice Parker featuring world premieres of Master Chorale-commissioned works by Gabriel Kahane and Derrick Spiva Jr. alongside works by Nilo Alcala, Shawn Kirchner, Caroline Shaw, Diana Syrse, and Parker classics

25th anniversary performance of Morten Lauridsen's *O Magnum Mysterium* on concert program featuring West Coast premiere of *The Faire Starre* by Nico Muhly and works by Matthew Brown and Dale Trumbore

Master Chorale's first-ever performances of Bruckner's "Great Mass" & Los Angeles premiere of Osvaldo Golijov's *Oceana*

The Fauré Requiem paired with Frank Martin's Mass for Double Choir and Roxanna Panufnik's *Zen Love Song* conducted by Associate Conductor Jenny Wong

Swan Family Artist-in-Residence Eric Whitacre to conduct Festival of Carols concerts

Season to conclude with epic vocal showcase, Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*

President & CEO Jean Davidson's contract extended through 2023-24

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(Los Angeles, CA) February 14, 2019 – The Los Angeles Master Chorale and Grant Gershon, Kiki & David Gindler Artistic Director, will begin their 2019-20 season with a high profile engagement at the prestigious Salzburg Festival in Austria on July 20 and 21 opening the Festival with performances of its critically-acclaimed production of Orlando di Lasso's *Lagrime di San Pietro* directed by Peter Sellars. The honor of opening the Festival is a huge international profile boost for the Master Chorale, the country's preeminent professional choir that is choir-in-residence at Walt Disney Concert Hall and a founding resident company of The Music Center for the Performing Arts.

"To say we will be starting our 2019-20 season with a bang is an understatement!" says Gershon. "To be asked to open the world famous Salzburg Festival with our beloved production of *Lagrime* is an exceptional honor. We hoped that this touring production would introduce the Los Angeles Master



Chorale to the world, and this engagement is such a tremendous testament to our singers, our inspiring director Peter Sellars, and the commitment of this organization to create new and exciting ways to present and perform choral music.”



Grant Gershon, Kiki & David Gindler Artistic Director. Photo: Tao Ruspoli/Marie Noorbergen.

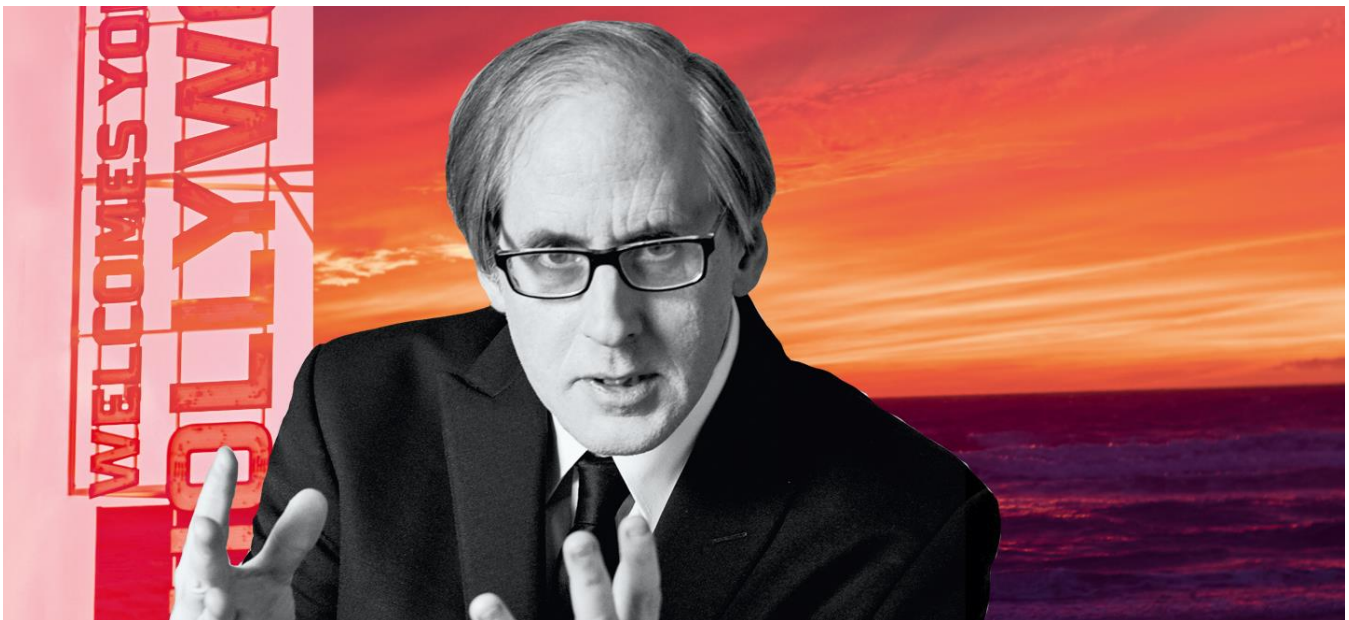
The Salzburg performances, which will be held in the Kollegienkirche, precede the Master Chorale’s 56th concert season announced today by Gershon and Jean Davidson, President & CEO. The 2019-20 season will begin in October 2019 and conclude in June 2020 and features a diverse range of contemporary composers and three world premieres. The season will be Gershon’s 19th at the artistic helm of the Master Chorale and the fifth season under Jean Davidson, President & CEO, whose contract has been renewed by the Board of Directors through the 2023-24 season.

