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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Encore! Women's Choir Invited to Commemorate International Women's Day at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall

New York, N.Y. – May 22, 2013

Outstanding music program
receives special invitation

Distinguished Concerts International New York City (DCINY) announced today that the Encore! Women's Choir has been invited to participate in a performance of 'Choral Music for Women's Voices' on the DCINY Concert Series in New York City. This performance, under the baton of Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt, will be at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall on March 10, 2014, in celebration of International Women's Day. These outstanding musicians will join with other choristers to form the Distinguished Concerts Singers International, a choir of distinction. Maestro Apfelstadt will lead the performance and will serve as the clinician for the residency.

Why the invitation was extended

Dr. Jonathan Griffith, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for DCINY states: "The Encore! Women's Choir received this invitation because of the quality and high level of musicianship demonstrated by the singers and the exceptional quality of their audition recording. 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 Ms. Christine Dandy at director@encorewomenschoir.com.

Guest Conductor Hilary Apfelstadt

Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt is the Director of Choral Programs at the University of Toronto. Canadian by birth, she began her music education in Nova Scotia at the age of five. Her degrees, all in vocal music education, are from the University of Toronto, the University of Illinois, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She also has a diploma in piano performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

From 1993 – 2010, she was Professor and Director of Choral Activities at the Ohio State University in Columbus where she also served as Associate Director for the School of Music from 2008 – 2010. Choirs under her direction have performed at regional and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) and at state and regional conferences of the National Association of Music Education (MENC). She has conducted many honor choirs and all-state choruses throughout the United States and has guest conducted in Canada, Cuba, and England. In February 2009, she conducted the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in a public broadcast of "Music and the Spoken Word." She has led choral festivals in Switzerland and Austria, and conducted at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome in 2011. She is a frequent lecturer and clinician at professional conferences and universities, and is a mentor to many young conductors and choral educators.

Dr. Apfelstadt's research areas include leadership styles among conductors, and choral repertoire, particularly by Canadian composers. She has published over seventy articles on choral music in various refereed journals, and wrote two chapters in *Wisdom, Wit and Will: Women Conductors on their Art*, (GIA, 2009). She serves on the editorial boards of *The Choral Scholar*, the official publication of the National Collegiate Conductors Organization (NCCO), and the *ACDA Choral Journal*, and is also the choral column editor for the *Canadian Music Educator*. She is an advisory board member for AIRS (Advanced Disciplinary Research in Singing), a project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. A past national president of ACDA, Dr. Apfelstadt sang with the Robert Shaw Festival Singers for several years and recorded two CD's for Telarc with the Singers in France.

Dr. Apfelstadt is on the DCINY Advisory board and has appeared on the DCINY Concert Series twice before.

DCINY Productions

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) is a production company based in New York City. Our concert series includes choral and instrumental concerts in world-class venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall and Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor) DCINY is driven by passion, innovative vision, a total belief in its artists, and unwavering commitment to bringing forth unforgettable audience experiences. Following our motto "The Art of Performance – The Power of Education", we focus on the educational process while upholding a high performance standard and provide ensembles and conductors of distinction educational and performance opportunities including select solo performances, rehearsal audit, conductor mentoring and debut performances.

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.

Contact & Interviews

Interviews and additional information may be arranged by contacting Shira Gilbert, PR Representative, at 212.707.8566 Ext. 316, or Press@DCINY.org.

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