



## Oratorio Society of New York

### KENT TRITLE, Music Director

Called “the brightest star in New York’s choral music world” by *The New York Times*, Kent Tritle is one of America’s leading choral conductors. He is in his 11<sup>th</sup> season as music director of the Oratorio Society of New York, the acclaimed 200-voice volunteer chorus, as well as his fifth season as Director of Cathedral Music and Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City; and his ninth as Music Director of Musica Sacra, the longest continuously performing professional chorus in New York.

Mr. Tritle is also Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music and is a member of the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, Mr Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic and the American Symphony Orchestra.

Among Mr. Tritle’s recent notable performances with the OSNY have included Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion*; Mendelssohn’s *Elijah, Paulus and Die erste Walpurgisnacht*; Dvořák’s *Stabat Mater*; Britten’s *War Requiem* and the New York premiere of Paul Moravec’s *The Blizzard Voices*. In March 2014 he led the Oratorio Society of New York and the Symphony and Symphonic Chorus of the Manhattan School of Music in Verdi’s *Requiem* at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. He prepared the Society for Beethoven’s *Missa Solemnis* with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s led by Sir Roger Norrington, and the Society’s bass section for Varèse’s *Nocturnal*, with the New York Philharmonic and Alan Gilbert. In 2011 he and the OSNY participated in the 11<sup>th</sup> international Festival of Sacred Music and Art in Rome, giving concerts in the basilicas of St. Peter, St. Maria Maggiore and St. John Lateran.

From 1989 to 2011, Mr. Tritle led the *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space* series at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, and from 1996 to 2004, he was Music Director of the Emmy-nominated Dessoif Choirs. He hosted “The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle,” a weekly program devoted to the vibrant world of choral music, on New York’s WQXR from 2010 to 2014.

Mr. Tritle is also renowned as a master clinician, giving workshops on conducting and repertoire. In 2014 he made his third appearance as a featured conductor at the Berkshire Choral Festival, leading Elgar’s *Dream of Gerontius*, and in 2015 he led summer workshops at the Amherst Early Music Festival and Summer@Eastman. In early 2016, he directs a workshop in choral conducting at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. In 2013, he was the chorus director of the Carnegie Hall National High School Choral Festival, preparing three choruses from high schools across the country in Mozart’s *Requiem*.

Mr. Tritle has prepared choruses for conductors Alan Gilbert, Philippe Entremont, Christoph von Dohnányi, Leonard Slatkin, Michael Tilson Thomas, Robert Spano, Gerard Schwarz and Dennis Russell Davies. Among the soloists with whom he has collaborated are singers Renée Fleming, Jessye Norman, Marilyn Horne, Susan Graham and Sherrill Milnes; cellist Yo-Yo Ma; pianist André Previn; and actor Tony Randall. As an organ recitalist, Mr. performs regularly in Europe and across the US; recital venues have included the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the Zurich Tonhalle, the Church of St. Sulpice in Paris, Dresden’s Hofkirche, King’s College at Cambridge, Westminster Abbey and St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague.

Kent Tritle has made more than a dozen recordings on the Telarc, AMDG, Epiphany, Gothic, VAI and MSR Classics labels. His latest is the 2013 recording of Filas’ *Requiem, Oratio Spei*, with the Prague Symphony Orchestra; soloists Ana María Martínez, Matthew Plenk, and Filip Bandzak; and the Kühn Choir. Other recent releases are two with Musica Sacra: *Messages to Myself*, an acclaimed recording of five new works; and *Eternal Reflections: Choral Music of Robert Paterson*.

Kent Tritle holds graduate and undergraduate degrees from The Juilliard School in organ performance and choral conducting. He has been featured on *ABC World News Tonight*, National Public Radio, and Minnesota Public Radio, as well as in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. For more information, visit [www.kenttritle.com](http://www.kenttritle.com). Mr. Tritle’s Facebook page and Twitter handle is kenttritle.