Gershon says the 2019-20 season aims to showcase the ensemble’s versatility, blending a cappella works with challenging masterworks performed with the Los Angeles Master Chorale Orchestra. He says the season taps into the joy found in the shared experience of singing and listening to choral music.



“Although we don’t set out with a specific theme for a season, there emerged a strong and deep sense of humanity within these programs. From Bruckner’s ‘Great Mass,’ Fauré’s masterful Requiem, and Rachmaninoff’s epic *All-Night Vigil*, to the works programmed and commissioned from contemporary composers, there is a strong sense of choral music bringing people together and providing solace and understanding. I truly believe that our extraordinary singers are the best in the world for illuminating and expressing the richness of this repertoire, and it remains my dream job to work with these remarkable voices and composers to create unforgettable experiences for our audiences.”

Immersive Concert Experiences



Jeff Beal

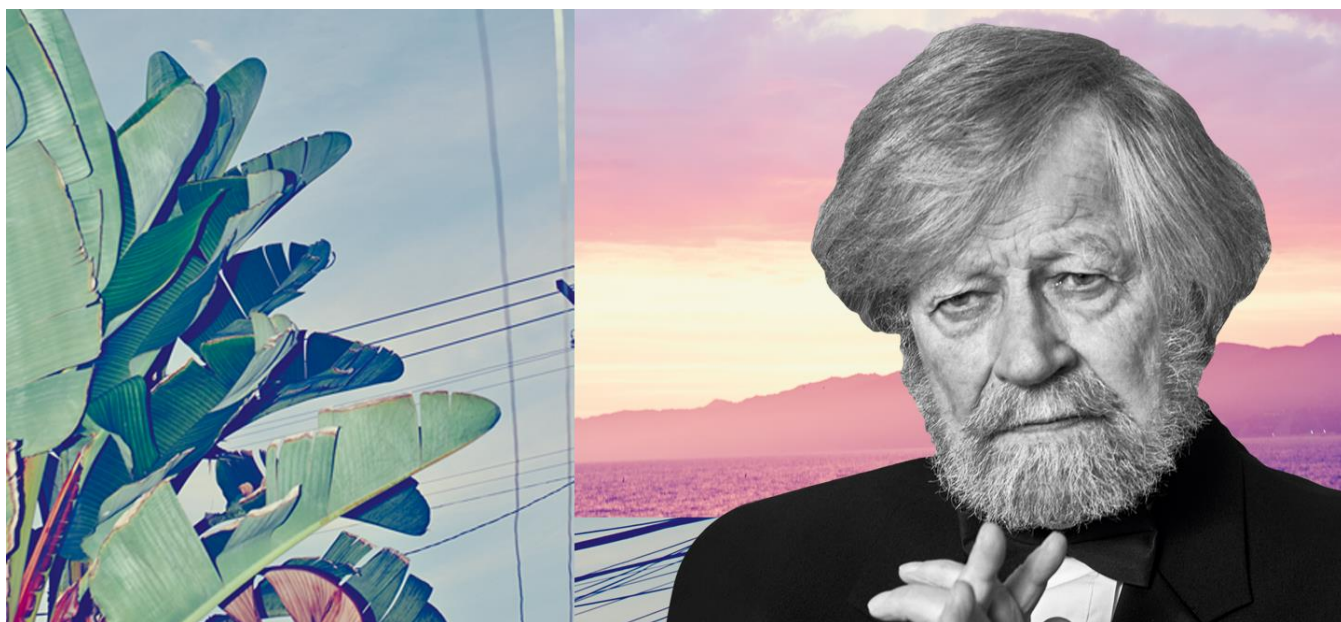
A special film presentation of F.W. Murnau’s 1927 Academy Award-winning silent film ***Sunrise: A Story of Two Humans*** on January 26, 2020 will continue the Master Chorale’s ongoing Immersive Concert Experiences initiative that aims to enhance audience engagement with choral music through collaborations with composers, artists, directors, and choreographers. Widely considered by many film critics and historians to be one of the greatest films ever made, *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans* starring George O’Brien, Janet Gaynor, and Margaret Livingstone won the Unique and Artistic Picture award at the very first Academy Awards ceremony in 1929. It also won the award for Best Cinematography for Charles Rosher and Karl Struss and Best Actress in a Leading Role for Janet Gaynor. For many of the film’s admirers, the only flaw has been its soundtrack. Although one of the



