

HANDEL CHOIR  
OF BALTIMORE

ARIAN KHAEFI  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
& CONDUCTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HANDEL CHOIR OF BALTIMORE ANNOUNCES  
2017–2018 SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT SEASON**

Subscription tickets available now

(Baltimore, MD) Handel Choir's 2017–2018 subscription concert series highlights the late 19th- and mid-20th-century Requiems by Fauré and Duruflé, with guest artist Jeremy Filsell on organ, and the Mass for Double Choir by 20th-century Swiss composer Frank Martin, along with the Choir's 83rd annual presentation of Handel's *Messiah: An Oratorio*.

"Quite simply, it's a season of some of the most gorgeous choral music in the canon written by the masters," said Arian Khaefi, Handel Choir's artistic director and conductor, "with one or two lesser known gems added to the mix for flavor."

Handel Choir performs *Messiah* with period instrument orchestra and acclaimed vocal soloists at 7:30 p.m. Saturday December 9, 2017, and 3 p.m. Sunday December 10, 2017, at Grace United Methodist Church in the Homeland neighborhood of Baltimore and at St Mark Catholic Church in Catonsville, respectively. (Details below and at [handelchoir.org](http://handelchoir.org))

Frank Martin (1890–1974) composed his *a cappella* Mass for Double Choir in 1922, with revisions in 1926. He did not allow the piece to be performed until the early 1960s, however, viewing the work as "a matter between God and myself. Music critic Alex Ross has said Martin's composition "sounds like a Renaissance mass lost in time, aware nonetheless of long centuries passing and new horrors unfolding." The piece will close Handel Choir's second concert, which starts at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3, 2018, at Second Presbyterian Church (Guilford), and which will also include sacred works by Handel, Mozart, Brahms and Mendelssohn.

The third and final concert of Handel Choir's subscription season, *Sérénité*, consists of the Fauré and Duruflé Requiems (written 1887–1890 and 1941–1947, respectively) performed back to back. Handel Choir is joined by organist Jeremy Filsell, whose playing has been called "stunning" and "flawless," among many other accolades. The concert takes place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday April 21, 2018, at Second Presbyterian Church (Guilford).

A pre-concert lecture takes place one hour before each subscription concert and is open to all ticket-holders.

*(continued)*

Season subscriptions are available now: \$110 for premium seating (front rows or center front rows of the venue) and \$85 for standard seating. Full time students with I.D. are invited to subscribe for \$25.

Details are below and at [handelchoir.org](http://handelchoir.org). Contact Managing Director Anne Wilson for high-resolution photos or other information/materials, at [anne@handelchoir.org](mailto:anne@handelchoir.org) or 667.206.4120.

### **Handel *Messiah***

7:30 pm Saturday Dec 9, 2017

Grace United Methodist Church, 5407 N Charles St, Baltimore 21212

3 pm Sunday Dec 10, 2017

St Mark Catholic Church, 30 Melvin Ave, Catonsville 21228

The baroque master's beloved oratorio -- our 83rd year!

Handel Choir and Handel Period Instrument Orchestra

With acclaimed soloists

Arian Khaefi *conductor*

\$47/\$37/\$10 student with ID

Reduced ticket price available with a season subscription.

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### **Martin Mass for Double Choir**

7:30 pm Saturday Mar 3, 2018

Second Presbyterian Church, 4200 Saint Paul Street, Baltimore 21218

Choral classics, followed by a less frequently performed work of "searing beauty and luminescence," the Mass for Double Choir (unaccompanied) by 20th-century Swiss composer Frank Martin.

MENDELSSOHN Mitten wir im Leben sind

BRAHMS Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauern

MOZART Regina Coeli

HANDEL Let thy hand be strengthened

MARTIN Mass for Double Choir

Handel Choir of Baltimore and guest artists

Arian Khaefi *conductor*

*(continued)*

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\$37/\$27/\$10 student with ID

Reduced ticket price available with a season subscription.

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**Sérénité: Fauré and Duruflé Requiems**

Jeremy Filsell, organ

7:30 pm Saturday Apr 21, 2018

Second Presbyterian Church, 4200 Saint Paul Street, Baltimore 21218

Handel Choir presents the sublime Requiems of Gabriel Fauré and Maurice Duruflé, joined by guest organist Jeremy Filsell.

Handel Choir of Baltimore

Jeremy Filsell *organ*

Arian Khaefi *conductor*

\$37/\$27/\$10 student with ID

Reduced ticket price available with a season subscription.

To subscribe by phone, call 667.206.4120. Go to [www.handelchoir.org](http://www.handelchoir.org) for a printable mail-in order form.

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