

Updated September 7, 2023

Kent Tritle's 2023-24 Season Includes the 150th Season of Oratorio Society of New York:

- Handel's *Samson* and *Messiah*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Mozart's Requiem, and 150th Season Celebration Concert with Oratorio Society of New York
- Schütz & Handel, *Messiah*, and "SurRound," a Surround-Sound Choral Event with Musica Sacra
- Saint-Saëns "Organ" Symphony with the New York Philharmonic



Kent Tritle (L: Jennifer Taylor, R: Joshua South)

The many facets of Kent Tritle's career are on prominent display in the 2023-24 concert season of the Director of Cathedral Music and Organist at the **Cathedral of St. John the Divine**; Music Director of both **Musica Sacra**, New York's elite professional chorus, and **Oratorio Society of New York**, the acclaimed avocational ensemble; and organist of the **New York Philharmonic**.

Choral highlights include the 150th season of the Oratorio Society of New York that presents Handel oratorios *Samson* and *Messiah*, Bach's *Magnificat* and the Mozart Requiem at Carnegie Hall, and a special program featuring the choral movements of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and Mahler's Symphony No. 2; a Musica Sacra season featuring "SurRound," a surround sound choral concert with singers moving throughout the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, as well as Handel's *Messiah* at Carnegie Hall; and the Fauré Requiem and holiday programs with the Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine.

The season also shines a spotlight on Kent's organ activity. He is the featured soloist in performances of Saint-Saëns's "Organ" Symphony (Symphony No. 3) with the New York Philharmonic, and he performs a solo recital at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on the cathedral's digital organ. The Great Organ of St. John the Divine, which was damaged by fire in 2019, will have its repaired components installed, and be functional once more, in April 2024; a series of recitals celebrating the event will take place next season.

See the schedule below for full concert details.

Oratorio Society of New York – 150th season

The 150th season of the Oratorio Society of New York is Kent Tritle's 19th as Music Director of the 180-voice avocational chorus. The landmark season presents choral masterpieces at Carnegie Hall, the organization's home since 1891: Bach's *Magnificat* and Mozart's Requiem (November 6, 2023), Handel's *Messiah* (December 18, 2023), and Handel's *Samson* (May 6, 2024), which the OSNY performed 150 years ago in 1874. There will also be a special sesquicentennial program: a concert featuring the choral movements of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and Mahler's Symphony No. 2 in arrangements for chorus and organ by David Briggs, who will also perform, as well as two contemporary works, Karen P. Thomas's *Le Stelle* and Oliver Caplan's *Cloud Anthem* (chosen from a call for scores from the OSNY) at St. Bartholomew's Church in midtown Manhattan (March 5, 2024).

The season's featured soloists include Martin Bakari, Joseph Beutel, Joshua Blue, Lucia Bradford, John Brancy, Eric Carey, Tyler Duncan, Lawrence Jones, Adam Lau, Kathryn Lewek, Laquita Mitchell, Daniel Moody, Mary Beth Nelson, Sidney Outlaw, Heather Petrie, Susanna Phillips, and Nola Richardson.

Musica Sacra – "SurRound," *Messiah*, and New York Philharmonic Mozart Requiem

To launch the 60th season of Musica Sacra, New York's longest continually performing professional chorus, Kent introduces a new program concept site-specific to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine: "SurRound," an immersive, 360° surround-sound concert in the candlelit cathedral. The audience, seated in the choir stalls, in the Great Choir section between them, or up by the High Altar, will experience sound in motion from all corners of the cathedral – a program spanning medieval, Renaissance, and contemporary works music ranging from Whitacre and Tavener to Pärt, Byrd, Florence Price and more (October 17, 2023).

Kent leads Musica Sacra's annual holiday performance of Handel's *Messiah* at Carnegie Hall, with soloists Susanna Phillips, Clifton Massey, Steven Wilson, and Joseph Parrish (December 20, 2023), and the ensemble's spring concert, a Baroque program of the 17th-century German-language requiem *Musikalische Exequien* of Heinrich Schütz and Handel's virtuosic Latin psalm setting *Dixit Dominus* – two signature works championed by the group's founder, Richard Westenburg (March 19, 2024).

