



2015-2016
OUR 59TH SEASON

CHOR LEONI

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2015



CHOR LEONI

Erick Lichte ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



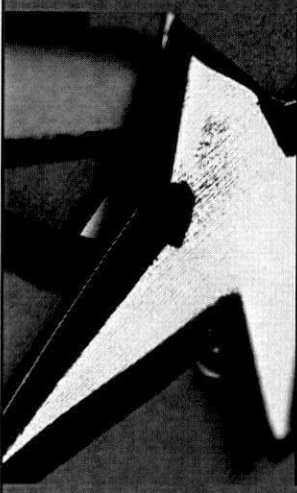
ALL IS CALM: THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

Written and Directed by Peter Rothstein,
Musical arrangements by Erick Lichte and Timothy C. Takach

DECEMBER 5 | 3 PM & 8 PM
QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

"a show of grace, beauty, and stillness"
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CHRISTMAS WITH CHOR LEONI

DECEMBER 18 | 4:30 PM & 8 PM
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DECEMBER 19 | 2 PM
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TicketsTonight.ca 604.684.2787 EXT.2 | INFO: chorleoni.org

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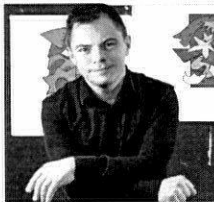


About the Artists



Chor Leoni Men's Choir

This season finds Chor Leoni ("choir of lions") collaborating with a who's who of artists across several genres. Renowned artist Tiko Kerr created six individual works of art in a process he called "the musicality of seeing" that will be featured in the choir's marketing efforts throughout the season. Already this month the choir has sung on the Queen Elizabeth Theatre stage in a collaboration with **Ballet BC**, and the choir returns to the QE in December to work with renowned playwright and director Peter Rothstein in a remounting of *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914*. This fully staged a cappella musical theatre production broke records last season when Chor Leoni presented six sold out performances and in the process sang to over 4000 people. In May the choir will return to the Chan Centre to finish recording their first CD with Grammy award-winning producer, Steve Barnett. The choir was recently voted Best Local Classical Vocal Ensemble for the second year in a row by the readership of the Georgia Straight. Chor Leoni was founded in 1992 by Diane Loomer, C.M.



Erick Lichte, Artistic Director

Erick Lichte has carved out a distinct niche in the vocal music world and concert life in North America. The *Washington Post* has hailed the "audacity" of his programming, the *Chicago Tribune* has noted the "meticulous preparation" of his choirs and *Fanfare Magazine* declared that he created and helmed "the premier men's vocal ensemble in the United States."

As a founding member, singer and Artistic Director of the male vocal ensemble Cantus, Lichte created and sustained one of only two full-time vocal ensembles in the United States. From 2000-2009, Lichte's programming and artistic direction were heard in over sixty concerts a year and he has collaborated with artists such as Bobby McFerrin, the Boston Pops, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Doc Severinsen, and the Minnesota Orchestra. His work with Cantus garnered the 2009 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence, the highest honour from the professional choral organization Chorus America. As a choral conductor, Lichte has served as conductor for many professional, educational, and amateur choral ensembles. In January of 2013 he began his tenure as Artistic Director of Chor Leoni Men's Choir. Lichte is an active clinician and guest conductor, and is especially passionate in his work to get young men singing. Lichte is a published composer and arranger, especially known for his writing in *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914* which has been taken on six North American tours.

About the Artists (continued)



Laura Widgett, soprano

Canadian soprano, Laura Widgett, is quickly establishing herself as a rising young artist in the world of opera. Widgett completed her Bachelors in Performance at the University of Toronto and received a Masters Degree in Opera from the University of British Columbia.

Widgett has performed roles and concerts throughout Italy, the Czech Republic and Canada. Recent roles and concerts include: "Violetta" in Verdi's *La Traviata* (UBC Opera Ensemble 2015, European Music Academy 2015). "Countessa Almaviva" in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* (UBC 2015) "Marenka" in Smetena's *The Bartered Bride* (Czech Republic 2014). Widgett also had the pleasure of performing "Musetta" in excerpts from Puccini's *La Boheme* and "Marguerite" in Gounod's *Faust* with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra at the Orpheum Theatre. Widgett will be competing in a number of vocal competitions throughout North America this coming year.



