

For Immediate Release:

October 25, 2017

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Press photos available at:

<http://www.crossingchoir.com/press-photos>

**THE CROSSING ANNOUNCES
THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS TOUR
November 10 – 13, 2017**

music of David Lang, Caroline Shaw, and Ted Hearne
with the strings of the International Contemporary Ensemble
performances in Princeton, Washington, and Philadelphia

Artistic Director Donald Nally leads The Crossing on tour, joined by the strings of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) with concerts in Princeton, Washington, and Philadelphia. Recipients of a 2017 GRAMMY® nomination for Best Choral Performance and 2017 Champions of New Music award from the American Composers Forum, the 24-voice choir presents a program of works for choir and strings, addressing topics of patriotism and nationalism. The National Anthems Tour opens The Crossing's 13th season titled *The Cattle of the Sun*.

The tour program includes two works commissioned and given their world premieres by The Crossing in the summer of 2016: Caroline Shaw's "To The Hands" from the monumental [Seven Responses](#) project, and Ted Hearne's "What It Might Say" from [Jeff Quartets](#), a memorial project to Jeffrey Dinsmore, co-founder of The Crossing. Other works include Ted Hearne's *Consent*, with texts culled from such sources as The Catholic Rite of Marriage, love letters written by the composers, and text messages used as evidence in the Steubenville Rape Trial; and David Lang's *the national anthems*, a meditation on the nature of national anthems that observes, "hiding in every national anthem is the recognition that we are insecure about our freedoms, that freedom is fragile, and delicate, and easy to lose."

Caroline Shaw's "To The Hands" is heard on The Crossing's 2016 CD release *Seven Responses* (Innova). Ted Hearne's "Consent" is heard on The Crossing's 2017 CD release *Sound From The Bench* (Cantaloupe).

The Crossing returns to The Institute for Advanced Study's Edward T. Cone Concert Series, this year curated by David Lang, Pulitzer-Prize winning composer and good friend of the ensemble. The Crossing last sang on this Series in October 2014, performing Lang's *the little match girl passion*. The Crossing also returns to Washington, for its The National Gallery of Art debut. The final concert of the tour is at The Crossing's home—The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill.



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The Crossing Tour Itinerary

Friday, November 10, 2017, 8pm and
Saturday, November 11, 2017, 8pm

The Institute for Advanced Study
Wolfensohn Hall, [Princeton, NJ](#)

Post-Concert talk after the 11/10 performance with Donald Nally, David Lang and Caroline Shaw.

Sunday, November 12, 2017, 3:30pm

The National Gallery of Art
West Building, West Garden Court
[Washington, D.C.](#)

Monday, November 13, 2017, 7pm

The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill
[Philadelphia, PA](#)

Pre-Concert talk with Donald Nally at 6pm in the Burleigh Cruikshank Memorial Chapel.

PROGRAM

The Crossing
International Contemporary Ensemble (strings)
Donald Nally, conductor

- | | |
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| HEARNE | Consent |
| SHAW | To The Hands, from <i>Seven Responses</i> * |
| HEARNE | What It Might Say, from <i>Jeff Quartets</i> * |
| LANG | the national anthems |

**Commissioned and premiered by The Crossing in summer of 2016.*

For more information about The Crossing and this tour
Visit <http://www.crossingchoir.com/the-national-anthems-tour>

See a [video trailer](#) for The National Anthems Tour.

For more information on The Crossing’s 13th season, *The Cattle of The Sun*
Visit <http://www.crossingchoir.com/upcoming>

Visit www.facebook.com/crossingchoir for notice of events, related news, and video promotions

Follow [@thecrossingchoir](#) on Instagram for behind-the-scenes photos and more.



