



Press Release

October 29, 2018

THE TALLIS SCHOLARS RETURN FOR FESTIVE HOLIDAY CONCERT ON THE FORTAS SERIES

Wednesday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m.

(WASHINGTON)—Returning to the Kennedy Center in December as part of the Fortas Chamber Music Concerts series, British a cappella ensemble the Tallis Scholars come to brighten the holiday season with a festive concert of motets, madrigals, and mass settings. Inspired by the legacy of English composer Thomas Tallis, from whom the ensemble takes its name, the Tallis Scholars have celebrated and popularized the rich history of Renaissance vocal music for more than 45 years under the direction of founder Peter Phillips. The program features Palestrina’s *Hodie Christus natus est* and *Missa Hodie Christus est*, Nesbett’s *Magnificat*, Byrd’s *Lullaby*, and H. Praetorius’ *Magnificat V*, plus a new work by young New Englander Nico Muhly. The performance will take place in the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater on [Wednesday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \\$45.](#)

The Tallis Scholars have released more than 70 albums, won numerous awards, and established themselves as one of the leading vocal ensembles in the world with a sound that is “ethereal and yet full-blooded, uplifting and yet grounded” (*The Guardian*).

ABOUT THE TALLIS SCHOLARS

With over four decades of performances and a catalogue of award-winning recordings for Gimell, Peter Phillips and The Tallis Scholars have done more than any other group to establish the sacred vocal music of the Renaissance as one of the great repertoires of Western classical music.

They have sought to bring Renaissance works to wider audiences in churches, cathedrals, and venues on every continent except Antarctica. These include the Royal Albert Hall, the Sistine Chapel, the Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York, the Philharmonic Hall Berlin, Saint Mark’s Venice, Seoul Arts Centre Korea, Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre London, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Wigmore Hall, Beijing Concert Hall, Megaron Athens, and the Opera House Sydney.

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The Tallis Scholars continue to develop their exclusive sound, praised by reviewers for its supple clarity and tone, and to bring fresh interpretations to music by contemporary as well as past composers, such as Pärt, Tavener, Whitacre, Muhly and Jackson.

For more information, please visit <https://www.thetallisscholars.co.uk/>.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets (\$45) are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at [kennedy-center.org](https://www.kennedy-center.org), and via phone through Instant Charge, (202) 467-4700; toll-free at (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

ABOUT FORTAS CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS

The 2018–2019 season marks the 36th season of the Kennedy Center’s chamber music series, established in the 1981–1982 season by Marta Istomin, who, at the time, was the Kennedy Center’s Artistic Director. The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts, established as part of the Terrace Concerts during the 1983–1984 season, began a vibrant new life in the 1999–2000 season when—in addition to the generous contributions of loyal supporters of the Fortas Fund—income from a major gift to the Fortas Fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas, became available to support the artistic programming. The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts series is named for the former Supreme Court Justice, who was instrumental in the creation of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and later, the Terrace Theater. The Kennedy Center’s Board of Trustees established the Abe Fortas Memorial Fund in 1982 for the support of concerts in the Terrace Theater, and for the further development of the musical programs he envisioned.

Pianist Joseph Kalichstein has served as the Kennedy Center’s Artistic Advisor for Chamber Music and Artistic Director of the Fortas Concerts since 1997. The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio has been the Kennedy Center’s Ensemble-in-Residence since 2003. In the 2018–2019 season, the Dover Quartet begins a three-year residency as the Center’s Quartet-in-Residence.

Through its history the series has featured frequent appearances by artists such as the Guarneri, Emerson, Juilliard, Takács, and Alban Berg Quartets; early music ensembles Anonymous 4, Trio Medieval, and the Waverly Consort; performances by Eugene Istomin, Emanuel Ax, Edgar Meyer, Susan Graham, Isaac Stern, and Yo-Yo Ma; as well as many other distinguished artists and ensembles that actively perform and commission new works.

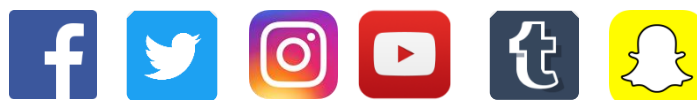
FUNDING CREDITS

The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts are supported by generous contributors to the

Abe Fortas Memorial Fund, and by a major gift to the fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas.

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For more information, please visit the [Kennedy Center website](https://www.kennedy-center.org).



#KCFortas

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TICKETS & INFORMATION

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