Ellen Wang, piano

Organist Ellen Ay-Laung Wang is the Principal Organist for the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and a sought-after soloist, conductor, adjudicator and music educator widely recognized on three continents. In 1995, the National Music Committee in her native Taiwan named her the New Musical Star. Since then, she has performed with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the Vancouver Bach Choir, the Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra, the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, the

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio Brass, and the Taipei National University of the Arts Orchestra. Concert tours have taken her to Australia, New Zealand, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Poland, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

A versatile performer, Ay-Laung was featured on CBC national television for the Easter Sunrise Celebration of 2004 and for the nationally televised memorial service for Sgt. "Smokey" Smith, the last surviving Canadian recipient of the Victoria Cross. She has accompanied the Taipei Christian Children's Chorus in concert at the Vatican and has performed for the renowned composer Fu Yu-Lin on national television in Taiwan. She has performed for the opening of TEDx talks in Vancouver and for several of the annual conferences of the British Columbia Music Educators' Association. Ellen is a member of the "Fanfares N' Fugues" trumpets and organ trio, and is delighted to be making her debut with Chor Leoni.

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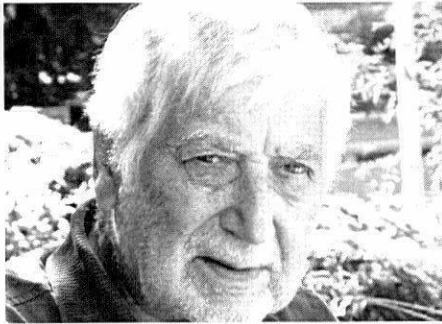
George Zukerman, O.C., O.B.C., Artistic Director

Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann, Associate Artistic Directors

White Rock Concerts P.O. Box 45089, RPO Ocean Park, Surrey, BC V4A 9L1

www.whiterockconcerts.com | T: 604.385.0543 (messages only)

Message from the Artistic Director



Our season is well under way and I wanted to take this special opportunity to greet you all before we break for Christmas.

This season has special significance for several reasons.

Firstly, we had the pleasure of hearing Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann in performance, as well as greeting them on the threshold of their new role as Artistic Directors of our Society.

Secondly, our opening programme this year was augmented by an accompanying orchestra. You'll meet the orchestra on three more occasions this season (in January, March and April) and the Bergmanns tell me that they plan to enhance a number of next year's concerts with orchestra as well. We even have a new real estate advertiser, who has offered to augment the size of these orchestras every time she encounters a successful response.

And finally, this fall was the beginning of my final season as Artistic Director - a post I have held since 1956. I guess that means it's the last year you can blame me for what happens artistically. Indeed, this is a new era for White Rock Concerts. If I managed to hang in there for sixty years, then with luck, the Bergmanns will stick around for twenty, thirty or forty good seasons, guiding our musical choices.

In the meantime, I want to extend a long overdue thanks to our many programme advertisers. They have supported us in significant ways and we, in turn, can enjoy their services as well as many concert offerings (particularly over the Christmas season when White Rock Concerts remains 'dark!') So, a tip of the hat to Crescent Gardens, Special Travel International, the City of Surrey (Coffee Concerts), the Karen Group, and of course, Chor Leoni.

I wish you all much pleasure with these concerts, and much success and happiness with the future of White Rock Concerts. It had been a great sixty years!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'George Zukerman, O.C., O.B.C.' The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