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[The Crossing](#) is a professional chamber choir conducted by Donald Nally and dedicated to new music. Consistently recognized in critical reviews, the ensemble regularly collaborates with some of the nation's most accomplished ensembles. Committed to working with creative teams to make and record new, substantial works for choir, the ensemble has presented over sixty commissioned world premieres from some of the world's leading composers. The Crossing has thirteen commercially-released recordings, with two more due to be released in early 2018. Nominated for the 2017 GRAMMY® Award for Best Choral Performance, The Crossing, with Donald Nally, is the American Composers Forums' 2017 Champion of New Music.

The Crossing is represented by Alliance Artist Management.

Donald Nally is responsible for imagining, programming, commissioning, and conducting at The Crossing. He is also the director of choral organizations at Northwestern University where he holds the John W. Beattie Chair of Music. Donald has served as chorus master at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Welsh National Opera, Opera Philadelphia, and for many seasons at the Spoleto Festival in Italy.



Donald, with The Crossing, is the American Composers Forum 2017 Champion of New Music; he received the 2017 Michael Korn Founders Award from Chorus America. He is the only conductor to have two ensembles receive the Margaret Hillis Award for Excellence in Choral Music: in 2002 with the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia and in 2015 with The Crossing. In the 2017-18 season he will collaborate as guest director with Lisson Gallery (London), The Cathedral Choral Society (Washington, D.C.), Haymarket Opera (Chicago), David Lang's The Mile Long Opera (on the High Line in New York City), and is visiting resident artist at the Park Avenue Armory.

[The International Contemporary Ensemble \(ICE\)](#) is an artist collective committed to transforming the way music is created and experienced. The ensemble's 35 members are featured as soloists, chamber musicians, commissioners, and collaborators with the foremost musical artists of our time. A recipient of the American Music Center's Trailblazer Award and the Chamber Music America/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, ICE was also named the 2014 Musical America Ensemble of the Year. The group currently serves as artists in residence at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Mostly Mozart Festival.





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[David Lang](#) is one of the most highly esteemed and performed American composers writing today. His works have been performed around the world in most of the great concert halls. Lang's *simple song #3*, written as part of his score for Paolo Sorrentino's acclaimed film *Youth*, received many honors in 2016, including Academy Award, Golden Globe, and Critics Choice nominations, among others. Lang's *the little match girl passion*, Commissioned by Carnegie Hall, won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Music. The recording won a 2010 Grammy Award for Best Small Ensemble Performance.

In addition to his work as a composer, Lang is Artist in Residence at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, and is a Professor of Composition at the Yale School of Music. Lang is co-founder and co-artistic director of New York's legendary music collective Bang on a Can.

[Caroline Adelaide Shaw](#) is a New York-based musician. She is the youngest ever winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Music, for her enigmatic composition *Partita for 8 Voices*. Her career defies categorization—she performs as a violin soloist, chamber musician, and as a vocalist in the Grammy-winning ensemble *Roomful of Teeth*. Recent commissions include works for Carnegie Hall, the Guggenheim Museum, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra with Jonathan Biss, and mezzo-soprano Anne Sofie von Otter. She also frequently collaborates with Kanye West. Currently a doctoral candidate at Princeton, Caroline also studied at Rice and Yale. Caroline loves the color yellow, otters, Beethoven opus 74, Mozart opera, the smell of rosemary, and the sound of a janky mandolin.



Composer, singer and bandleader [Ted Hearne](#) draws on a wide breadth of influences ranging across music's full terrain, to create intense, personal and multi-dimensional works. The *New York Times* has praised Mr. Hearne for his "tough edge and wildness of spirit," and "topical, politically sharp-edged works." *Pitchfork* called Hearne's work "some of the most expressive socially engaged music in recent memory -- from any genre."

Hearne's newest theatrical work, *The Source* was premiered to rave reviews last October at the BAM Next Wave Festival in Brooklyn. The *New York Times* called *The Source* "a 21st Century masterpiece." Recent and upcoming commissions the San Francisco Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, New World Symphony, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and *A Far Cry*, eighth blackbird, Ensemble dal Niente and *Alarm Will Sound*, *Volti*, *The Crossing* and *Roomful of Teeth*.

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