first-ever films with a synchronized musical score and sound effects, the music was drawn from various sources and not created for the picture. For this world premiere presentation, Emmy Award-winning composer **Jeff Beal** (*House of Cards*) has created a new score for choir and chamber orchestra, bringing a human touch to the monochrome melodrama and reaffirming the Master Chorale's long association with the film industry so prominent in its home city.

Honoring Legacies & Fostering the Future

Two concerts in the season honor the rich history of choral music in America by championing composers of the present:



Morten Lauridsen

On December 15, 2019 the Los Angeles Master Chorale celebrates the 25th Anniversary of **Morten Lauridsen's** landmark composition ***O Magnum Mysterium*** with a concert featuring this work that was commissioned by Master Chorale co-founder Marshall Rutter and premiered by the Master Chorale and Paul Salumunovich in 1994 when Lauridsen was the inaugural composer-in-residence. The concert features the West Coast premiere of ***The Faire Starre*** by **Nico Muhly** (a Master Chorale co-commission with VocalEssence and Trinity Church Wall Street) and works by Los Angeles composers **Matthew Brown** (*Sweet Was the Song*) and **Dale Trumbore** (*Glorious, Glorious* and *Threads of Joy*). Both Brown and Trumbore studied with Lauridsen at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music.





Alice Parker

On May 17, 2020 the Master Chorale and Grant Gershon celebrate the remarkable and continuing legacy of **Alice Parker** with *Come Away to the Skies*. As a composer, arranger, educator, pianist, and singer, Parker’s influence and impact over more than seven decades—including collaborations with Robert Shaw that put her on the cover of *Time* magazine in 1947—are immeasurable. The concert will include the world premieres of new works commissioned by the Master Chorale from **Gabriel Kahane**, and **Derrick Spiva Jr.** alongside *I Will Arise and Go* by **Shawn Kirchner**, and *the swallow* by **Caroline Shaw**, *Mar de Sueños* by Mexican composer **Diana Syrse** and *Mangá Pakalagián* by Filipino composer **Nilo Alcalá**, a piece commissioned and premiered by the Master Chorale in 2015. The jubilant a cappella concert will also feature some of Parker’s most celebrated and beloved arrangements and compositions, including *Come Away to the Skies*.

The 2019-20 season opens October 19 and 20, 2019 with the first-ever Los Angeles Master Chorale performances of **Bruckner’s Mass No. 3 in F minor**, known as his “Great Mass,” conducted by Grant Gershon in a concert also featuring the Los Angeles premiere of **Oswaldo Golijov’s Oceana**.

