



Karen P. Thomas, Artistic Director and Conductor

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2007

SEATTLE PRO MUSICA

to open

THE ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES, ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

November 18 | 3:00 pm

Ranked "*among America's very best choirs,*" internationally-recognized Seattle Pro Musica will appear in Olympia on Sunday, November 18, 2007 to kick off the annual series presented by St. John's Episcopal Church. This performance includes works featured on our upcoming CD release *American Masterpieces*, funded by a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The event also highlights Seattle Pro Musica's upcoming **NORTHERN LIGHTS II** concert, showcasing Baltic and Russian music which evoke the northern lights of the winter season. The program features choral music from Russia and Estonia – from traditional holiday carols to contemporary works by Arvo Pärt and Veljo Tormis. The great Romantic tradition of choral music from the late 19th and early 20th centuries is represented by Tchaikovsky, Pavel Chesnokov and Cyrillus Kreek.

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 in Seattle under the auspices of the National Endowment for the Arts. Enjoy this rare Olympia event: American Record Guide ranks Seattle Pro Musica as "*the crème de la crème of the Pacific Northwest*" while *Choir & Organ of Great Britain* notes that "*....Seattle Pro Musica presents a cappella singing at its best.*"

Seattle Pro Musica CDs will be available for sale at the performance. For tickets and series information, contact (360) 352-8527, St John's Episcopal Church, 114 20th Ave SE Olympia, WA 98501-2999. st.johnsolymia@comcast.net

For information on Seattle Pro Musica and to learn more about upcoming concerts, events and CDs, visit our website at www.seattlepromusica.org or contact admin@seattlepromusica.org