



GRAMMY-WINNING COMPOSER ERIC WHITACRE BRINGS ERIC WHITACRE SINGERS AND *MUSIC FOR SACRED SPACES* TO JORGENSEN

Sat, Mar 4, 2017, 8 pm

Grammy-winning 21st Century composer and conductor Eric Whitacre brings his internationally acclaimed vocal ensemble, the Eric Whitacre Singers, to UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts for an evening of captivating modern choral music on Saturday, March 4, one stop in the choir's 2017 *Music for Sacred Spaces Tour*. Renowned for his use of advanced harmonies, dissonant chordal phrasings, and surprising tempo changes, Whitacre will lead his choir through a program featuring some of his best-known works, like "Go, Lovely Rose" and "Lux Aurumque," as well as a few surprises including a Whitacre world premiere. Doors open at 7:30 pm and performance begins at 8:00 pm.

"There are so many good things about choral music that it's kind of stunning that it's not required as part of our educational curriculum," says Whitacre, whose first album as composer and conductor, *Light & Gold*, won the 2012 Grammy Award for Best Choral Performance.

"In an ensemble you learn compassion; you learn empathy; you learn discipline; you learn languages; you learn history; you learn focus; all of these things that are essential for every other part of your life. I can't imagine how educators don't say, 'this is the way we start our days. We start our days with *singing*, and then everything else actually rolls out in this really lovely way."

A 1997 graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School of Music, Whitacre is one of today's most popular and frequently-performed composers. His remarkable global appeal has been enhanced by his achievements as conductor, innovator, broadcaster and charismatic public speaker, and by the best-selling success of his recordings. He was recently appointed Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale having completed a five-year term as Composer in Residence at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University, UK. In addition to his extensive output for choir and vocal ensemble, Eric's orchestral works have been performed by some of the world's most distinguished orchestras on both sides of the Atlantic.

Praised by *BBC Music Magazine* for their "technical and expressive excellence" the Eric Whitacre Singers have established themselves as one of the finest ensembles of our day. This professional choir draws in audiences with a wide spectrum of age, interests and backgrounds, performing Monteverdi and Bach to Whitacre, Lauridsen and Britten. They received exceptional and unanimous praise from critics and won a Grammy Award for Best Choral Performance for their debut album, *Light & Gold*.

Their second album, *Water Night*, which featured the London Symphony Orchestra, Hila Plitmann, and Julian Lloyd Webber, went straight to number one in the classical iTunes and Billboard charts and. In November 2014, they released their first EP on vinyl featuring Whitacre's choral arrangement of Depeche Mode's "Enjoy the Silence."

For more information about Eric Whitacre and the Eric Whitacre Singers please visit www.ericwhitacre.com.

Quick Reference

Choral Music Event
Eric Whitacre and the
Eric Whitacre Singers

Date
Sat, Mar 4, 8 pm

Place
Jorgensen Center
for the Performing Arts
2132 Hillside Road
UConn campus, Storrs, CT

Tickets
\$40, \$37, \$34

Box Office
860.486.4226
Mon–Fri, 10 am–5 pm

The Box Office window is also
open for walk-up ticket sales
90 minutes before showtime.

For Immediate Release

MEDIA CONTACT:
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ERIC WHITACRE, continued

Mr. Whitacre wishes to thank his Jorgensen Media Sponsors CPBN, CPTV, and WNPR.

Jorgensen was voted Best College or University Performing Arts Center in the *Hartford Courant's CTNow*, as well as *Connecticut Magazine's* Best of Performing Arts Venues (College) for 2016. Established in December of 1955, Jorgensen has grown to become the largest college-based presenting program in New England. Each season Jorgensen enriches the lives of students, faculty, staff, and area residents with 30 to 35 diverse performances from nationally and internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles ranging from classical music to world music and dance, classical ballet and contemporary dance, comedy, family programming, and contemporary entertainment. Dedicated to University of Connecticut president Albert N. Jorgensen, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts continues to follow his vision of the University as the state's educational and cultural leader.

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. Tickets are available now online. Prices are: Floor Seats - \$40; Mezzanine - \$37; Balcony - \$34; Students & Youth Under 18 - All seats \$15.

For tickets and information, call the Box Office at 860.486.4226, Monday through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, and 90 minutes prior to events, or order online at jorgensen.uconn.edu. Convenient \$5 event parking is available in the North Garage. Free parking is available in Lots 9, F, and L. For a detailed parking map, go to park.uconn.edu.

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