

Spoleto Festival USA Announces Enchanting Candlelit Choral Performance

May 31; Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul; 9:00pm; tickets available now

March 12, 2024 (Charleston, S.C.) — [Spoleto Festival USA](#), America's premier performing arts festival, announced today the addition of a third choral concert to the previously announced lineup—a captivating candlelit performance of Arvo Pärt's choral masterpiece *The Deer's Cry* with other works performed by the Spoleto Festival USA Chorus. *The Deer's Cry* will be performed on May 31 at 8:00pm in the historic Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul. The Chorus, led by Director of Choral Activities Joe Miller, and accompanied by organist Julia Harlow. Tickets are available for purchase at spoletousa.org or by calling 843.579.3100.

This intimate performance will be an extraordinary opportunity to experience Pärt's hauntingly beautiful work by world-class performers in the glorious acoustics and atmosphere of a 200+ year old church. The choir will enter the dimly lit sanctuary carrying candles and will sing from the nave center to symbolize that God is within everyone.

"This will be an especially moving performance of this beloved choral piece that allows audiences to connect with the work on a deeper level," says Mena Mark Hanna, Spoleto Festival USA General Director and CEO. "The program pairs Pärt's evocative piece with Josquin des Prez's *Missa Pange Lingua* and movements of Heinrich Schütz's iconic *St. Matthew Passion* to form a rich tapestry of choral expression."

The Spoleto Festival USA Chorus was established in 2021 to recruit exceptional vocal fellows to perform in multiple capacities throughout the Festival including major choral works, as the chorus in Spoleto's

mainstage operas with select singers covering both large and small roles, in addition to special projects and smaller ensemble works.

For more information about the Spoleto Festival USA Chorus and to purchase tickets for their 2024 Spoleto performances, visit spoletousa.org.

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

Spoletto Festival USA was founded in 1977 by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who sought to create an American counterpart to the annual Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy, which he had founded in 1958. Now in its 48th year, Spoleto Festival USA is internationally recognized as America's premier performing arts festival. For 17 days and nights each spring, Spoleto Festival USA fills Charleston's historic theaters, churches, and outdoor spaces with performances in opera; theater; dance; and chamber, symphonic, choral, and jazz music. Spoleto's mission is to present programs of the highest artistic caliber while maintaining a dedication to young artists, a commitment to all forms of the performing arts, a passion for contemporary innovation, and an enthusiasm for providing unique performance opportunities for established artists. Beyond its role as a launching pad for young talent, Spoleto also serves as a catalyst for cultural change and has aided in Charleston's flourishing as a top arts and culture destination. With General Director & CEO Mena Mark Hanna at its helm, the 2024 season takes place from May 24 to June 9 in various locations on the downtown peninsula. Spoleto Festival USA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.

IMAGES: A selection of high-resolution images can be found in the online gallery.

MORE: Visit the [virtual press room](#).