George Zukerman, O.C. O.B.C.
Artistic Director

CHOR LEONI

ERICK LICHTÉ, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
WITH LAURA WIDGETT, SOPRANO AND ELLEN WANG, PIANO

AVE MARIA	Camille Saint Saëns 1835-1921
AVE MARIA	Franz Biebl 1906-2001
THERE'S A MAN GOING 'ROUND Laura Widgett, soprano	Moses Hogan 1957-2003
DE PROFUNDIS	Piotr Janczak 1972 -
OMNIUM DELICARUM FROM SUNT LACRIMAE RERUM Stephen Baker, soloist	Carl Orff 1895-1982
WANDERING HEART <i>I. Twelve O'Clock Chant</i> <i>II. I Lost My Way</i> <i>III. The Road is Too Long</i>	Ēriks Ešēvalds 1977 -
ABSALON FILI MI Laura Widgett, soprano	Benjamin May
LAST LETTER HOME	Lee Hoiby 1926-2011
//	
INTERMISSION	
//	
SEMPRE LIBERA from <i>La Traviata</i> Laura Widgett, soprano	Giuseppe Verdi 1813-1827
MY LOVE'S IN GERMANY Laura Widgett, soprano	Thomas Traill arr. Erick Lichte
BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER	Paul Simon 1941 - arr. Miles Ramsay
DANNY BOY	Trad. Scottish arr.
RED RIVER VALLEY	Trad. arr. Miles Ramsay
LA ZIGUEZON ZINZON	Trad. Québécois, arr. Ken Cormier
LOCH LOMOND	Trad. Scottish, arr. Jonathan Quick
HALLELUJAH	Leonard Cohen 1934 - arr. Les Nerling & Ken Cormier
WE RISE AGAIN	Leon Dubinsky 1941 - arr. Stephen Smith

Choir Members

First Tenor

Corey Hollett
Ken Hollett
Noel Hollett
Derek Kief
Mark MacDonald*
Cliff Reinhardt
Peter Spira
William Ting

Second Tenor

Jordan Back
Stephen Baker
Byron Hanson*
Bruce Hoffman
Ray Horst
Liam Kearns
Jim Knight
Rod Locke
Parc Petrunia
John Wyness

Baritone

Joseph Anthony
James Carter
Mike Cavaletto
Nate Chan
Ian Farthing
Mike Fletcher
Phil Jack
Mike Jackman
Tom Kidd
Paul Larocque
David Love
Greg Martin*
Rob McAllister
Daniel Sheinin
Ted Steiner

Bass

Doug Au-Lange
Rick Bennett
Paul Birch
Lucas Brown
Stash Bylicki
Garth Edwards
James Emery
Ed Friesen
Doug Graeb
Michael Hall
Eric Kristensen
Chris Moore
Michael Soderling*

* = section leaders

Song Texts

Ave Maria

The angel of God visited Mary and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Mary said: see the servant of the Lord. May it happen to me according to your word.
Hail Mary.....

And the Word became flesh and lived among us.
Hail Mary.....

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Holy Mary, pray for us now and in the hour of our death. Amen

De Profundis

Out of the depths have I cried to thee.
Lord, hear my prayer.

Omnium Deliciarum

All happiness and pomp come to a short end.
Death, sorrow, mourning, and fearfulness pervade all.
In the final hour, everything will be lost: trumpet, flute and harp, jokes, laughter,
melody and harmony.

Classical

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Join Sarah for a brown bag lunch after her solo concert! You bring a sandwich, and we'll supply yummy hot soup and drinks. Our lobby will have all the trimmings of a winter wonderland, and we'll do a draw for a lovely gift basket.



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The Wandering Heart | Leonard Cohen

1. Twelve O'Clock Chant from *The Spice Box of Earth*

Hold me hard light, soft light hold me,
Moonlight in your mountains fold me,
Sunlight in your tall waves scald me,
Ironlight in your wires shield me,
Deathlight in your darkness wield me.
In burlap bags the bankers sew me,
In countries far the merchants sell me,
In icy caves the princes throw me,
In golden rooms the doctors geld me,
In battlefields the hunters rule me.
I will starve till prophets find me,
I will bleed till angels bind me,
Still I sing till churches blind me,
Still I love till cog-wheels wind me.
Hold me hard light, soft light hold me,
Moonlight in your mountains fold me,
Sunlight in your tall waves scald me,
Ironlight in your wires shield me,
Deathlight in your darkness wield me.

2. I Lost My Way from *Book of Mercy*

I lost my way, I forgot to call on your name.
The raw heart beat against the world, and the
tears were for my lost victory.
But you are here. You have always been here.
The world is all forgetting, and the heart is a
rage of directions,
But your name unifies the heart, and the world
is lifted into its place.
Blessed is the one who waits in the traveller's
heart for his turning.

3. The Road is Too Long from *The Book of Longing*

The road is too long
the sky is too vast
the wandering heart
is homeless at last.

Absalon fili mi

Absalon my son, if only I had died instead of you, Absalon! I shall live no more, but go down to hell, weeping.