Continuing its distinguished tradition of musical collaborations, Musica Sacra is the featured chorus in the New York Philharmonic's spring performances of Mozart's Requiem, led by NYP Music Director Jaap van Zweden (May 23-28, 2024). The chorus, prepared by Kent, received praise for its participation in NYP performances of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* in April. Musica Sacra also returns to the New York City Ballet for that company's beloved production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (May 28 – June 2).

Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine

The professional Choir of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine is joined by the Cathedral Choristers (students at the Cathedral School), volunteer Cathedral Chorale, and Cathedral Orchestra for the annual "Joy of Christmas" concert, at which Kent and Bryan Zaros, the Associate Director of Music and

Choirmaster, will lead music of Amy Beach, Franz Biebl, Hannah Kendall, and J. S. Bach, among others, along with Christmas carols sung by all (December 9, 2023). The Cathedral Choir and Orchestra headline the annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace, hosted by Harry Smith, performing music by Adolphus Hailstork, Marques L. A. Garrett, Caroline Shaw, Nicholas Cline, Stanley Grill, and J. S. Bach (December 31, 2023).

Kent conducts a program showcasing the Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra – the Te Deum of Anton Bruckner and Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, K. 317, with soloists to include Eva Martinez, soprano, and Joseph Beutel, bass-baritone – and the newly reinstalled Great Organ, which features in both works (April 20, 2024). And the latest collaboration between the Cathedral Choir and the period/world music ensemble Rose of the Compass is "This Magic Earth", which will take place under the Cathedral's art installation "Divine Pathways" (April 9, 2024).

The Organ Season

As the organist of the New York Philharmonic, Kent is the featured soloist in performances of the "Organ" Symphony (Symphony No. 3) of Camille Saint-Saëns with the orchestra conducted by Stéphane Denève, on the organ of David Geffen Hall (November 9-12, 2023). Additional performances with the Philharmonic during the season include in Handel's *Israel in Egypt* and *Messiah*, Scriabin's *Poème de l'extase*, and Mahler's Symphony No. 2.

Kent performs a recital on the Walker Technical digital instrument of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine including music of J. S. Bach, Eugene Hancock, Charles D. Coleman, and Marcel Dupré (September 24, 2023). The Great Organ of St. John the Divine, which was damaged by fire in 2019, will have its repaired components installed, and be functional once more, in April 2024; it will be featured in the April 20 concert (see above). A series of recitals celebrating the event will take place next season.

Before the New York season begins, he performs a recital at Grace United Methodist Church in Spencer, Iowa, less than 20 miles from his hometown of Spirit Lake (September 20, 2023).

Amherst Early Music Festival and Tour with Cathedral Choristers

Kent returned to the Amherst Early Music Festival this summer to lead its Choral Workshop in music of Handel and Purcell, culminating in a concert (July 9-16, 2023). He leads a tour of England with the combined Choristers, Chorale and Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine, with Associate Music Director and Choirmaster Bryan Zaros; the group will sing at Evensong services and Eucharists during residencies at Westminster Abbey in London and the cathedrals of Ely, Lincoln, and Liverpool (August 10-20, 2023).

Kent Tritle is one of America's leading choral conductors. Called "the brightest star in New York's choral music world" by The New York Times, he is Director of Cathedral Music and Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City; Music Director of the Oratorio Society of New York, the acclaimed avocational chorus; and Music Director of Musica Sacra, New York's elite professional chorus. In addition, Kent is a member of the graduate faculty of The Juilliard School, serving its Vocal Arts Department. An acclaimed organ virtuoso, he is also the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Kent Tritle's discography features more than 20 recordings on the Telarc, Naxos, AMDG, Epiphany, Gothic, VAI and MSR Classics labels. Recent releases include the Grammy-nominated Naxos recording of the Paul Moravec/Mark Campbell oratorio *Sanctuary Road* with the Oratorio Society of New York; Mahler's Symphony No. 8 in David Briggs's organ-choral version, and *Eternal Reflections: Choral Music of Robert Paterson* with Musica Sacra. Other releases include the 2013 recording of Juraj Filas' Requiem,

Oratio Spei dedicated to the victims of 9/11, with the Prague Symphony Orchestra and the Kühn Choir; *Messages to Myself*, an acclaimed recording with Musica Sacra of five new works; and recordings – including *Cool of the Day*, an a cappella program of music ranging from Gregorian chant, Palestrina, and spirituals to Strauss's *Deutsche Motette*, and Ginastera's *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* with Schnittke's Concerto for Choir – with the Choir of St. Ignatius Loyola.

