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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Elizabeth Paynter and the EnChor Chamber Choir Invited to Perform with Composer Eric Whitacre in New York City

New York, N.Y. – February 17, 2014

Outstanding music program
receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that director Elizabeth Paynter and the EnChor Chamber Choir have been invited to participate in a performance of 'The Music of Eric Whitacre' on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance is on March 30, 2014 at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Composer Eric Whitacre will be conductor of the performance and clinician for the residency.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "EnChor received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers. It is quite an honor just to be invited to perform in New York. These wonderful musicians not only represent a high quality of music and education, but they also become ambassadors for the entire community. This is an event of extreme pride for everybody and deserving of the community's recognition and support."

The singers will spend 5 days and 4 nights in New York City in preparation for their concert. "The singers will spend approximately 9-10 hours in rehearsals over the 5 day residency," says Griffith. "Not all of the time is spent in rehearsals, since there is so much history and culture to see in New York City. However, the performance is the primary purpose for their visit to the city." Members of the community are encouraged to give financial support in sending these singers to New York by contacting Elizabeth Paynter via email at paynter.liz@gmail.com.

Composer/Conductor
Eric Whitacre

Eric Whitacre is one of the most popular and performed composers of our time, a distinguished conductor, broadcaster and public speaker. His first album as both composer and conductor on Decca/Universal, *Light & Gold*, won a Grammy® in 2012, reaped unanimous five star reviews and became the No. 1 classical album in the US and UK charts within a week of release. His second album, *Water Night*, was released on Decca in April 2012 and debuted at no. 1 in the iTunes and Billboard classical chart on the day of release. It features seven world premiere recordings and includes performances from his professional choir, the Eric Whitacre Singers, the London Symphony Orchestra, Julian Lloyd Webber and Hila Plitmann. His compositions also feature on multiple other recordings made in Europe, North America and Australasia.

His ground-breaking Virtual Choir, *Lux Aurumque*, received over a million views on YouTube in just 2 months (now 3 million), featuring 185 singers from 12 different countries. Virtual Choir 2.0, *Sleep*, was released in April 2011 and involved over 2,000 voices from 58 countries. Virtual Choir 3, *Water Night*, received 3,746 submissions from 73 countries and launched at Lincoln Center, New York and revealed online in April 2012.

His latest initiative, Soaring Leap, is a series of workshops and festivals. Guest speakers, composers and artists, make regular appearances at Soaring Leap events around the world.

An exceptional orator, Eric was honoured to address the U.N. Leaders programme and the revered TED conference in Long Beach CA where he earned the first full standing ovation of the conference. He has addressed audiences worldwide, including leading Universities, The Economist and Seoul Digital Forum. In October 2012, Eric presented his Virtual Choir at the Founders conference, an annual private gathering for 150 of the world's leading technology company founders, alongside a discussion with Jawed Karim, co-founder of YouTube. Eric has been invited to address the World Economic Conference, Davos, in January 2013, to lead a discussion on the role of arts in society and the impact of technology on the arts.

Eric Whitacre is currently Composer in Residence at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University, UK.

DCINY Productions

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is a production company based in New York City. Our concert series includes choral and instrumental concerts in world-class venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall and Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor) DCINY is driven by passion, innovative vision, a total belief in its artists, and unwavering commitment to bringing forth unforgettable audience experiences. Following our motto "The Art of Performance – The Power of Education", we focus on the educational process while upholding a high performance standard and provide ensembles and conductors of distinction educational and performance opportunities including select solo performances, rehearsal audit, conductor mentoring and debut performances.

Tickets

For more information on tickets, group sales or other special offers, please contact us at 212-707-8566 Ext. 307, or BoxOffice@DCINY.org.

Contact & Interviews

Interviews and additional information may be arranged by contacting Shira Gilbert, at 212.707.8566 Ext. 316, or Shira@DCINY.org.

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