



Karen P. Thomas, Artistic Director and Conductor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SEATTLE PRO MUSICA ANNOUNCES 2005-2006 SEASON

Lux – Winter Lights

Ab Oriente – From the East

J.S. Bach's *Mass in B Minor*

New CD Release – *Music of the Spirit*

Seattle, WA – Seattle Pro Musica, under the direction of Karen P. Thomas, announces its 2005-2006 season. The season opens December 4th, 2005, with **Lux – Winter Lights**, featuring one thousand years of music from around the world, in celebration of the holiday season of light. In March, Seattle Pro Musica presents the world premiere of a commissioned choral work by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Steven Stucky on the **Ab Oriente – From the East** concert. To close the season in May, Seattle Pro Musica is joined by the period instrument orchestra Baroque Northwest, to present **J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor** in the glorious acoustic of St. James Cathedral. In addition, our eagerly anticipated CD, *Music of the Spirit*, will be released fall 2005.

PRESS RELEASE

LUX – WINTER LIGHTS

Music celebrating the holiday season of light

Our first concert of the season showcases music from around the world, evoking the winter lights of the holiday season. The program covers over a thousand years of choral music, from medieval chant to contemporary works such as Francis Poulenc's *Four Christmas Motets (Quatre motets pour le temps de Noël)* and Eric Whitacre's *Lux Arumque*. There are four performances of this holiday concert, including a Sunday family matinee on December 4. The family matinee is a shorter version of the concert with background information and stories, designed especially for children and families, concluding with an audience sing-along of familiar carols.

Sunday, December 4, 2005 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm (2 performances)

Family concert at 3:00 pm

Town Hall • 1119 Eighth Avenue, Seattle

Saturday, December 10, 2005 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm (2 performances)

Chapel at Bastyr University • 14500 Juanita Drive NE, Bothell

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AB ORIENTE – FROM THE EAST

Ab Oriente features music from Eastern and Central Europe and the Middle East. Also on this concert is the world premiere of a new commissioned choral work by the 2005 Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Steven Stucky. The commission is supported by a National Endowment for the Arts grant, and is a national consortium commission involving Seattle Pro Musica, the Phoenix Bach Choir, the Kansas City Chorale and the Grinnell College Singers.

Friday, March 3, 2006 • 8:15 pm

Saturday, March 4, 2006 • 8:00 pm

St. James Cathedral • 9th & Marion, Seattle

J.S. BACH'S MASS IN B MINOR

Two performances of J.S. Bach's monumental *Mass in B Minor*, presented in conjunction with the centennial celebration for St. James Cathedral. Seattle Pro Musica will be joined by the period instrument orchestra *Baroque Northwest* and five outstanding soloists for these performances of Bach's greatest masterpiece. Composed over the course of two decades, the *Mass* was completed near the end of Bach's life and is a soaring testament to his unshakable faith and great humanity.

Friday, May 19, 2006 • 8:15 pm

Saturday, May 20, 2006 • 8:00 pm

St. James Cathedral • 9th & Marion, Seattle

NEW CD RELEASE – MUSIC OF THE SPIRIT

Seattle Pro Musica will release its fifth CD, *Music of the Spirit, Sacred Masterworks for the Cathedral*, in the fall of 2005. *Music of the Spirit* will feature Frank Martin's *Mass for Double Choir*, Allegri's *Miserere*, C.V. Stanford's *Beati quorum via* and Karen P. Thomas' *Lux Lucis*. Over the past two years Seattle Pro Musica's four CDs have garnered consistent critical acclaim both nationally and internationally. *Choir and Organ* magazine (Great Britain) writes: "...Seattle Pro Musica presents a cappella singing at its best..." and *American Record Guide* ranks Seattle Pro Musica "among America's very best choirs."

Seattle Pro Musica Ticket Information

Subscriptions are currently available and range in price from \$40 to \$55. Single tickets range in price from \$15 to \$23. For more information call Seattle Pro Musica at **(206) 781-2766** or go to **www.seattlepromusica.org** for online ordering.

Seattle Pro Musica's 2005-2006 Season is supported in part by ArtsFund, The National Endowment for the Arts, Meet The Composer, 4Culture and City of Seattle, Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.