



CAPELLA REGALIS

6350 Coburg Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 2A1

MEN AND BOYS CHOIR

www.capellaregalis.com

May 24, 2019

Dear Friends,

On May 31st we hope to see the sun in Nova Scotia. It is possible that the men and boys, Paul Halley, the Maritime Brass, and yours truly will all traipse into the Cathedral Church of All Saints clad in shorts and T-shirts to begin recording our first full-length CD of Christmas music.

For some of us, the paradox of spring in the air and Christmas carols on the mind is a bit unsettling. Not so for the boys of Capella Regalis. Recently, in a rehearsal preceding our spring Open House, I snuck a little bit of the repertoire for this recording into our rehearsal. When, having run through the gorgeous carol "Small Wonder the Star" and Paul Halley's wild and crazy arrangement of "Il Est Né le Divin Enfant", I decided it was time to get back to rehearsing some more seasonally appropriate music from our upcoming performances, there was a tangible "huff" from the boys (and even, it must be admitted, some of the men). They could happily sing this great wintry music all year long. It is an infectious spirit and one that makes the singing of songs about the Nativity, now at the very birth of summer, feel somehow wondrously right.

We are of course making this recording for *you*, our dear supporters, who have made all that we do possible. Some of you have requested a Christmas recording so that at any time you wish, you can dip into that same spirit that quickens our hearts even now as we set out to lay down some good tracks and document the choir where it is, today: the dawn of our tenth anniversary season!

This being a full-length recording (somewhere in the realm of one hour), it is a larger project than those we have embarked upon before. It is a bigger investment and we are currently raising funds toward it.



Singing in Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, April 2019

We are naturally quite excited about the CD, which is to be released next November. But we have so many and sundry things to be excited about just now. The choir is sounding better than ever, with more boys joining the treble section, even as others (3 so far this year) head into the back rows with their changing voices to become "Young Men". We've had an eventful winter and spring, with our usual round of Evensong services, special performances and concerts, including

the opportunity to perform in the King's Chorus's hauntingly beautiful IKOS show and the King's Chapel Choir's stellar production of Bach's masterwork, the *St Matthew Passion*, with soloists and players from all over North America and the U.K. Next season promises more fun. Highlights include a special (tenth!) To Bethlehem with King's series featuring Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* paired with great maritime music and hosted by the CBC's Tom Allen, and a tour in the spring further afield than we've ever gone before.

I am struck more and more by the transformative impact that this particular form of music-making has on us all. It is truly life-changing for these boys. And it is made possible by you and your support. I am ever grateful for your ongoing contribution to Capella Regalis.

Wishing you a happy spring,

Nick Halley
Artistic Director

Here are two options for making a financial contribution to Capella Regalis:

1. Follow the instructions on the enclosed reply card to mail in a cheque and receive a tax receipt for your donation. (Cheques should be made payable to Musique Royale, with 'Capella Regalis' in the memo line.)
2. Contribute to the Indiegogo crowdfunding campaign online which aims to raise the \$10,000 required to get our Christmas CD into post-production. Here is the URL: <https://igg.me/at/capellaregalischristmas> (or you can go to www.indiegogo.com/explore and type 'Capella Regalis' into the search bar). There are various 'perks' that we've set up for donors to our Indiegogo campaign because we aren't able to issue tax receipts for Indiegogo donations.