



13 | THE THIRTEEN

MATTHEW ROBERTSON · ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

2020-2021 SEASON

TRANSFIGURED

TICKETS:
[THETHIRTEENCHOIR.ORG](http://thethirteenchoir.org)

TRANSFIGURED

2020-2021 SEASON



Like any other year, it is my great pleasure to share with you The Thirteen's plans for our upcoming season, our most ambitious yet. Yet this is no ordinary year, and so my surpassing enthusiasm for our upcoming 2020-2021 season is tempered by concern that one or more of our long-planned performances may have to be modified substantially because of the Covid-19 pandemic. While this brochure represents our planned and best-case scenario, The Thirteen has multiple contingency plans. On the opposing page, you will find steps that The Thirteen is taking to continue to provide the world-class musical offerings that you have come to expect. I am excited by the musical potential of all of the virtual options, and I hope that you will be too.

Our 2020-2021 season, *Transfigured*, marks a continuation of our commitment to life-affirming performance, to music-making at its finest, and to constant innovation. The thread running through our concerts this season is a search for the apotheosis of beauty through transfiguration. Each concert seeks out beauty in a variety of ways new and old.

We will be live-streaming each and every one of our concerts. We also hope to be able to offer concerts near you in downtown Washington, D.C., Bethesda, MD, and Alexandria, VA. These concerts feature musicians from around the world and a millennium of music from Monteverdi to Elena Ruehr, and from Bach to Schoenberg.

A highlight of this season is a staged production – meaning fully acted out and memorized – of Bach's beloved *St. John Passion*. Staged by Timothy Nelson, hailed as "The Future of Opera" by The New York Times, this performance will feature the finest period instrumentalists and singers and the University of Maryland's Chamber Singers under the direction of Edward Maclary.

I hope that you will continue to believe in the art that The Thirteen creates by **subscribing** to our 2020-2021 season today. Your subscription shows your faith in The Thirteen and that we will continue to provide you with meaningful musical experiences for as long as the pandemic lasts.

Normally, I would sign this letter saying that I look forward to seeing you and your friends soon. This year it may be a while before I see you in person. But I promise that you will see me and The Thirteen soon. And more importantly, you will hear us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew Robertson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

MATTHEW ROBERTSON

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

The Thirteen's 2020-2021 is made possible due to the generosity of our Season Sponsors, Charles Cerf & Cindy Dunbar, and J. Penny Clark.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

We invite you to join The Thirteen for our entire season of world-class artistry and transfiguring performances. Season subscribers enjoy the following benefits:

- access to all virtual performances we offer during the 2020-2021 season live and on demand
- savings of more than 45%
- early access to tickets – individual tickets go on sale August 15, 2020
- an opportunity to add on individual tickets to your season subscription before they are available to the general public
- sellout protection – tickets will only be made available to the general public after we are certain we can accommodate all season subscribers in the event of socially-distanced seating
- date-transferable tickets to choose the concerts that work best for your schedule (depending on availability of seating)
- ticket insurance – The Thirteen will replace lost tickets at no cost

THE THIRTEEN'S PLANS TO SERVE YOU

The Thirteen hopes that we will be able to perform all of our 2020-2021 season live with you in attendance. Yet your health, and the health of our musicians and staff is our top priority during the Covid-19 pandemic. As such, we wish to share with you some of our contingency plans to help ensure everyone's health while sharing our performances with you.

- Ticket sales for the entire 2020-2021 season are currently capped to ensure that our audience can be appropriately socially distanced from one another and the performers.
- Whether or not we can have an in-person audience, all of our 2020-2021 programs will be live-streamed; our subscribers and ticket-buyers will be able to stream these performances live and on demand.
- In the event that neither our audience nor our musicians can safely gather, we will live-stream *The Thirteen Live from Here*. *Live from Here* concerts may feature socially-distanced choral performances and many of The Thirteen's musicians performing live solo and small ensemble works from their homes around the world. The musical themes of *Live from Here* concerts will remain as planned although the specific selections may change. Our subscribers will have access to our *Live from Here* performances live and on demand.

NOT FOR THE SUN I SING

ELENA RUEHR · CASSANDRA IN THE TEMPLES
MELISSA DUNPHY
AMY BEACH

Join The Thirteen as we explore works by women composers with American Elena Ruehr's opera, *Cassandra in the Temples*, as its centerpiece. Using the lens of a Greek drama, *Cassandra in the Temples* explores the natural world and humankind's relationship to it to riveting effect. Alongside this masterpiece, The Thirteen will feature works by other luminary composers including Melissa Dunphy, Amy Beach, and more. This concert promises to be a display of beauty and invention.

This program is made possible by a generous gift from J. Penny Clark.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020 · 7:30PM

Alexandria, VA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 · 7:30PM

Downtown Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 · 5:00PM

Bethesda, MD

An additional performance will take place in Washington, D.C.

