Cantata Singers announces details of 2021-22 Season, *Emergent!*

Season to be led by four music director finalists: Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez, Anthony Trecek-King, Noah Horn, and Katherine Chan

14 Ensemble Premieres

Company debut - Urbanity Dance

Boston, MA — Marking the return to live music and the exciting possibilities the future holds with four Music Director finalists appearing with the ensemble this season, Cantata Singers today announced details of its 2021-22 season, *Emergent!,* a celebration of the strength and resiliency of our shared humanity, our connection to one another, and the music that links us. Executive Director Nick Adams revealed the details from Cantata Singers Boston headquarters.

"We are excited to return to an in-person season of live music featuring our four distinguished Music Director finalists, and to offer a thrilling variety of programming and numerous ensemble premieres," said Mr. Adams. "As we enter our 57th season, we celebrate the re-emergence of music and its unique ability to unite us and ask important questions of our community in Boston and beyond."
"We present ensemble premieres on each of our season subscription concerts, including works by BIPOC and women composers, such as Margaret Bonds, R. Nathaniel Dett, Caroline Shaw, Jonathan Dove, and more. You'll also find our namesake, J.S. Bach, on every program. And we are beyond pleased to welcome Boston's own Urbanity Dance in its Cantata Singers debut, and we invite you to join us on on what promises to be a spirited and stirring journey."

Cantata Singers 2021-22 season opens with a dynamic concert highlighting the timelessness of Bach’s music, then flows into an aural soundscape of diverse, rich holiday perspectives. In early 2022, the ensemble presents a symbolic joining of hands, celebrating a New Year and new beginnings. The season ends with a multi-genre collaboration of music, text, and dance, celebrating humanity’s endless capacity for love, hope, and optimism.

**IMMORTAL BACH**

Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez, conductor  
Music Director finalist  
**October 22, 2021 at 8:00 PM**  
First Church Cambridge  
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

Alec ROTH “Lost,” from *Shared Ground (Ensemble Premiere)*

Johann Sebastian BACH Cantata BWV 130, “Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir”

Knut NYSTEDT *Immortal Bach (Ensemble Premiere)*

Johann Sebastian BACH Cantata BWV 19, “Es erhub sich ein Streit”

Alec ROTH “This,” from *Shared Ground (Ensemble Premiere)*

Johann Sebastian BACH Cantata BWV 149, “Man singet mit Freuden vom Sieg”

Some music is immortal – timeless, eternal – connecting with listeners of every age and background. Such is the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. What better way to open our 57th season than with a concert juxtaposing Bach’s three chorale cantatas celebrating the Feast of Archangel Michael with two movements from *Shared Ground*, UK composer Alec Roth’s acclaimed collaboration with Indian writer Vikram Seth, and German composer Knut Nystedt’s insightful *Immortal Bach*, revealing the everlasting genius of J.S. Bach.
OF ALL THE KINGS

Anthony Trecek-King, conductor
Music Director finalist
December 12, 2021 at 3:00 PM
First Church Cambridge
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

Heinrich SCHUTZ Hodie Christus natus est, SWV 456
R. Nathaniel DETT Ave Maria (Ensemble Premiere)
J.S. BACH BWV 248, "Ehre sei dir, Gott, gesungen"
Jonathan DOVE The Three Kings (Ensemble Premiere)
Margaret BONDS The Ballad of the Brown King (Text by Langston Hughes)
(Ensemble Premiere)
Arr. Saunier CHOI Angels We Have Heard on High (Ensemble Premiere)

Of all the Kings celebrates perspectives not traditionally considered. A reflection of
Boston’s rich cultural background, works of incredible beauty featuring Western European,
African American, and Asian influences shine a bright and glorious light on the story of
Christmas, as seen by the Three Kings in particular. Led by Music Director finalist Anthony
Trecek-King, taking center stage is Margaret Bonds’ delightful and moving setting of
Langston Hughes poetry, The Ballad of the Brown King. Hear the story of Christmas over
the centuries through uplifted voices, lush harmonies, and magical melodies. From all of
us, we send our warmest wishes this holiday season!
TO THE HANDS

Noah Horn, conductor
Music Director finalist
February 11, 2022 at 8:00 PM
First Church Cambridge
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

