

Expect Something Different!



**Robert Cooper, C.M.**  
Artistic Director

**Greg Rainville**  
Asst. Conductor

**Edward Moroney**  
Accompanist

## PRESS RELEASE TOUCH THE EARTH LIGHTLY

### ORPHEUS CHOIR SINGS FOR THE EARTH

On May 9th, Orpheus reflects on the relationship between humanity and mother earth through new and relevant choral works in its season finale, *Touch The Earth Lightly*. Leonard Enns' *Ten Thousand Rivers of Oil* contemplates humankind's misguided emphasis on oil in a moving cantata for chorus and chamber ensemble. An innovative and deeply moving new work by the renowned Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo entitled *Sunrise Mass* rounds out the concert. A Toronto premiere, *Sunrise Mass* will be presented with a specially curated video sequence to complement the shifting emotional landscape of Gjeilo's poignant score.

Orpheus "goes green" with this program, reducing the concert production carbon footprint. For the first time, Orpheus's has eliminated the paper program in favour of a digital slideshow at the concert and an on-line version of the program on our website. Orpheus is also using recycled and re-useable seed paper for promotional materials for this concert. Another digital milestone for the choir is the adoption of a blog, where audience members can share their feedback on their concert experience and engage in conversations related to environmental sustainability - a platform for social change.

Orpheus' vision is to celebrate the transformational power of choral music as an agent of social change and passionate medium of artistic expression. Through the power and beauty of choral music, we enhance our understanding of the world and elevate our humanity. Our relevant season finale on May 9<sup>th</sup> features the rising vocal stars from Orpheus' **Sidgwick Scholars** program, and the instrumental talents of the **Talisker Players**; join us for *Touch the Earth Lightly* and enjoy the Expect Something Different experience.

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Concert Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$10. Online: [www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com](http://www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com); Phone: 416-530-4428  
At the Door: Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd  
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#### **2014-2015 Concert Season Supported by:**

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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 51<sup>st</sup> 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 five 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](http://www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com)