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Back Bay Chorale Presents VERDI'S REQUIEM

The Back Bay Chorale, directed by Scott Allen Jarrett, performs Giuseppe Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* in Sanders Theatre, Cambridge, Massachusetts, on Saturday, May 14 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25, \$35 and \$50 and are available at www.bbcboston.org or by calling 617-648-3885 (seniors/students \$5 discount).

Sometimes referred to as Verdi's "finest opera," the *Requiem* displays melodic inventiveness and intense passion, from the terror of the Day of Judgment to the humble plea for salvation, from despair to hope. Like all Romantic compositions, the *Requiem* deals with human beings who, while they live and function in the world, cannot hope to be transcendental beings, but participants in all that life has to offer. The *Requiem*, like many opera subjects, presents a drama with a perspective that reaches true climax after the last act has been played out.

Though an immediate success after its first performance in 1874, the *Requiem* disappeared from the choral repertoire until the 1930s. The Back Bay Chorale and Orchestra and a distinguished group of soloists are pleased to present what some have called the "most magnificent" of all Requiems.

Concert Details

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Messa da Requiem

Performed by the Back Bay Chorale and Orchestra
Scott Allen Jarrett *conducting*

Soprano: Hope Briggs
Mezzo-soprano: Sarah Heltzel
Tenor: Yeghishe Manucharyan
Bass: David Kravitz

Saturday, May 14, 8:00 P.M., Sanders Theatre, Cambridge, MA
Pre-Concert Lecture: 7:00 P.M. by Richard Dyer, former
classical music critic for the *Boston Globe*

Tickets: \$50, 35, \$25 (\$5 student/senior discount) online at
www.bbcboston.org or calling 617-648-3885.

About Scott Allen Jarrett

Scott Allen Jarrett is the fifth music director of the Back Bay Chorale. In his seven years with the Chorale, he has led acclaimed and memorable performances of such masterworks as Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, *Mass in B Minor* and *St. Matthew Passion* of Bach, Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Honegger's *Le Roi David*, and the world premiere of Julian Wachner's *Come, my dark-eyed one*. Under Jarrett's leadership, the Chorale is committed to leading the choral arts in Boston with presentations of the finest choral/orchestral repertoire, old and new. Jarrett is also direct of music at Boston University's Marsh Chapel. His appointment at the university includes lectureships in both the School of Theology and the School of Music. Jarrett oversees the rich musical life of Marsh Chapel, directing a music staff of associates, managers, Choral Scholars, and the Inner Strength Gospel Choir. Also, Jarrett is on the conducting staff of the Charlotte Symphony (North Carolina), where he is the music director of the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte, the symphony's resident chorus. As a keyboardist, Jarrett was a frequent accompanist for the late Robert Shaw, and he appears regularly as a continuo player with Miami-based Seraphic Fire. Jarrett received the Master of Music and Doctorate of Music degrees from Boston University and the Bachelor of Music from Furman University.

About the Back Bay Chorale

The Back Bay Chorale is a 110-member auditioned chorus drawing singers from the Greater Boston area. Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett has been the chorale's artistic director since 2004. From its inception, the BBC has had a commitment to share music in the community with repertoire that ranges from Baroque to contemporary in an annual subscription series. Musician, minister, and Larry Hill founded the Back Bay Chorale in 1973 at Boston's Church of the Covenant to create a musical ministry that would bring meaning to both singers and their audience. In the years since Hill's death in 1989, the chorale has grown in stature and is now regarded as one of Boston's premiere amateur choruses. Under its music directors Larry Hill, Beverly Taylor, Julian Wachner, James Olesen and Scott Allen Jarrett, the Chorale has presented numerous concerts in venues throughout Greater Boston.