Individual tickets available after August 15: \$40/35/20 for General Admission, members of D.C.-area choirs, and students (with valid ID). \$10 off if purchased in advance.

SORROW TO THE STARS

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG · FRIEDE AUF ERDEN
HERBERT HOWELLS · REQUIEM
ARVO PÄRT · DA PACEM DOMINE

In times of crisis, humankind has often come together in moments of remembrance and reflection. In *Sorrow to the Stars*, we seek to explore this quest for memory and the transfiguration the can occur as part of this community ritual.

Arnold Schoenberg wrote *Friede auf Erden* in 1906, long before he turned to the hard-edge sound world of serialism. *Friede auf Erden*, with its whisper-to-wail dynamic range, espouses Schoenberg's belief that "Peace on Earth is possible only if there is the most intense vigilance as to harmony." Howells' *Requiem* is an exquisite and deeply personal expression of loss, written in memory of those killed in the First World War, which was later further developed after the loss of his young son to polio. Paired with other works exploring the concepts of solace, peace, and transcendence, including Arvo Pärt's *Da pacem Domine*, this concert is sure to be an evening of remarkable transcendence.

This program is made possible by a generous gift from Clint & Missy Kelly.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020 · 7:30PM

Alexandria, VA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020 · 7:30PM

Downtown Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020 · 5:00PM

Bethesda, MD

Individual tickets available after August 15: \$40/35/20 for General Admission, members of D.C.-area choirs, and students (with valid ID). \$10 off if purchased in advance.

AN EVENING OF READINGS AND CAROLS

A CANDLELIT CHRISTMAS

Celebrate the holiday festivities with The Thirteen, as we sing carols from King's College's trove of music for their Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Paired with poetry on the Christmas story by acclaimed poets including Maya Angelou and Margaret Gooding, this concert is sure to delight and excite audiences of all ages. There's no better way to get into the holiday spirit than with The Thirteen!

This program is made possible by a generous gift from Walter Hill & Cheryl Naulty.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2020 · 7:30PM

Alexandria, VA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020 · 7:30PM

Downtown Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020 · 5:00PM

Bethesda, MD

Individual tickets available after August 15: \$40/35/20 for General Admission, members of D.C.-area choirs, and students (with valid ID). \$10 off if purchased in advance.

PASSION TRANSFIGURED

J.S. BACH · ST. JOHN PASSION

Jonas Budris, *Evangelist*
Jonathan Woody, *Jesus*

University of Maryland, College Park, Chamber Singers
Edward Maclary, *director*

Timothy Nelson, *stage director*
Matthew Robertson, *conductor*

Bach's *St. John Passion* was originally written for the composer's first Good Friday services in Leipzig, and it has since firmly established itself as a staple of the choral-orchestral repertoire. Yet the work's dramatic and touching narrative demands that it be staged to bring its dramatic music to life. Timothy Nelson, called "The Future of Opera" by *The New York Times*, will stage this production by The Thirteen. Of this production, Nelson writes, "I look forward to making Bach's universal themes of glorification through debasement, and the importance of community and ritual palpable and vibrant."

Join the versatile soloists from The Thirteen, singers from University of Maryland's acclaimed Chamber Singers, and many of the country's finest period instrumentalists for *Passion Transfigured*.

This program is made possible by a generous gift from Charles Cerf & Cindy Dunbar.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021 · 7:30PM

Downtown Washington, D.C.

An additional performance will take place in College Park, MD.
Individual tickets range from \$10-\$100. Preferred seating for season subscribers, a \$80-100 value.

MONTEVERDI: THE LOST MASS OF 1641

MONTEVERDI · *SELVA MORALE E SPIRITUALE*

Following our acclaimed November 2019 production, *Monteverdi: The Lost Vespers of 1641*, The Thirteen returns again to the music of Monteverdi's end-of-life magnum opus, *Selva morale e spirituale* – the moral and spiritual wood. Hidden in plain sight within this monumental volume is a “*Mass of 1641*” that The Thirteen has assembled, with his beloved *Gloria* at its core. Unlike Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*, which sees performances yearly in nearly every major metropolitan area, the gems in *Selva morale e spirituale* are virtually unknown; and yet, they rival his earlier compositions in virtuosity, invention, and beauty.

Join The Thirteen and many of the country's finest period instrumentalists for *Monteverdi: The Lost Mass (1641)* in a concert replete with artistry, elegance, and exploration.

This program is made possible by a generous gift from Margaret Love.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021 · 7:30PM

Alexandria, VA

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021 · 7:30PM

Downtown Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021 · 5:00PM

Bethesda, MD

Individual tickets available after August 15: \$40/35/20 for General Admission, members of D.C.-area choirs, and students (with valid ID). \$10 off if purchased in advance.