J.S. BACH BWV 229, "Komm, Jesu, komm"

Caroline SHAW To the Hands (Ensemble Premiere)

R. Nathaniel DETT Listen to the lambs; O holy Lord (set of two pieces combined) (Ensemble Premiere)

George Frideric HANDEL HWV 232, Dixit Dominus

Our hands, when used together and for good, offer us a glimpse at what’s possible. Give yourself over to this musical evening of works celebrating humanity’s quest for eternal life and trust in a spiritual source led by Music Director finalist Noah Horn. Experience the glory of music that travels from calm to unsettling, thoughtful to explosive in four compelling works spanning three centuries and featuring texts culled from poetry, folk songs, African spirituals, and psalms. Featuring Bach’s only motet without biblical text, two works by revered Afro-Canadian 19th century composer R. Nathaniel Dett, the electric fireworks of Handel’s Dixit Dominus, and the beauty of Caroline Shaw’s To the Hands, which implores us, “Let us open our hands to those of others... Walls are not the answer.”
WHERE LOVE AND HOPE

Katherine Chan, conductor
Music Director finalist
March 27, 2022 at 3:00 PM
First Church Cambridge
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

James MACMILLIAN Child’s Prayer (Ensemble Premiere)
Johann Hermann SCHEIN "Dennoch Bleib ich stets an dir"
Heinrich SCHUTZ SWV 391, "Selig sind die Toten"
Maurice DURUFLÉ Ubi caritas et Amor
Jonathan DOVE In Beauty May I Walk (Ensemble Premiere)
Jocelyn HAGEN Hands (Ensemble Premiere)
Christopher HARRIS My Way Home (Ensemble Premiere)
Yehuda YANNAY Le Campane di Leopardi (Ensemble Premiere)
Johann Sebastian BACH BWV 72, "Alles nur nach Gottes Willen"

Love and hope are necessary for life; music, text, and movement often remind us of their importance. They propel us ever forward, fueling our faith, aspirations, and optimism. We invite you to join us in this multi-genre collaborative journey, Where Love and Hope are ever present. Led by Music Director finalist Katherine Chan with guests Urbanity Dance, this concert, featuring works by Dove, Durufle, Bach, and others, is sure to uplift you long after the final note is played.

Cantata Singers Chamber Series returns in November 2021 and February 2022 with two concerts; details to be announced later this fall.

TICKETS
Tickets to the 57th season of Cantata Singers go on sale to subscribers August 1, 2021 and to the general public on August 15, 2021. Please visit the website for details.

Cantata Singers continues to monitor the ongoing effects of COVID-19 and have carefully designed safety precautions for our events and activities which fall in compliance with Massachusetts health regulations, guidelines by the Mayor of Boston, and the advice of the CDC for the continuing health and safety of our audiences and Cantata Singers's musicians and staff.
About Cantata Singers
A vibrant, cultural mainstay in Boston, Massachusetts and the surrounding areas, Cantata Singers is a musical destination, a place where art, community, and history intersect. A uniquely modern ensemble featuring a choir of 65 professionally trained members and a professional orchestra, Cantata Singers has deep roots in the past, built on a foundation of innovation and versatility, and promoting the rich heritage of choral music.

Co-founded in 1964 by a group of friends, colleagues, and classmates, the Boston-based Cantata Singers was created with the goal of exploring and performing music not heard anywhere else by the Boston community and surrounding area; specifically, the cantatas / choral canon of Baroque composer Johann Sebastian Bach. Today, Cantata Singers offers fresh, inspiring interpretations of iconic music alongside more modern works. Well-known masterworks are juxtaposed with intriguing, unfamiliar - yet - accessible works, including those by female composers and composers of color, whether rarely performed pieces or new compositions by contemporary composers. For more details, visit www.cantatasingers.org.

More details on music director finalists Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez, Anthony Trecek-King, Noah Horn, and Katherine Chan can be found here (listed below in order of season appearance):
https://alejandrohernandezvaldez.com/
https://www.trecekking.com/
https://www.noahhornmusic.com/
http://www.katherinechanmusic.com/

Information of Urbanity Dance can be found here.

Copy of release in PDF format and photos available here.

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