Kent Tritle is renowned as a master clinician, giving workshops on conducting and repertoire; he leads annual choral workshops at the Amherst Early Music Festival, and recent years have included workshops at Berkshire Choral International, Summer@Eastman and at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. As Director of Choral Activities at the Manhattan School of Music from 2008 to 2022, Kent established the school's first doctoral program in choral conducting. A Juilliard School faculty member since 1996, he currently directs a graduate practicum on oratorio in collaboration with the school's Vocal Arts Department.

Kent Tritle founded the *Sacred Music in a Sacred Space* concert series at New York's Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, and led it to great acclaim from 1989 to 2011. From 1996 to 2004, he was Music Director of New York's The Desoff Choirs. Kent hosted "The Choral Mix with Kent Tritle" on New York's WQXR, a weekly program devoted to the vibrant world of choral music, from 2010 to 2014. Among his recent honors are the 2020 Chorus America Michael Korn Founders Award for Development of the Professional Choral Art, the 2017 Distinguished Achievement Award from Career Bridges and the 2016 President's Medal for Distinguished Service from the Manhattan School of Music. Kent is on the advisory boards of the Choral Composer/Conductor Collective (C4) and the Clarion Music Society, and was the 2016 honoree at Clarion's annual gala. He was recently featured in the WIRED video series "Masterminds," an installment titled, "What Conductors Are Really Doing

<https://kenttritle.com>

Kent Tritle on Facebook: www.facebook.com/kenttritle

Kent Tritle on Twitter: www.twitter.com/kenttritle

Join Kent Tritle's [e-newsletter list](#).

KENT TRITLE 2023-24 SEASON

July 9-16, 2023

Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA

[AMHERST EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL CHORAL WORKSHOP](#)

Kent Tritle, director

Repertoire will include two pieces by Henry Purcell: *Welcome to All the Pleasures*, the first of three *Odes for St. Cecilia's Day* and *Funeral Sentences*, and by G.F. Handel, the Chandos Anthem: *My song shall be always*.

August 10-20, 2023

CATHEDRAL CHORISTERS, CHORALE, AND CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Tour of England with the combined Choristers, Chorale and Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine, with Associate Music Director and Choirmaster Bryan Zaros; the group will sing at Evensong services and Eucharists during residencies at Westminster Abbey in London and the cathedrals of Ely, Lincoln, and Liverpool.

Saturday, September 9, 2023, at 3:30 pm

[The Smithfield Church, Amenia, NY](#)

KENT TRITLE, organ

DIETERICH BUXTEHUDE	Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne, BuxWV
EUGENE HANCOCK	Fantasy
DIETERICH BUXTEHUDE	Praeludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149
CHARLES D. COLEMAN	Passacaglia (from Organ Sonata I: Dedicated to Eugene Hancock)
J. S. BACH	Selections from <i>Orgelbüchlein</i>
J. S. BACH	Concerto in D Minor, BWV 596

Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 6:30 pm

[Grace United Methodist Church, Spencer, IA](#)

KENT TRITLE, organ

DIETERICH BUXTEHUDE	Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne, BuxWV 137
EUGENE HANCOCK	Fantasy
DIETERICH BUXTEHUDE	Praeludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149
CHARLES D. COLEMAN	Passacaglia (from Organ Sonata I: Dedicated to Eugene Hancock)
J. S. BACH	Concerto in D Minor, BWV 596
FELIX MENDELSSOHN	Sonata IV in B-flat Major, Op. 65
MARCEL DUPRÉ	Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, Op. 7

Sunday, September 24, 2023, at 5:00 pm

[Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY](#)

KENT TRITLE, organ

DANIEL PINKHAM	<i>A Prophecy</i>
J. S. BACH	Concerto in D Minor, BWV 596 (after Antonio Vivaldi)
EUGENE HANCOCK	Fantasy
CHARLES D. COLEMAN	Passacaglia (from Organ Sonata I: Dedicated to Eugene Hancock)
MARCEL DUPRÉ	Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, Op. 7

Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 7:30 pm

Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY

[MUSICA SACRA](#)

“SurRound”

Kent Tritle, conductor

“SurRound” is an immersive, 360° surround-sound concert in the candlelit Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The audience, seated in the choir stalls, in the Great Choir section between them, or up by the High Altar, will experience sound in motion from all corners of the cathedral – a program spanning medieval, Renaissance, and contemporary works.