TICKET ORDER FORM

Even the best musical groups in America can count on ticket sales to cover only a small portion of operating costs. We rely on your generous donations to help us with the remainder of our operating budget. Please consider giving as you are able when you purchase your season tickets. Your gifts have never been more vital than in sustaining The Thirteen during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Reserve the best seats in the house by contributing \$500 or more to The Thirteen (in excess of purchases) to receive Preferred Seating. The Thirteen is a 501(c)(3) organization: donations in excess of ticket subscriptions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

STEP 1: CHOOSE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
General Season Subscription*	_____	x \$125 =	\$ _____
DC Choir Member Subscription*	_____	x \$100 =	\$ _____
Student Subscription* (with valid ID)	_____	x \$65 =	\$ _____

**door prices for the entire season are \$240, \$180, and \$120 for General Admission, DC Choir Members, and Students, respectively.*

STEP 2: CHOOSE YOUR CONCERTS

NOT FOR THE SUN I SING

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Friday, Sept. 18, 2020 | Alexandria, VA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020 | Downtown Washington, D.C. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5:00pm | Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020 | Bethesda, MD |

SORROW TO THE STARS

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Friday, Oct. 23, 2020 | Alexandria, VA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020 | Downtown Washington, D.C. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5:00pm | Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020 | Bethesda, MD |

READINGS AND CAROLS

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Friday, Dec. 18, 2020 | Alexandria, VA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020 | Downtown Washington, D.C. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5:00pm | Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020 | Bethesda, MD |

ST. JOHN PASSION

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Saturday, March 27, 2021 | Downtown Washington, D.C. |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|

THE LOST MASS OF 1641

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Friday, Apr. 30, 2021 | Alexandria, VA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7:30pm | Saturday, May 1, 2021 | Downtown Washington, D.C. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5:00pm | Sunday, May 2, 2021 | Bethesda, MD |

ticket form continued on reverse

STEP 3: ADD A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION: _____

STEP 4: CALCULATE YOUR GRAND TOTAL: _____

STEP 5: FILL OUT YOUR PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ / _____

Signature: _____ CVV Code: _____

STEP 6: ADD-ON INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

Please note on this order form what additional tickets you would like and enclose payment, or email Valerie Simonsen, General Manager, at valerie@thethirteenchoir.org

Please detach this page and mail your complete order with check or payment information to:
The Thirteen · P.O. Box 32065 · Washington, D.C. 20007
or purchase your season tickets online at www.TheThirteenChoir.org

Tickets will arrive via email.
Questions? Email us at info@thethirteenchoir.org



SUPPORT US

The Thirteen is grateful for your generosity, and never more so than in navigating these unprecedented times. Like most arts organizations, The Thirteen depends for its continued existence upon the generosity of those who have come to know and love the music we make.

While our Board of Trustees has taken steps to help The Thirteen survive the first months of the Covid-19 pandemic, we ask you to please consider giving now to support our upcoming season. We invite you to explore the suggested giving levels below and hope you will donate as generously as possible by check, credit card, or at www.TheThirteenChoir.org.

No matter how much you give, it is most important that you do give - whether \$5 or \$5,000. It is vital to us that as much of our audience as possible is part of our musical family. Join us in making music.

Season Sponsor - \$20,000+	Recognition as a Season Sponsor on website and in all concert materials, four preferred seating subscriptions, and all benefits listed below.
Concert Sponsor - \$10,000	Recognition as Concert Sponsor on website and in all concert materials for one concert program, two preferred seating subscriptions plus four additional preferred seating tickets for sponsored concert, and all benefits listed below.
Angel - \$5,000	Two preferred seating season subscriptions, and all benefits listed below.
Maestro's Circle - \$2,500	An exclusive dinner with The Thirteen's Founder and Artistic Director, Matthew Robertson, and all benefits listed below.
Benefactor - \$1,000	Exclusive donor-only season highlights recording, and all benefits listed below.
Patron - \$500	Preferred seating status at all of our concerts, two complimentary tickets to one concert of your choice, and all benefits listed below.
Sponsor - \$250	Invitation to closed rehearsals, a specially branded Bumper Magnet, and all benefits listed below.
Donor - \$100	A copy of the latest CD released by The Thirteen, and all benefits listed below.
Friend - \$50	Acknowledgment in concert programs and on our website for one year.

13 | THE THIRTEEN

P.O. Box 32065
Washington, DC 20007

2020-2021 SEASON

NOT FOR THE SUN I SING	September 18-20
SORROW TO THE STARS	October 23-25
READINGS AND CAROLS	December 18-20
ST. JOHN PASSION	March 27
THE LOST MASS OF 1641	April 30 – May 2

SAVE THE DATE!

THE THIRTEEN'S FALL FÊTE!

Friday, October 16, 2020 | 7:30-10:30PM

Chevy Chase Club*

6100 Connecticut Avenue

Chevy Chase, MD, 20815

**we're planning a virtual event if we cannot hold our 2020 event in person!*