



**2015/2016  
SEASON**  
Celebrating 35 years  
of choral excellence

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

The **Guelph Chamber Choir and University of Guelph Choirs**  
join forces to present **Carl Orff's** jubilant and boisterous ***Carmina Burana***

**Guelph, Ontario** – October 5, 2015 – The **Guelph Chamber Choir** swells its ranks with the fresh voices of the **University of Guelph Choirs** to present the world's most popular piece of modern choral music – **Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*** at the **River Run Centre** on **Saturday, November 7, 2015 at 7:30 pm.**

The first half of the program features **Marta McCarthy**, conductor of the university choirs, leading the Guelph Chamber Choir in a performance of Ontario composer **Timothy Corlis's** lyrical ***Missa Pax***. Mr. Corlis' praised composition stirs unabashed emotion in the listener. At the Elora Festival premiere in 2009, an enthusiastic and lengthy ovation from the audience greeted this extraordinary new work.

For our feature presentation, conductor **Gerald Neufeld** welcomes internationally renowned baritone **Kevin McMillan**, who was featured on a Grammy Award-winning 1999 recording of ***Carmina Burana*** by the **San Francisco Symphony and Chorus**, under the direction of **Herbert Blomstedt**. Rising star soprano **Sheila Dietrich** from Waterloo will sing her first, but surely not her last, ***Carmina***. Gerald Neufeld commented, "We have been thrilled to have Sheila as a section leader for two years now. Last year she made her **Carnegie Hall** debut and was a prize winner in the prestigious New York Oratorio Society's competition. Her sparkling personality and effortless high-range will contribute to a memorable performance." Local tenor **Chris Fischer**, whose dramatic rendition of a "roasted swan" in his aria, rounds out a trio of all-Canadian talent.

Instead of the full orchestra as originally scored, this event will feature an exciting and composer-authorized version for two duelling pianos and six percussionists. **Tina Yanchus** and **James Hibbard**, a husband and wife team, are a well-known piano duo who also perform as soloists while maintaining a large class of piano students at **Western University**. Their dramatic keyboard skills will be augmented by **Duo Percussion**. Core members **Brennan Connolly** and **Dave Robilliard** will expand their duo to six percussionists to create a dramatic, high-energy performance.

***Carmina Burana*** has entered into the public consciousness, not only having been performed more often than any other 20<sup>th</sup> century choral work, but used countless times in film scores, commercials, and at public events. Orff gives modern voice to medieval poetry and culture. Beguiling, repeating motifs provide vivid expressions of love and lust, balanced with a call to honour, as the eternal wheel of fate turns calmly round.

Special thanks go out to our concert sponsors **The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation: Ken Murray Fund, Guelph Twines, Linamar, RN Manufacturing, TD Bank Group, University of Guelph** and our soloist sponsors **Miller Thomson** and **Steele Bros.**

Single tickets are now available for **only \$35 each** or **four for \$120**. We encourage young adults to attend with **\$10 tickets for those 30 and under** and **\$5 eyeGO tickets for youth**. Tickets are still available through the **River Run Centre** by calling **519-763-3000** or online at **riverrun.ca**.

To discover more, please visit our website at **guelphchamberchoir.ca** or call **519-836-5103**.

Submitted by **Brenda Lewis: 519-767-0792 | media@brendalewis.ca**

For more information contact **Gerald Neufeld: 519-661-2111 ex: 85338 | gneufeld@uwo.ca**

PO Box 513 Guelph, Ontario N1H 6K9 519-836-5103

**guelphchamberchoir.ca**