

SHINING NIGHT *Festival*

*A day with
musical mystic*
**MORTEN
LAURIDSEN**



MORTEN LAURIDSEN, the renowned award-winning American choral composer comes to Toronto for an exclusive and exhilarating day-long festival of his incomparable music, Saturday, October 25, 2014.

Referred to as a 'heartening rarity', Morten Lauridsen's deeply moving choral works have gained him international recognition. Musicologist and conductor Nick Strimple describes Lauridsen as "the only American composer in history who can be called a mystic, and whose probing, serene work contains an elusive and indefinable ingredient which leaves the impression that all the questions have been answered."

Sponsored by Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, as part of their artistic outreach, along with the assistance of the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto and the Orpheus Choir of Toronto, Shining Night Festival will be a unique encounter with the uplifting music of Morten Lauridsen.

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– Nick Strimple
Musicologist and conductor

The Shining Night Festival will include:

Gala Concert: *Sure on this Shining Night*

A Lauridsen-Fest with the combined choirs of the U of T MacMillan Singers, Orpheus Choir of Toronto, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church Choir, Exultate Chamber Singers and Cawthra Park Secondary School Chamber Choir and featuring Lauridsen's evocative *Lux Aeterna*, accompanied by chamber orchestra, and several shorter works, including *O Magnum Mysterium* and *Sure On This Shining Night* sung by the massed choirs.

Location: Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street, 7:30 pm

PLUS

Shining Night Film Screening

The highly acclaimed film *Shining Night-A Portrait of Composer Morten Lauridsen*

Location: Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street, 3:30 pm

One-On-One

Morten Lauridsen in Conversation – hosted by CBC Radio host, Robert Harris

Location: Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street, 5:00 pm

Saturday, October 25, 2014

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church
1585 Yonge Street, Toronto

Christ Church Deer Park
1570 Yonge Street, Toronto

Tickets:

FESTIVAL PASS (Movie + Concert):
General \$45; Student \$25

MOVIE ONLY:
General \$15; Student \$10

CONCERT ONLY:
General \$35; Student \$20

For Information:
(416) 922-1167
lauridsenevent.com



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MORTEN LAURIDSEN

a man, an island...and music that moves the world

Named as an 'American Choral Master' in 2006 by the National Endowment for the Arts, Lauridsen received the 2007 National Medal of Arts from the President in a White House ceremony, "for his composition of radiant choral works combining musical beauty, power and spiritual depth that have thrilled audiences worldwide."

His musical approaches are very diverse, ranging from direct to abstract in response to the texts he sets. His Latin sacred settings, such as the *Lux Aeterna* and motets, often reference Gregorian chant plus Medieval and Renaissance procedures while blending them within a freshly contemporary sound while other works such as the *Madrigali* and *Cuatro Canciones* are highly chromatic or atonal. His music has an overall lyricism and is tightly constructed around melodic and harmonic motives.

His works have been recorded on more than 200 CDs, five of which have received Grammy Award nominations, including *O Magnum Mysterium* by the Tiffany Consort, *A Company of Voices* by Conspirare, *Sound The Bells* by The Bay Brass and two all-Lauridsen discs entitled *Lux Aeterna* by the Los Angeles Master Chorale led by Paul Salamunovich and *Polyphony* conducted by Stephen Layton.

A recipient of numerous grants, prizes, and commissions, Lauridsen chaired the Composition department at the USC Thornton School of Music from 1990–2002 and founded the School's Advanced Studies program in Film Scoring. He has held residencies as guest composer/lecturer at over seventy universities and has received numerous honorary doctorates including Westminster Choir College and King's College, University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Lauridsen now divides his time between Los Angeles and his summer residence on a remote island off the northern coast of Washington State.

Check Morten Lauridsen website for detailed particulars: mortenlauridsen.net