
ORATORIO SOCIETY OPENS SEASON WITH “POWER, GRACE AND GLORY”



(Rochester, NY, August 8, 2016) – Three masterworks, each the pinnacle of the art form, each by a beloved composer, highlight the opening concert of the 71st season of the Rochester Oratorio Society [ROS], Friday, October 28, 2016, 7:30 P.M. at the Hochstein Performance Hall, 50 Plymouth Avenue North, in Rochester. Tickets are on sale now at <http://bpt.me/2590491>.

The ROS, orchestra and professional soloists Leonard Bernstein’s open the performance with Leonard Bernstein’s powerful 20th-century classic *Chichester Psalms*, sung in Hebrew. **Luciano Pagano** sings the famous solo role for boy soprano in the Bernstein. Solo artists **Rebecca Gilbert**, flute, and **Grace Wong**, harp, grace the stage in Mozart’s *Concerto for Flute and Harp*. Gilbert and Wong are familiar to Rochester audiences as principal artists with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Closing the concert is the well-known *Gloria* movement from J.S. Bach’s *Mass in B Minor*, which further showcases the soloists. ROS Artistic Director **Eric Townell** conducts.

Soloists in the Bach are **Katie Hannigan**, mezzo-soprano, **Joshua Bouillon**, tenor, and bass-baritone **Keith Brown**. Hannigan, Assistant Professor in Music at Nazareth College and Artist in Residence at the Rochester Lyric Opera, performs widely on national stages. Bouillon is a two-time prizewinner in Rochester Classical Idol vocal competition and an internationally-experienced solo artist. Brown, a recent graduate of the Eastman School of Music in his first appearance with ROS, maintains an active solo and operatic career nationally.

The **Rochester Oratorio Society**, the region’s premier large mixed chorus for adults, presents 4-6 performances annually, sings with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and hosts the international vocal competition, CLASSICAL IDOL, each spring. Information on the ROS and its productions may be found at <http://ROsings.org> or by calling the office at (585) 473-2234.