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**PACIFIC CHORALE ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 SEASON UNDER NEW CONDUCTOR**  
*New Artistic Director Robert Istad Will Lead the Organization in Its  
“Golden Anniversary” Year*

The Board of Directors of Pacific Chorale, the resident choir of Segerstrom Center for the Arts, has announced its 2017-2018 season, themed “What Inspires You?” under the baton of the organization’s new incoming Artistic Director, Robert Istad, as the Chorale celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year.

Introducing Robert Istad

Robert Istad is no stranger to Pacific Chorale. He has served as Pacific Chorale’s Assistant Conductor and ultimately as the Associate Conductor for a total of 13 years, and was a graduate student at California State University, Fullerton under the tutelage of Pacific Chorale’s outgoing Artistic Director, John Alexander. He will continue in his role as Associate Professor of Music—Director of Choral Studies, CSUF. He will also be serving as the incoming President of the California Association of Choral Directors in his first year as Maestro of the Chorale.

Moving in New Directions

As part of its updated mission to inspire, innovate and educate, Istad will be bringing in a soon- to-be-announced new composer-in-residence, who will compose new chamber works and a symphonic work for the organization and also serve as an “Artistic Advisor” to the organization. The Chorale will also be performing, for the first time, at Carnegie Hall with Pacific Symphony Orchestra during its anniversary year.

The season schedule is as follows:

**Pacific Chorale’s Choral Festival**

**August 13, 2017**

Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

Pacific Chorale’s Festival Chorus

David Clemensen and Jung-A Lee, piano

**Carl Orff: *Carmina Burana***

*Singer registration opens May 1st!*

*Concert is free to the public.*

**A 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

**October 29, 2017**

Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

Pacific Chorale • Pacific Symphony

Derek Chester, tenor

**Tarik O'Regan: *A Celestial Map of the Sky*** (U.S. Premiere)

**James Hopkins: *Songs of Eternity***

**Leonard Bernstein: *Mass***

**Carols by Candlelight**

**December 2, 2017**

Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church

Members of Pacific Chorale

**Tis the Season!**

**December 17 and 18, 2017**

Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

Pacific Chorale • Members of Pacific Symphony

Southern California Children's Chorus

**St. John Passion**

**March 10, 2018**

Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church

Pacific Chorale • Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra

Jon Lee Keenan, tenor

**J.S. Bach: *St. John Passion***

**Music of the Golden State**

**May 19, 2018**

Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

Pacific Chorale

David Clemensen, piano • Jung-A Lee, piano and organ

**Morten Lauridsen: *Mid-Winter Songs***

**Mason Bates: *Mass Transmission***

The season pricing for subscription packages ranges from \$60 to \$465. For more information, call 714/662-2345.

## ABOUT PACIFIC CHORALE

Pacific Chorale (PC) has delighted national and international audiences with concerts of great choral music performed at the highest musical standards since 1968. Under the artistic leadership of Robert Istad, the organization produces a series of concerts each year at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, where it serves as the sole resident choir. *The mission of Pacific Chorale is to inspire our community through artistry and innovation in choral music performances and education programs.*

Pacific Chorale is recognized for exceptional artistic expression, preserving and performing classical choral music as well as stimulating American-focused programming. In addition to its own substantial performance season and long-standing partnership with Pacific Symphony, the Chorale is sought regularly to perform with the nation's leading symphonies, having performed with such renowned American ensembles as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, the National Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, and Musica Angelica. The organization boasts over 30 premieres and has released 14 self-produced recordings.

In addition to its long-standing partnership with Pacific Symphony, the Chorale has performed with such renowned American ensembles as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, the National Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, and Musica Angelica.

Pacific Chorale has toured extensively to over 19 countries - in Europe, South America and Asia – and has collaborated with the London Symphony, the Munich Symphony, L'Orchestre Lamoureux and L'Orchestre de St-Louis-en-l'Île of Paris, the National Orchestra of Belgium, the China National Symphony, the Hong Kong Sinfonietta, the Estonian National Symphony, and the Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional of Argentina.

Pacific Chorale has received numerous awards from Chorus America, the service organization for North American choral groups, including the prestigious “Margaret Hillis Achievement Award for Choral Excellence,” the first national “Educational Outreach Award,” the 2005 ASCAP Chorus America Alice Parker Award for adventurous programming, and the 2015 “Education and Community Engagement Award.”

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