



PRESS RELEASE

Karen P. Thomas, Artistic Director and Conductor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 26, 2007

SEATTLE PRO MUSICA The 35th SEASON | 2007-2008

NORTHERN LIGHTS II – December 8 & 15, 2007

BACH MOTETS – March 7-8, 2008

RACHMANINOV VESPERS – May 16-17, 2008

THE 35TH SEASON

Seattle, WA – Seattle Pro Musica, under the direction of Karen P. Thomas, announces the 2007-2008 season, celebrating its 35th Anniversary.

As a recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces grant and the Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence, Seattle Pro Musica has garnered international recognition and praise for its CDs and performances. Seattle Pro Musica has appeared at international music festivals and on NPR's *Saint Paul Sunday*, and hosted the 2007 American Masterpieces Choral Festival. American Record Guide ranks Seattle Pro Musica as "among America's very best choirs" and "the *crème de la crème* of the Pacific Northwest."

Seattle Pro Musica will release a new CD, "American Masterpieces," in April 2008.

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NORTHERN LIGHTS II

Experience winter in Russia and the Baltic countries as we present the sequel to our acclaimed 2005 Northern Lights concert. This program of lush, spirited choral music from Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania evokes the northern lights of the winter season, from traditional holiday carols to works by Tchaikovsky and Veljo Tormis, as well as Arvo Pärt's celebrated *Magnificat*. Free pre-concert lectures by conductor Karen P. Thomas are offered one hour prior to each performance.

Saturday, December 8, 2007

3:00 pm & 7:30 pm (2 performances)

Town Hall • 1119 Eighth Avenue, Seattle

Saturday, December 15, 2007

3:00 pm & 7:30 pm (2 performances)

Chapel at Bastyr University • 14500 Juanita Drive NE, Bothell

Special Family Concert - December 8, 2007, 3:00 pm – Wonderful music and good fun await you at this popular shorter performance for children and their families, including stories and a sing-along of favorite carols.

Additional performance in La Conner, January 5, 2008, 8:00 pm

Maple Hall in La Conner. Call 360-466-2665 for tickets to this performance, sponsored by the La Conner Institute of the Performing Arts.

BACH MOTETS

Explore the genius and continuing influence of J.S. Bach at our March concert, which juxtaposes Bach's beloved motets with contemporary and Romantic works inspired by the master. Included are Bach's masterpiece, *Jesu, meine Freude* and Norwegian composer Knut Nystedt's haunting *Immortal Bach*, performed in "surround sound" in the glorious acoustic of St. James Cathedral.

Friday, March 7, 2008

8:15 pm

Saturday, March 8, 2008

8:00 pm

St. James Cathedral • Ninth & Marion, Seattle

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RACHMANINOV VESPERS

The visual and acoustic splendor of St. James Cathedral is ideal for these performances of Rachmaninov's moving and timeless choral masterpiece, considered the greatest musical achievement of the Russian Orthodox church. With its enormous range of color and virtuoso choral writing woven with ancient Russian chant, the Vespers exemplifies Rachmaninov's authoritative use of "choral orchestration" and truly expresses the voice of the human heart.

Friday, May 16, 2008

8:15 pm

Saturday, May 17, 2008

8:00 pm

St. James Cathedral • Ninth & Marion, Seattle

Seattle Pro Musica Season Ticket Information

Subscriptions range in price from \$22 to \$88. Single tickets range in price from \$10 to \$32. For more information call Seattle Pro Musica at **(206) 781-2766** or go to **www.seattlepromusica.org** for online ordering.

Seattle Pro Musica's 2007-2008 Season is supported in part by:



"A Great Nation Deserves Great Art."