



CHORALIS  
2020  
FALL SEASON

**CHORALIS**<sup>®</sup>  
GRETCHEN KUHRMANN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

# From the Maestra

*"Blessed are the flexible,  
for they shall not be  
bent out of shape."*

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I heard this phrase in a recent webinar for choral directors on leadership in challenging times, which I found not only inspiring, but permissive of what's most needed at this time: flexibility.

None of us could have imagined that singing would ever become one of the world's most dangerous professions, and that the musical arts would suffer such a blow as COVID-19; however, the beauty of Choralis is that we consistently have stepped out of our comfort zone for the past 20 years. Our world needs the arts now more than ever, and Choralis is committed to being a beacon of hope and light during this stressful time. Being forced into a virtual space provides more room to offer a variety of musical experiences, resulting in something completely new and different this season, which we are calling, "Now Hear This."



The choral world's being forced to hit the pause button has yielded unexpected and exciting results: our interdependence has created a much more tight-knit community. Many DC metro area conductors have joined to form a choral consortium, with several joint projects planned to serve an expanded audience. We hope that you will join us for as many of these new experiences as

possible. Until it is safe to gather in person again, we will do all in our power to bring you the experience that is *Choralis*.

Gretchen Kuhrmann  
Founder and Artistic Director

# 2020-2021 Concert & Lecture Series

## VIRTUAL CHORALIS CONCERTS



### **The Best of Choralis**

Saturday, September 26, 7 PM

Featuring highlights from Choralis' performances over the last 10 years, with Maestra Kuhrmann offering verbal program notes and behind-the-scenes stories.

### **A Classic Brass Christmas at Home**

December date to be announced

Join Choralis as we spread holiday cheer featuring recordings and videos from previous Classic Brass concerts. With Todd Fickley, Maestra Kuhrmann, and members of the Classical Brass as hosts, this event is guaranteed to bring an added dose of holiday cheer!

### **Winter Voices – DC Community Choral Collaborative**

Stay tuned to Choralis.org for air date and time!

The DC Metro community is home to many choral organizations. This year, most of our annual winter performances will be shifted to a virtual format. Though we can't share the holiday spirit in person, tune in to WETA this December to enjoy your favorite DC-area choirs bringing the sounds of the season directly to your home!

# 2020-2021 Concert & Lecture Series



## LECTURE SERIES



### It's G&T Time!

Monthly on Mondays at 5pm

Need help getting through the week? Grab your Gin and Tonic or your favorite cocktail and join the more famous G&T (Gretchen & Todd!) as they discuss composers, music history, famous choral works, and the general meaning of life once a month.

### Why Are We Singing in Parts?

Monday, September 28

When did part-singing begin, and how did it evolve into what we know today?



### What's So Special about JSB?

Monday, October 26

What is it that makes Johann Sebastian Bach the musical giant in the canon of Western music?

### Was Mozart an Abused Child?

Monday, November 23

Did the drive and perfectionism of Mozart's father help or hinder his son?





# Other Events



## Choralis Virtual Gala

Tuesday, October 20, 7 PM

*Ticketed event.* The Choralis Foundation's Virtual Annual Gala will feature performances by distinguished artists, and also will include a silent auction. Music is the common language of humanity, reflecting the full range of the human spirit and reaching us on a level unlike any other form of communication. Please join us on for an evening of fun, excellent music, and unique auction items!

## An Afternoon with Bob Chilcott and Friends

October 25, 3 PM

Have you ever wanted to have a drink and shoot the breeze with one of the most popular choral composers of our time? Now is your chance to do just that. Choralis will host an informal hour with composer Bob Chilcott and Chris Bruerton, a member of the King's Singers. There will be stories that entertain, enlighten, and engage as these two discuss being members of and composing for a world-renowned choral group. So grab your tea (or beer or cocktail!) and join us for what is sure to be a wonderful hour together! (Questions can be submitted in advance; more details to follow.)



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