

“CHRISTMAS WITH GROOVE”
SWING INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT WITH THE ORPHEUS CHOIR’S
BIG BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT
FEATURING THE CANADIAN PREMIERE PERFORMANCE
OF NILS LINDBERG’S “A CHRISTMAS CANTATA”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Toronto, ON – The Orpheus Choir of Toronto and Artistic Director Robert Cooper, C.M. are pleased to announce the second concert of the choir’s 45th season: *Big Band Christmas*, on **Tuesday December 22nd, 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. E.**

The centrepiece to our Orpheus **Big Band Christmas** is the Canadian premiere of *A Christmas Cantata* by the Swedish composer Nils Lindberg...an exciting mix of different genres - English carols, jazz music, Swedish folk music - exquisitely arranged by Lindberg for choir, two vocal soloists and Big Band, replete with saxophones, brass, percussion and jazz keyboard styling’s. Christmas reflections, based on the Gospels of St. Matthew, St. John and St. Luke, are interspersed with the most famous of English carols: "Ding, Dong Merrily on High", "Deck the Hall" "God rest ye merry Gentlemen", and more ...all set with infectious harmonies of classical music and jazzy rhythms.

In addition Orpheus welcomes the season with atmospheric works by **Gjielo, Tavener, Whitacre, Leighton** along with inspired carol settings for choir and saxophone by Canadian composer **Trent Worthington**. Edward Moroney, organist, our superb Sidgwick Scholars and a 21 piece jazz band join with the Orpheus Choir as we take the roof off for this evening of both traditional and non-traditional Christmas cheer, treats and surprises!

Jack Bowers, frequent writer from *All About Jazz* describes the work: “Composer/arranger/pianist Nils Lindberg's *Christmas Cantata* is an immaculately conceived treatise that blends music based on biblical passages with traditional English, French, Welsh and Swedish carols and songs into an iridescent medley that **invigorates, inspires and swings in equal measure.**”

You can always expect something different with the Orpheus Choir...guaranteed to uplift the spirit and leave you smiling!

Tickets are \$30; \$25 for seniors; \$15 for students. For tickets and information contact: 416-530-4428, or orpheuschoir@sympatico.ca or www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com

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