Expanding Horizons

The Salzburg Festival performances of *Lagrime di San Pietro* in July will follow a May 2019 tour taking Gershon and the company to **Cal Performances** in Berkeley (May 17), the **Barbican Centre** in



London (May 23), **Sage Gateshead** in Newcastle (May 25), **Cité de la Musique** in Paris (May 27), and the **Lensic Performing Arts Center** in Santa Fe, New Mexico (May 31). Last year the Master Chorale’s multimedia production of Handel’s *Israel in Egypt* with artist Kevork Mourad had its East Coast premiere at Carnegie Hall performed by New York ensemble MasterVoices, and its co-commission of Ellen Reid’s *dreams of the new world* was given its East Coast premiere at Trinity Church Wall Street in January following the world premiere performance by the Master Chorale in May 2018.



Jean Davidson, President & CEO. Photo by Tao Ruspoli/Marie Noorbergen.

“There is a new normal for the Los Angeles Master Chorale as we expand beyond L.A. introducing audiences worldwide to our artistry through touring,” says Jean Davidson. “I am pleased to renew my commitment to this intrepid and inspiring organization as we continue to deliver choral music of the highest quality through our performances, our creative partnerships, and the ever-essential commissioning of new works and programming of living composers—including historically underrepresented composers—illustrated by the 2019-20 season.”

In addition to presenting its own concert season, the Los Angeles Master Chorale performs regularly with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Concert Hall and at the Hollywood Bowl.





Los Angeles Master Chorale singers. Photo by Tao Ruspoli/Marie Noorbergen.

The Los Angeles Master Chorale production of Lagrime di San Pietro is made possible with generous underwriting from the Lovelace Family Trust and is dedicated to the memory of Jon Lovelace in honor of the special friendship he shared with director Peter Sellars. The touring production is supported by Kiki Ramos Gindler and David Gindler, Philip A. Swan, Laney and Tom Techentin, Abbott Brown and Jerrie Paula Ortega-Brown, Cindy and Gary Frischling, Marian H. and John Niles, Frederick J. Ruopp, and Eva and Marc Stern.

Immersive Concert Experiences and commissioned works are made possible by donors to the Artistic Innovation Fund: Philip A. Swan, and Priscilla and Curtis Tamkin.

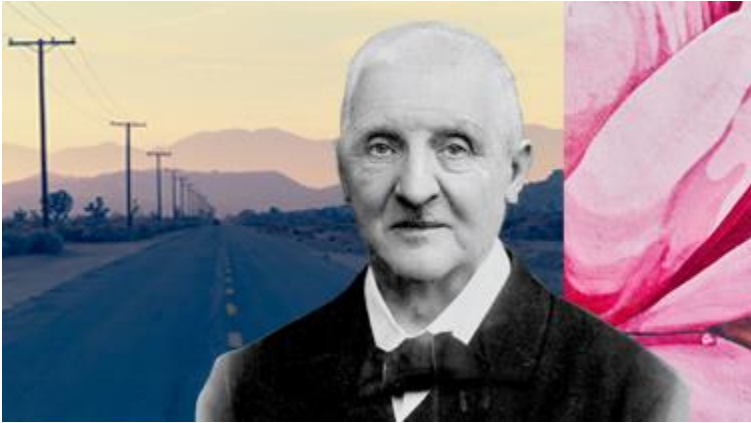


LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE
2019-20 SEASON IN WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL

BRUCKNER'S GREAT MASS

Saturday, October 19, 2019 – 2 pm

Sunday, October 20, 2019 – 7 pm



Bruckner | Mass No. 3 in F minor (Los Angeles Master Chorale premiere)
Osvaldo Golijov | *Oceana* (Los Angeles premiere)

Grant Gershon, conductor
100 voices, orchestra, soloists

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS WITH ERIC WHITACRE

Saturday, December 7 – 8 pm

Saturday, December 14 – 2 pm



Eric Whitacre, conductor
100 voices, organ



O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM

Sunday, December 15, 7 pm



Morten Lauridsen | *O Magnum Mysterium* (25th Anniversary)
Nico Muhly | *The Faire Starre* (West Coast Premiere)
Dale Trumbore | *Glorious, Glorious*
Dale Trumbore | *Threads of Joy*
Matthew Brown | *Sweet Was the Song*
Victoria | *O Magnum Mysterium*

Grant Gershon, conductor
62 voices, instrumental ensemble

39TH ANNUAL MESSIAH SING-ALONG

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 – 7:30 pm

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Saturday, December 21, 2019 – 8 pm



