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## **Arts District Chorale Announces *A Season of Mysteries* Four Events Celebrating the Mysteries of Life and Love**

For its 2009-2010 season, the **Arts District Chorale** presents **A Season of Mysteries: *Mysteries of Sacred Laughter, Mysteries of an Illumined Night, Mysteries of Timeless Love, and Mysteries of Artful Passion.*** In four multi-modal events, the **Chorale** unlocks the unfamiliar—new venues and the human riddle—through an exploration of divine mirth, a perpetual holy night, the electric touch of love, and the thorny bonds of passion. These deeply felt dramatic events honor the unknown—the way it awakens our desire to unite the sacred and the human, bonding soul to heart.

Collaborating partners for this year's season include **The Dallas Opera, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas Center for the Performing Arts, Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas, The Fairmont Dallas, and Festival Brass.** This year's season follows last year's extremely successful and popular *Season of Transformation* and builds on the "event" concept the **Arts District Chorale** introduced last season in such performances as its acclaimed appearance in the Meyerson Symphony Center Grand Lobby. Each event draws on multiple arts disciplines in addition to great choral music and invites attendees to become participants in the experience as it unfolds.

The **Arts District Chorale** is honored to announce its 2009-2010 Season Sponsor, **The Dallas Foundation.** The Official Host of the **Arts District Chorale** is **The Fairmont Dallas.**

Subscription tickets are available August 15 online at [www.artsdistrictchorale.org](http://www.artsdistrictchorale.org) or by e-mailing requests to [tickets@artsdistrictchorale.org](mailto:tickets@artsdistrictchorale.org). For further information, contact the **Arts District Chorale** at 214.942.5085.

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# ARTS DISTRICT CHORALE

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Four Events Celebrating the Mysteries of Life and Love**

***Mysteries of Sacred Laughter***

Monday, September 28, 2009, 7:30 PM, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas Arts District

One of the compositions Rossini intriguingly called “the sins of my old age,” the *Petite Messe Solennelle* (Little Solemn Mass) is filled with all the exuberance and intensity of his beloved operas. With the addition of staged characters from the *commedia dell’arte* tradition, Rossini’s joy in the mystery and drama of the Mass is brilliantly revealed in a unique presentation.

***Mysteries of An Illumined Night***

Thursday, December 17, 2009, 7:30 PM, Cathedral Guadalupe, Dallas Arts District

The brightest night of the season is filled with the mysteries of new birth and hope for a peaceful world. Cathedral Guadalupe’s renowned acoustics and distinctive Victorian gothic architecture create a magical venue for a spectacular program. The Arts District Chorale is joined by the **Children’s Chorus of Greater Dallas**, organist **Christopher Berry** and the **Festival Brass Quintet**.

***Mysteries of Timeless Love (non-subscription event, by reservation only)***

Friday, February 12, 2010, 5:30 and 8:30 PM, The Venetian Room, Fairmont Dallas Hotel

The **Arts District Cabaret** presents its eighth annual Valentine’s Day serenade. Take a step back to the glory days of the Fairmont Venetian Room with an evening of gourmet dining and heart-felt song. Let the music of Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee, Jack Jones and others surround you and your beloved, and surrender to delight. A three-course prix-fixe dinner accompanies a mesmerizing celebration of love.

***Mysteries of Artful Passion***

Sunday, April 18, 2010, 2:00 and 4:30 PM, Hamon Recital Hall, Winspear Opera House, Dallas Arts District

In 1855 Johannes Brahms wrote to Clara Schumann, "I can do nothing but think of you..." It was a messy situation, doomed to be messier. Clara was married—wholly and passionately—to the composer Robert Schumann. After Robert’s tragic death, Johannes flew to Clara’s side and never truly left. The Arts District Chorale explores this mysterious tangle of love and genius, revealed in profound music and soul-baring letters—a compelling event not to be missed.

## **ARTS DISTRICT CHORALE HISTORY AND PURPOSE**

Arts District Chorale was founded in 1989 as The Cathedral Chorale in residence at the downtown Dallas Arts District's magnificent Cathedral Guadalupe. During the 1990s the Chorale helped re-establish this historic church's secondary role as a center for culture and community. ADC's artistic success and benefit to the Cathedral community inspired additional collaborations with other Dallas cultural institutions. In 2001 The Cathedral Chorale became the Arts District Chorale, receiving its non-profit 501(c)(3) status in 2004.

Arts District Chorale is now a signature all-volunteer ensemble of 80 gifted amateur and professional vocalists from all walks of life which annually presents four large-scale season events and ten to fifteen smaller events in collaboration with the world-class cultural venues of the downtown Dallas Arts District. Our common bond is a passion for the choral art as a profound and worthy expression of the human condition and a desire to present masterworks of vocal music to the general public at the highest level of excellence. Thus our motto: *Extraordinary Music in Unexpected Places.*

One of ADC's primary goals is to fundamentally change the relationship between our community and the arts. During its 2008-2009 *Season of Transformation*, the Arts District Chorale presented eleven events to approximately 3000 individual residents of North Texas, including performances in the Grand Lobby of the Meyerson Symphony Center, Cathedral Guadalupe, the galleries of the Crow Collection of Asian Art, the Dallas Museum of Art, and the Nasher Sculpture Center. The portable and flexible nature of choral music can be strategically employed to attract non-traditional audiences to great music in a wide variety of venues.

While the Chorale honors its curatorial responsibility to the preservation and presentation of masterworks of choral music, it recognizes that modern audiences are attracted by interactive relationships with art, including web-based educational components that encourage learning through individual exploration. ADC also believes that the relationship between musicians and audiences is strengthened by performances in unconventional places. Arts District Chorale events are purposefully designed to engage the observer through multiple avenues of access to an artistic experience, in order to transform the passive audience member into an engaged, lifelong participant. Our model for presenting the arts was recently recognized by a panel of peer reviewers as "some of the most unique and innovative programming in the arts landscape of Dallas." One of the major outcomes of this approach is an improvement in the broad public perception of our major cultural institutions as imposing and formidable places which are intellectually and emotionally inaccessible. Our long-term success will be measured by sustained collaborations in the Dallas Arts District that enhance not only the experience of great music but create lasting connections between our partner institutions' primary missions and the needs of a large and increasingly diverse community.