Last Letter Home Private First Class Jesse Givens

I searched all my life for a dream and I found it in you. I would like to think I made a positive difference in your lives. I will never be able to make up for the bad. I am so sorry. The happiest moments in my life all deal with my little family. I will always have with me the small moments we all shared. The moments when you quit taking life so serious and smiled. The sounds of a beautiful boy's laughter or the simple nudge of a baby unborn. You will never know how complete you have made me. You opened my eyes to a world I never dreamed existed.

Dakota, you are more son than I could ever ask for. You have a big beautiful heart. I will always be there in our park when you dream, so we can still play. I hope some day you will have a son like mine. I love you Toad. I will always be there with you. I'll be in the sun, shadows, dreams, and joys of your life.

Bean, I never got to see you but I know in my heart you are beautiful.

I have never been so blessed as I was on the day I met Melissa Dawn Benfield. You are my Angel, soulmate, wife, lover, and best friend. I am so sorry. I did not want to have to write this letter. There is so much more I need to say. So much more I need to share. A lifetime's worth. I married you for a million lifetimes. That's how long I will be with you. Please find it in your heart to forgive me for leaving you alone.

Do me one favor, after you tuck the children in, give them hugs and kisses from me. Go outside and look at the stars, and count them. Don't forget to smile.

Celebrating her eighth anniversary.

**JENNIFER HOWE,
AT CHARTWELL SINCE 2007.**

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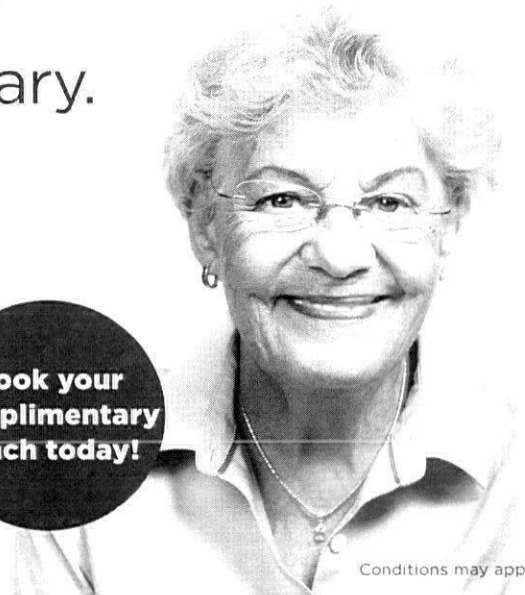


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Renowned impresario and raconteur **George Zukerman**, OC, OBC is stepping down as Artistic Director of White Rock Concerts, but you have a unique opportunity to travel the Rhone River with him next year. It will be a journey to enchant lovers of music, travel, history & fine cuisine.

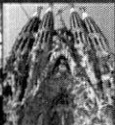
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Satie
Turina
De Falla
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photo: Jiuguang Wang



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A Message from the President

I was told recently that there was a little space left in the programme for a message. I jumped at this opportunity, realizing that this means I can remain safely in my seat instead of walking, without my cane, in plain view of 800 people!

I would like to draw your attention to something that is happening TOMORROW! Our current Artistic Director (and Founder of White Rock Concerts almost 60 years ago) George Zukerman, is going to be heard on "This is My Music" at 10am, Saturday Nov 14th, CBC Radio 2. The first time he contributed to the show last year, it proved to be so popular with the audience that the CBC promptly asked him to do another show. We are looking forward to hearing more of his colourful and fascinating tales from his travels, literally all over the world, bassoon in hand!

While I have this opportunity, please be reminded that a large crowd is expected for our concert tonight. Would you please be kind enough to keep your coats and purses off the seats in our wonderful venue? The seats are for all the people who are privileged to listen to the great music. Your coats, on the other hand, can stay outside without suffering as there is a long coat rack in the foyer. Your purse should find a cozy seat right on your lap. We are inviting the maximum number of people allowed by the church. With a little bit of good will, we can fit everyone in.

Please listen to our ushers and help make it work. Thank you so much!

Erika Bennedik,
President, White Rock Concerts



Our Next Concert

Winter Winds

conducted by Les Dala

Friday, January 15, 2016

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**Let's help continue making
unforgettable music...together!**

kareen

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