



250 W. 57th St. Suite 1610 • New York, NY 10107 • 212.707.8566  
Fax: 646.736.0437 • www.DCINY.org  
Contact: Andrew Ousley, PR Representative, ext. 316 • Press@DCINY.org

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Ripon Choral Society Invited to Perform in New York City with Composer Sir Karl Jenkins

New York, N.Y. – August 14, 2017

Outstanding music program  
receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that John Dunford and the Ripon Choral Society have been invited to participate in a performance of the World Premiere of a new commissioned work by Sir Karl Jenkins on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance will be in Isaac Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall on Monday, January 15, 2018. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Sir Karl Jenkins will be present as composer-in-residence with DCINY's Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Jonathan Griffith as 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: "The Ripon Choral Society 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 Andrew Hill via email at [afndrew-chair@riponchoralsociety.org.uk](mailto:afndrew-chair@riponchoralsociety.org.uk).

Composer Sir Karl Jenkins

A recent exhaustive survey shows that Sir Karl Jenkins is now the most-performed living composer in the world. Educated at Gowerton Grammar School, Cardiff University and the Royal Academy of Music, London. The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace alone has been performed over 1500 times in 20 different countries since the CD was released, while his

recorded output has resulted in 17 gold and platinum disc awards.

His style and integrity have transcended musical boundaries encompassing jazz-rock with Soft Machine, the global 'crossover' phenomenon Adiemus, soundtracks for Levis and British Airways, while stopping off along the way to score a Kiefer Sutherland movie, be a castaway on BBC "Desert Island Discs", be featured by Melvyn Bragg on the ITV seminal South Bank Show and be awarded the Freedom of the City of London. Recent recordings include Requiem, Stabat Mater and Quirk. He has composed music for HRH The Prince of Wales, Bryn Terfel, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Dame Evelyn Glennie and the London Symphony Orchestra amongst many others.

2012 saw Karl release The Peacemakers CD on EMI Classics, a number one on the UK classical charts, and after its concert performance debut at New York's Carnegie Hall, it was performed on a sell-out UK concert tour in Manchester, Birmingham, Cardiff, Dublin and London's Royal Festival Hall, with the composer conducting.

A Doctor of Music, he holds Fellowships, Honorary Doctorates and Professorships at five universities or conservatoires, including the Royal Academy of Music, where a room has been named in his honour. In recent years, he has consistently been the highest placed living composer in Classic FM's "Hall of Fame".

He holds the Classic FM 'Red F' award for 'outstanding service to classical music' and was awarded an OBE by Her Majesty The Queen in the 2005 New Year Honours list, a CBE in the 2010 Birthday Honours list, and in the 2015 Birthday Honours list, became the first Welsh born composer to receive a knighthood for services to composing and crossing musical genres.

[www.karljenkins.com](http://www.karljenkins.com).

Conductor Jonathan Griffith

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, conductor, co-founder, and artistic director of Distinguished Concerts International New York, is an active conductor, educator, lecturer, and consultant. His conducting credits include the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Salt Lake City; Manhattan Philharmonic and New England Symphonic Ensemble, both in performances at Carnegie Hall; Nova Amadeus Orchestra, Italy; the European Symphony Orchestra, Spain; Bohuslava Martinu Philharmonia and Philharmonia Chorus; Virtuosi Pregensis Chamber Orchestra, Karlovy Vary Symphony Orchestra, and Dvorák Chamber Orchestra, Czech Republic; Bialystok State Philharmonic, Poland; and several regional orchestras and choruses in the U.S. As the conductor of the world premiere of Earnestine Rodgers Robinson's The Nativity in Carnegie Hall, he was featured in an interview which aired on National Public Radio's Morning Edition, and also appeared in two recent documentaries about Ms. Robinson and her music—"Hidden Treasure" and "Sounds of a Miracle."

During the summer of 2007 he conducted his ensemble, the Jonathan Griffith Singers, in performances of Verdi's Requiem at two historic venues in Italy—the Church of Santa Marie Sopra Minerva in Rome and the Cathedral Duomo in Pisa. He made his Carnegie Hall conducting debut in 1989. His 45+ Carnegie Hall appearances include the U.S. premieres of BBC's Planet Earth documentaries, and the Master Musicians of Joujouka and most recently was heard on television in The Last Enemy (Magnus Fiennes), The Passion (Debbie Wiseman), and Planet Earth (George Fenton).

DCINY Productions

Founded by Iris Derke and Jonathan Griffith, Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is the leading producer of dynamically charged musical excellence. With its unforgettable concert experiences in renowned venues, empowering educational programs, and its global community of artists and audiences, DCINY changes lives through the power of performance.

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](mailto:BoxOffice@DCINY.org).

Contact, Interviews, and Photos

To acquire high-resolution images of DCINY performances at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center for media use, interviews, and press requests, please contact Andrew Ousley at Unison Media at 212-707-8566 Ext. 316, or [Press@DCINY.org](mailto:Press@DCINY.org).

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