Handel | *Messiah*
Grant Gershon, conductor
Dec 18: Chamber orchestra, soloists, audience is the chorus



Dec 21: 48 voices, chamber orchestra, soloists

SUNRISE: A SONG OF TWO HUMANS

Sunday, January 26, 2020 – 7 pm



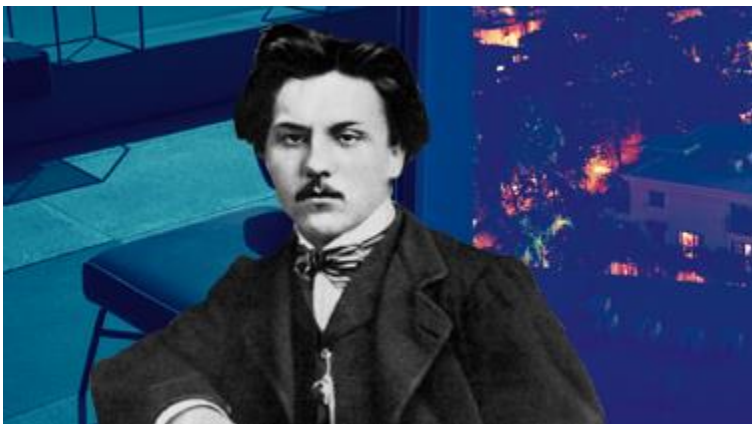
Special film presentation of F.W. Murnau's Academy Award-winning *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans* (1927) featuring the world premiere of a new score composed by Emmy Award-winning Jeff Beal.

Grant Gershon, conductor
62 voices, chamber orchestra, film

THE FAURÉ REQUIEM

Saturday, March 28, 2020 – 2 pm

Sunday, March 29, 2020 – 7 pm



Fauré | Requiem in D Minor, Op. 48
Martin | Mass for Double Choir
Roxanna Panufnik | *Zen Love Song*, from *Wild Ways*

Jenny Wong, conductor



62 voices, chamber orchestra, soloists, shakuhachi

COME AWAY TO THE SKIES: A CELEBRATION OF ALICE PARKER

Sunday, May 17, 2020 – 7 pm



Nilo Alcalá | *Mangá Pakalagián*
Gabriel Kahane | World Premiere
Shawn Kirchner | *I Will Arise and Go*
Caroline Shaw | *and the swallow*
Derrick Spiva Jr. | World Premiere
Diana Syrse | *Mar de Sueños*
Works and arrangements by Alice Parker

Grant Gershon, conductor
40 voices, a cappella

RACHMANINOFF'S ALL-NIGHT VIGIL

Saturday, June 13, 2020 – 2 pm
Sunday, June 14, 2020 – 7 pm



Rachmaninoff | *All-Night Vigil*

Grant Gershon, conductor
100 voices, a cappella

2019-20 SUBSCRIPTION TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions for the 2019-20 season are available now starting from \$111 by phone, 213-972-7282, or online at lamasterchorale.org.

Single tickets for 2019/20 concerts will be available in August 2019.

All programs, artists and dates are subject to change.

LAGRIME DI SAN PIETRO TOUR DATES

2019

| | |
|---------|---|
| May 17 | Cal Performances, Berkeley, CA |
| May 23 | The Barbican Centre, London, England |
| May 25 | Sage Gateshead, Gateshead, England |
| May 27 | Cité de la Musique, Paris, France |
| May 31 | Lensic Performing Arts Center, Santa Fe, NM |
| July 20 | Salzburg Festival, Austria |
| July 21 | Salzburg Festival, Austria |

2020

| | |
|------------|---|
| February 1 | The Royal Conservatory, Toronto, Canada |
| February 2 | The Royal Conservatory, Toronto, Canada |

[ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE](#)

[ABOUT GRANT GERSHON, KIKI & DAVID GINDLER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR](#)

[ABOUT JEAN DAVIDSON, PRESIDENT & CEO](#)

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE MEDIA CONTACT:

Jennifer Scott, Director of Public Relations

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High resolution photos available to download from our [online press room](#).

2019-20 season collages by Marie Noorbergen and Arnaud Pyvka.

