

Expect Something Different!



Robert Cooper, C.M.
Artistic Director

Walter Mahabir
Apprentice Conductor

Edward Moroney
Accompanist

PRESS RELEASE

SOUND OF ETERNITY:

BACH MASS IN B MINOR AS YOU'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED IT BEFORE – A CANADIAN PREMIERE

On Sunday, March 6, 2016, The Orpheus Choir of Toronto will present its next concert: **SOUND OF ETERNITY** at 4:30 PM at the Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON.

Audiences will rediscover Bach's majestic *Mass in B Minor* through the lens of German filmmaker Bastian Clevé's dramatic film *Sound of Eternity*, a lush visual interpretation of Bach's masterpiece.

Under the artistic direction of Robert Cooper, the Orpheus Choir of Toronto will be joined by Chorus Niagara and The Talisker Players together with soloists Anita Krause, mezzo, Geoffrey Sirett, baritone, Jennifer Krabbe, soprano, and Charles Sy, tenor, to present this multimedia choral and cinematic experience of Bach's masterpiece, the *Mass in B minor* - a Canadian premiere!

Bach's Mass in B minor is the composer's *opus ultimum* and *opus summum* — the artistic record of a life's work. Bach spent the last 15 years of his life at work on this significant piece, and it is the only complete mass that he ever composed. Known as the "queen among mass settings", the B Minor Mass is a masterpiece, considered unique for the beauty of its musical expression.

The **Sound of Eternity** is a multimedia version of Bach's Mass in B minor that took 25 years for German filmmaker Bastian Clevé to bring to life on the screen. It received its U.S. premiere at the Oregon Bach Festival in 2006. Mirroring the grand emotional span of the *Mass*, Clevé's 27 short episodes move from alpine mountains to glaciers to peaceful valleys and pulsating metropolitan cities. The result is a powerful meditation on existence and being, the religious and the unexplainable, and, ultimately, the circle of life.

The Orpheus Choir of Toronto, now in its 52nd season and true to its 'expect something different' experience, is the first Canadian Choral organization to use this film.

A Canadian premiere, **SOUND OF ETERNITY** is breath-taking choral and cinematic tour-de-force that presents the opportunity to experience the *Mass in B Minor* as never heard before.

Concert Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$10. Online: www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com; Phone: 416-530-4428

At the Door: Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON.

For more information: Lisa Griffiths, Managing Director: lisa.griffiths@orpheuschoirtoronto.com;
www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com

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The **Orpheus Choir of Toronto** has earned a reputation as "one of Toronto's most distinguished and important choirs" (Larry Beckwith, *WholeNote Magazine*). Under the artistic leadership of Robert Cooper, the seventy-voice ensemble offers a sumptuous entertainment experience, in keeping with its mandate to celebrate life through the discovery and performance of fine choral music. Now in its 52nd season, the Orpheus choir continues to transform Canadian choral performance by championing new and little-known works by Canadian and international composers, and creating immersive presentations and experiences for Toronto audiences. In the last six years alone, the Choir has performed North American or World premieres of works by such composers as Ēriks Ešēvalds, Howard Goodall, Allan Bevan and Imant Raminsh. With a wide-ranging repertoire of music ranging from secular to sacred, time-honoured classics to experimental works, choral collaborations and forays into multimedia performances, it's only fitting that the Orpheus Choir's mantra is "Expect Something Different". There is truly something for everyone.

www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com