WILLIAM BYRD	“Christie, qui lux es”
ANTONIO LOTTI	“Crucifixus”
PABLO CASALS	“O Vos Omnes”
FLORENCE PRICE	“Resignation”
JOHN TAVENER	“Funeral Ikos”
BENJAMIN BRITTEN	“Hymn to the Virgin”
CARLOTTA FERRARI	“Songs for Hildegard”
DAVID LANG	“make peace”
ERIC WHITACRE	“Nox Aurumque”
ROBERT A. HARRIS	“How can I keep from singing? “
Trad. American folk song, arr. Erb	“Shenandoah”
Gregorian chant	

October 25-26, 2023

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Jeannette Sorrell, conductor

Amanda Forsythe and Sonya Headlam, sopranos

Cody Bowers, countertenor

Jacob Perry, tenor

Edward Vogel, baritone

Apollo's Singers (Chorus of Apollo's Fire),

Jeannette Sorrell, artistic director

G. F. HANDEL *Israel in Egypt*

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Monday, November 6, 2023, at 7:00 pm

Carnegie Hall, New York, NY

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

Laquita Mitchell, soprano

Lucia Bradford, mezzo-soprano

Eric Carey, tenor

Adam Lau, bass

J. S. BACH *Magnificat*

W. A. MOZART Requiem

November 9-12, 2023

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider, violin

Kent Tritle, organ

CARLOS SIMON *Fate Now Conquers*

L. V. BEETHOVEN Violin Concerto

CAMILLE SAINT-SÄENS Symphony No. 3, "Organ"

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

November 22-25, 2023

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Dima Slobodeniouk, conductor

J'Nai Bridges, mezzo-soprano

GYORGY LIGETI *Atmosphères*

JULIA PERRY *Stabat mater*

GUSTAV HOLST *The Planets* *

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic

December 6-9, 2023

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Andrés Orozco-Estrada, conductor

Edgar Moreau, cello

PETER ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY *Romeo and Juliet*, Overture-Fantasy

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN Cello Concerto No. 1

BÉLA BARTÓK *The Miraculous Mandarin* Suite *

GEORGE ENESCU Romanian Rhapsody Op. 11, No. 1

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 7:00 pm

[Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY](#)

"THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS: PEACE ON EARTH"

CATHEDRAL CHOIRS AND ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle & Bryan Zaros, conductors

Music by Amy Beach, Franz Biebl, and Hannah Kendall, J. S. Bach's *Gloria in Excelsis*, and Christmas carols sung by all.

December 12-16, 2023

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Fabio Biondi, conductor

Hera Hyesang Park, soprano

Hannah Ludwig, alto

John Matthew Myers, tenor

Joshua Conyers, baritone

Handel and Haydn Society Chorus,

Jonathan Cohen, Artistic Director

G. F. HANDEL

Messiah

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Monday, December 18, 2023, at 7:00 pm

Carnegie Hall, New York, NY

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

Kathryn Lewek, soprano

Daniel Moody, countertenor

Martin Bakari, tenor

John Brancy, baritone

G. F. HANDEL

Messiah

Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 7:30 pm

Carnegie Hall, New York, NY

[MUSICA SACRA](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor

Susanna Phillips, soprano

Clifton Massey, countertenor

Steven Wilson, tenor

Joseph Parrish, bass-baritone

G. F. HANDEL

Messiah

Sunday, December 31, 2023, at 7:30 pm

[Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY](#)

"NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT FOR PEACE: HEARTS, HANDS AND FORGOTTEN VOICES"

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Harry Smith, host

Kent Tritle and Bryan Zaros, conductors

CAROLINE SHAW	"To the Hands"
NICHOLAS CLINE	"She took his hands"
STANLEY GRILL	"Voices of Afghanistan" (World premiere)

The program will also include music of J. S. Bach, and African American spirituals arranged by Adolphus Hailstork and Marques L.A. Garrett, concluding with "This Little Light of Mine," sung by all.

