



For immediate release  
**WQXR Launches**  
**“The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle”**

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## **Classical 105.9FM WQXR Introduces “The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle”**

### **New Program Hosted by the Leading American Choral Conductor Debuts Sunday, December 19**

**(November 29, 2010 – New York, NY)** - The choral music community in New York is active, engaged and passionate. The chorus, whether professional, amateur, academic or religious institution-based, offers hands-on, participatory music making at countless levels of entry.

On **Sunday, December 19 at 7am**, WQXR launches a new program devoted to this vibrant genre – **THE CHORAL MIX WITH KENT TRITLE** – hosted by the conductor *The New York Times* has hailed as “the brightest star in New York’s choral music world.” Each week, Maestro Tritle will explore a different aspect of the choral scene in New York and beyond. Through a smart and lively mix of exclusive live concert recordings and commercial recordings, **THE CHORAL MIX** will provide a significant locus for choral music and its community.

**THE CHORAL MIX** will air every Sunday at 7am, with an encore broadcast at 11pm, on 105.9 FM WQXR. It will also be available as a live webstream at [www.wqxr.org](http://www.wqxr.org).

“I am really thrilled to have the opportunity to celebrate New York’s choral riches on a weekly basis on WQXR,” said **Kent Tritle**. “Our debut program of holiday music – a coast-to-coast celebration of Judeo-Christian themes – sets the tone for the series by showcasing a broad spectrum of repertoire, from Josquin des Prez to Arvo Pärt, from George Frideric Handel to Nico Muhly and more, featuring New York’s own Voices of Ascension, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, the Hilliard Ensemble and other world class choral groups. And so we will continue!”

“Choral music is a vital and enduring part of the city's musical landscape, and so many WQXR listeners are active in the choral scene,” said Limor Tomer, Executive Producer of Music, WQXR. “We are delighted to create a platform on-air and online that brings together performers, composers and fans around this awe-inspiring genre. This show will not only serve as a meeting place for the existing choral music community, it will also introduce new listeners to the transformative power of choral music – the most participatory music genre in the canon. We are absolutely thrilled to have the celebrated Kent Tritle at the helm.”

#### **Upcoming shows include:**

- **Dec. 26, *An Early Music Christmas***

- Early Music in New York, featuring Gotham Early Music and others.
- **January 2, *New Year, New Music***  
An exploration of new music from the recent decade by composers including Nico Muhly, David Lang and Jaako Mäntyjärvi.
- **January 9, *IMBY (In My Back Yard)***  
A whirlwind tour of the choral scene in New York, featuring live recordings from Voices of Ascension, Cantori, Manhattan School of Music Chorus and Orchestra, Choir of St. Ignatius and the Young People's Chorus of New York.

In the coming months, **THE CHORAL MIX** will roll out a robust, multimedia companion site, which will include listener interaction, expanded interviews, and an archive for on-demand listening. In the fall 2011 season, **THE CHORAL MIX** will present live performances at The Greene Space, WQXR's intimate performance venue with superb acoustics. Additionally, the show will partner with the major professional and avocational choruses in New York City to bring listeners some of the finest live concerts being performed each season.

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**KENT TRITLE** is one of America's leading choral conductors. He is founder and Music Director of *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space*, the acclaimed concert series currently in its 22nd season at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City; in his sixth season as Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York and fourth season as Music Director of Musica Sacra; Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music; and a member of the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

Highlights of Kent Tritle's 2010-2011 season include performances of Handel's *Jephtha* (St. Ignatius Loyola) and *Israel in Egypt* (Musica Sacra), and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* (Oratorio Society of New York); premieres of works by Viktor Kalabis and Juraj Filas (St. Ignatius Loyola); performance and recording of new works by Daniel Brewbaker, Christopher Theofanidis, and Behzad Ranjbaran, among others (Musica Sacra), performances of such choral gems as Strauss's *Deutsche Motette* and Beethoven's *Christ on the Mount of Olives* (St. Ignatius Loyola); Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem* with the forces of the Manhattan School of Music; and the annual performances of Handel's *Messiah* with Musica Sacra and the Oratorio Society of New York.

From 1996 to 2004, Mr. Tritle was Music Director of the Emmy-nominated Dessooff Choirs, winners of the ASCAP/Chorus America award for adventurous programming of contemporary music. Under his direction the Dessooff Choirs performed with the Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, and Czech Philharmonic, as well as a nationally telecast *Live from Lincoln Center* concert of Mozart's Requiem.

Kent Tritle has made more than a dozen recordings on the Telarc, AMDG, Epiphany, Gothic, VAI and MSR Classics labels. His most recent CDs with the Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola, Ginastera's *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* and Schnittke's Concerto for Choir; and *Wondrous Love*, music from 1,000 years of sacred repertoire, have been praised by Gramophone, the American Record Guide, and The Choral Journal.

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