



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRACE AND SPIRITUS CHORALE OF BROOKLYN ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR FOR 35TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Grace & Spiritus Chorale of Brooklyn is pleased to announce the appointment of our new Music Director, Jason Asbury beginning with our 35th anniversary season in 2011-2012. Asbury currently teaches on the faculty at Saint Ann's School in Brooklyn Heights, and has served as artistic director of various choral ensembles and choral festivals. He is Director of Music at Prospect Presbyterian Church in Maplewood, New Jersey. "Choral music is an art form that has the power to express the human experience, create community and transcend cultural barriers. I look forward to leading this ensemble in Brooklyn- one of the most dynamic communities in the world," says Asbury.

We will begin our 2011-2012 Season with a performance on September 11, 2011 at Saint Ann's Church, Brooklyn Heights. The program will include a new work by the British composer Julian Grant, entitled "In a Fog - Remember." Grant's music is set to two poems written by Brooklyn poet Anne Pierson Wiese. The chorus commissioned the piece with the theme of remembrance to commemorate the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001.

In January of 2012, we will perform a concert with the theme: Transforming Traditions, beginning with the composer, Giacomo Carissimi, a founder of the oratorio. We will perform Jephte, Carissimi's most developed work of this new form. Next, we move to the present day, performing the Beatitudes, by living composer Arvo Part. Finally, we will present the Chichester Psalms, by Leonard Bernstein, composed in 1964-1965.

Grace & Spiritus Chorale of Brooklyn is a community chorus based in Brooklyn Heights comprised of singers from all over Brooklyn who share a love of choral singing. The 75-member ensemble is committed to serving the wider Brooklyn community by presenting various traditions of choral music. Concerts include well known and little-known masterpieces of choral literature from Early Music to Contemporary composers.

Auditions will be held in September for the upcoming season.

Please visit www.graceandspiritus.org and Vocal Area Network (VAN) to learn more about audition dates and the upcoming season.

Grace & Spiritus Chorale of Brooklyn is supported in part by the **New York City Department of Cultural Affairs** who provided us with public funding, in partnership with the **City Council** to commission this new work.

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