February 8-13, 2023

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Santtu-Matias Rouvali, conductor

Baiba Skride, violin

LEONARD BERNSTEIN	Serenade (after Plato's <i>Symposium</i>)
RICHARD STRAUSS	<i>Eine Alpensinfonie (An Alpine Symphony)</i> *

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 7:00 pm

St. Bartholomew's Church, New York, NY

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

150th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Kent Tritle, conductor

Susanna Phillips, soprano

Heather Petrie, contralto

Joshua Blue, tenor

Tyler Duncan, baritone

David Briggs, organ

L. V. BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 9, finale: "Ode to Joy" (arr. David Briggs)
GUSTAV MAHLER	Symphony No. 2, "Resurrection," choral finale (arr. David Briggs)
KAREN P. THOMAS	<i>Le Stelle</i>
OLIVER CAPLAN	<i>Cloud Anthem</i>

This special program features the choral finales of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and Mahler's Symphony No. 2 in arrangements for chorus and organ by David Briggs, and two works chosen from a call for scores by the OSNY.

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 7:30 pm
Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY

MUSICA SACRA

SCHÜTZ & HANDEL

Kent Tritle, conductor
Elisse Albian and Emily Donato, sopranos
Kirsten Sollek, contralto
Richard Pittsinger, tenor
Nathaniel Sullivan, bass- baritone
Joseph Beutel, bass-baritone
Musica Sacra Chorus & Orchestra

HEINRICH SCHÜTZ *Musikalische Exequien*
G. F. HANDEL *Dixit Dominus*

April 4-6, 2024
David Geffen Hall, New York, NY
NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC
Karina Canellakis, conductor
Alice Sara Ott, piano

ANTON WEBERN Six Pieces for Orchestra, Op. 6 (1928 version)
RICHARD STRAUSS Tod und Verklärung (Death and Transfiguration)
MAURICE RAVEL Piano Concerto in G major
ALEXANDER SCRIABIN *Le Poème de l'extase (The Poem of Ecstasy)**

*Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 7:30 pm
Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY

"THIS MAGIC EARTH"

ROSE OF THE COMPASS

CATHEDRAL CHOIR OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle and Bryan Zaros, conductors

Through the world and early music instrumentation of Rose of the Compass- recorder, oud, kanun, percussion and cello- combined with the voices of the Cathedral Choir, this celebration of our Planet Earth takes place under the Cathedral's art installation "Divine Pathways." Music spanning over 1,000 years illuminates and illustrates kingdoms animal and mineral, verdant and elemental.

Rose of the Compass: Nina Stern, recorder; Ara Dinkjian, oud; Tamer Pinarbasi, kanun; Glen Velez, percussion; Arthur Fiacco, cello

Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 7:30 pm

[Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY](#)

CATHEDRAL CHOIRS AND ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Kent Tritle, conductor
Eva Martinez, soprano
Kirsten Sollek, contralto
Paul D'Arcy, tenor
Joseph Beutel, baritone

W. A. MOZART *Coronation Mass, K. 317*
ANTON BRUCKNER *Te Deum*

Monday, May 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm

Carnegie Hall, New York, NY

[ORATORIO SOCIETY OF NEW YORK](#)

Kent Tritle, conductor
Nola Richardson, soprano
Mary Beth Nelson, mezzo-soprano
Lawrence Jones, tenor
Sidney Outlaw, baritone
Joseph Beutel, bass-baritone

G. F. HANDEL *Samson*

May 23,28, 2024

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Jaap van Zweden, conductor
Amanda Forsythe, soprano
Cecelia Hall, mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Phan, tenor
Michael Sumuel, bass-baritone
Antoine Tamestit, viola
Musica Sacra,
Kent Tritle, director

SOFIA GUBAIDULINA Viola Concerto
W. A. MOZART Requiem*

*Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

May 28 – June 2, 2024

David H. Koch Theater, Lincoln Center, New York, NY

[NEW YORK CITY BALLET](#)

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Musica Sacra, Kent Tritle, director, is featured in performances of Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

June 6-8, 2024

David Geffen Hall, New York, NY

[NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC](#)

Jaap van Zweden, conductor

Hanna-Elisabeth Müller, soprano

Ekaterina Gubanova, mezzo-soprano

New York Philharmonic Chorus,

Malcolm J. Merriweather, Director

GUSTAV MAHLER Symphony No. 2, "Resurrection"

Kent Tritle is the organist of the New York Philharmonic.

Schedule updated September 7, 2023