


# The Tudor Choir



March 22, 2007  
FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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## Tudor Choir to discontinue Seattle/Eastside concert series, continue performing and recording

Final concert series performances March 31 & April 1

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SEATTLE – Tudor Choir Artistic Director and founder Doug Fullington announced today that the choir will discontinue its annual Seattle/Eastside subscription concert series. The successful Seattle ensemble is not disbanding, however, as Fullington intends to continue with recording projects and to conduct the group in festival appearances and special events. Fullington, who has directed the Tudor Choir for fourteen seasons, intends to pursue other projects, particularly his work in dance reconstruction and dance history writing. He is also Assistant to the Artistic Director and Education Programs Manager at Pacific Northwest Ballet.

In addition to conducting the Tudor Choir, Fullington prepares many of the editions from which it sings. “I’m going to take time off from preparing new programs and the responsibilities of maintaining a concert series of high quality,” he said. “Although we will be suspending our series, we won’t disappear from the Seattle scene. We have enjoyed our recent successes in festival and guest appearances in the Northwest, and we also enjoy recording projects. The choir will remain available for performance opportunities such as these. We are very grateful for our large and enthusiastic audience in the Seattle area and look forward to future local performances, either in our own presentations or in collaboration with other groups or presenters.” After concluding this season’s concert series on March 31 and April 1 (information below), the choir is scheduled to perform with the Auburn Symphony Orchestra on April 28 and 29, and in conjunction with the Tallis Scholars Summer School on July 29.

### **More about the Tudor Choir**

Hailed as “a superb choir” (*Gramophone*), as well as “a choir to watch” (*Fanfare*), the Tudor Choir and its director Doug Fullington have received national and international attention as interpreters of Renaissance polyphony and early American music. Founded by Fullington in 1993, the Tudor Choir is a Seattle-based professional vocal chamber ensemble of 12 core singers; the group can expand to up to 40 members for works such as Thomas Tallis’ monumental *Spem in alium*. Currently Artists-in-Residence at St. Mark’s Cathedral, Seattle, and a Resident Ensemble at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Medina, the Tudor Choir has presented an annual concert series since 1993 and has performed under guest conductors, including Peter Phillips, Paul Hillier, Andrew Parrott, Stephen Cleobury and Martin Haselböck. The choir also has made guest appearances with Mark Morris Dance Group, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Early Music Guild of Seattle. Recent appearances include performances at Festival Vancouver and Annas Bay Music Festival (Union, WA), and for Early Music Society of the Islands (Victoria, BC). The choir’s recordings of Renaissance polyphony, English carols and early American music have been released on the Loft Recordings label.

### **Final Tudor Choir series performances – March 31 and April 1, 2007**

The Tudor Choir’s final concert series performances will be Saturday, March 31 at 8pm at St. Mark’s Cathedral in Seattle and Sunday, April 1 at 3:00pm in the chapel at Bastyr University Chapel in Kenmore, where the group has made several of its CD recordings. “I hope our audience will enjoy hearing us perform in the space where we have recorded most of our CDs,” said Fullington. The program, “Songs of Devotion,” includes English Renaissance works by John Taverner, John Sheppard and Robert White, as well as Gregorio Allegri’s famed *Miserere*. The program will also include *Sancta Dei, Mater Christi*, a setting of a 15<sup>th</sup>-century Latin text, composed for the choir in 2000 by local composer Jeff Junkinsmith. Tickets can be purchased by calling 206.323.9415 or online at [www.tudorchoir.org](http://www.tudorchoir.org).

### **New Tudor Choir CD to be released in 2007**

The Tudor Choir will also release a new recording of Anglo-Americana, “Simple Gifts,” on a date to be announced in 2007. Recorded in April 2006 in Bastyr University’s chapel, “Simple Gifts” includes Shaker tunes, some in arrangements by Kevin Siegfried, as well as English and American miniatures by William Billings, Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomsen and Ralph Vaughan Williams, among others. The recording was produced by Grammy-award-winner Steve Barnett and is underwritten by a generous anonymous gift and a generous gift from Nicholas J. Bez.