

T H E B R O N X  
**CONCERT SINGERS**

April 11, 2019

Dear Friend and fellow music explorer,

**Join The Bronx Concert Singers for *SINGS MY SOUL*, an afternoon of Gospel, Spirituals and Sacred Jazz !**

On Sunday afternoon, May 19, 2019 at 4:30 pm, The Bronx Concert Singers (BCS), guest professional vocalists and musicians, under the baton of Music Director Robert René Galván, will perform our **38<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Concert – *Sings My Soul***, at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1891 McGraw Avenue, in Parkchester, Bronx, NY 10462.

Robert Ray's pioneering 1974 **GOSPEL MASS** headlines this tribute to three African-American musical artforms: Spirituals, Sacred Jazz and Gospel. **GOSPEL MASS** was the first Catholic Mass set to the rhythms and harmonies of African-American music. Infused with warmth and vibrancy, it inspires hope and affirms faith.

Discover the emotional power and range of Spirituals with *Praise His Holy Name* (Hampton), *Amazing Grace* (Schrader), *Wade in the Water* (Hayes), *I've Been in the Storm So Long* (Ames), *Elijah Rock* (Hairston) and *Deep River* (Ringwald). BCS is also delighted to premiere 2015 BRIO winner Tamara Cashour's arrangement of *Ride On King Jesus*.

*Praise God* and *Heaven* from Duke Ellington's **SECOND SACRED CONCERT** carry his signature rhythmic and harmonic jazz imprint, highlighting why he considered the **SACRED CONCERTS** series his most important works. *Heaven* is most frequently performed as a solo, but BCS performs it with soloist and chorus as Ellington originally wrote it..

**ORDER YOUR *SINGS MY SOUL* CONCERT TICKETS TODAY**

**Take advantage of great music, affordable prices and easy walking and transit.** Over 150 of our neighbors attended our 2018 Holiday concert. Purchase your tickets now to avoid Box Office lines.

Tickets are \$20 for General Admission and 2 for \$35; \$15 for Seniors (62+) and College Students with valid id; and \$5 for Children through High School. For groups of 5 or more, call 917-743-4641 for group rates.

Tickets are available:

- from BCS members, or after Sunday services at St. Paul, or by calling us at 917-743-4641 for local Parkchester delivery.
- Charge your will-call tickets using Visa – MasterCard – Discover Card through **Brown Paper Tickets: Online at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4215786>, or by phone: 1-800-838-3006.** Visit the Tickets page on our website, [www.bronxconcertsingers.org](http://www.bronxconcertsingers.org), for a direct link. A service charge applies.
- Mail your check to Bronx Concert Singers, P.O. Box 1226, Bronx, NY 10462-0580 (a Ticket order form –on the reverse of the Contribution form - and BCS-addressed envelope are enclosed). Tickets for checks received after May 10<sup>th</sup> will be held at the BOX OFFICE. Include a self-addressed return envelope and your telephone number for confirmation of receipt and shipment.
- At the concert Box Office only Cash or Checks are accepted.

**BCS BRINGS GREAT MUSIC HOME TO THE BRONX WITH YOUR SUPPORT!**

Last December, over 150 audience members braved freezing rain to savor the wonder of Handel's **Messiah** again. In Spring 2018, Haydn's **Lord Nelson Mass**, **Salve Regina**, and selections from **The Creation** captivated our audience, who changed minds with comments "I've got to hear more Haydn! I didn't think I'd like it so much."

**Mailing Address: Bronx Concert Singers, P.O. Box 1226, Bronx, New York 10462-0580**  
Community Chorus in Residence at St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church • 1891 McGraw Avenue • Bronx, New York 10462  
[www.bronxconcertsingers.org](http://www.bronxconcertsingers.org) ♦ 917-743-4641

**As audience members and donors, you make this possible.** BCS thrives today because of your generous support, even when you cannot attend a concert. For 38 years, BCS has presented affordable, high quality classical and innovative music programs with volunteer community members, and professional singers and instrumentalists to communities in the Bronx. With your help, we will continue to delight both novices and seasoned, critical listeners, to cultivate the art of choral singing, and to develop the next generation of enthusiastic music explorers and performers.

You understand and value that Bronx Concert Singers is all about bringing the “downtown” experience of splendid music and memorable performances into our neighborhoods. This is where children get their first taste of live classical and world music, and that it’s ok to like just some songs; ...where an elderly couple can hold hands through a Mozart aria and then stroll home,...where harried parents and caregivers can carve out under 2 hours before dashing home again, ...and where someone who has never listened to classical music can be thunderstruck by its beauty and say “I want to do this!”

**Please donate now to help us close the funding gap.** As a volunteer-run, community-based non-profit, your gift of \$10, \$50, \$100 or more is vital to helping BCS bring great music into our neighborhoods. It also tells potential funders you value the arts in our daily lives. Add memorials and honor gifts at any level, or purchase a business ad (enclose B&W copy). You may donate by cash, check or money order. We enclose a Contribution/Ad form (on the reverse of the Ticket order form) and BCS-return envelope for your convenience.

**If you would like to use your Visa, MasterCard or Discover Card to make your donation you may do so online by visiting our website, [www.bronxconcertsingers.org](http://www.bronxconcertsingers.org). Look for the “Donate Now” button and learn more about helping BCS by making a secure donation through NETWORKFORGOOD.**

This concert is made possible, in part, with public funds from the Bronx Council on the Arts awarded in very competitive processes. These grants covers only a small part of concert expenses, so we ask you to help close the gap. Since all BCS administrative work is performed by volunteers, your contributions are used to cover the expenses directly related to producing our concerts, such as salaries for our music staff, rehearsal and performance space rental, hiring professional singers and musicians for our concerts and letting you know about concerts.

**Spread the word.** Share your enthusiasm with your family, friends, neighbors and acquaintances. Invite them to the concert. Find out about group rates. Create fresh memories when you attend this Holiday concert together.

We look forward to sharing this great music with you here in Parkchester, at St. Paul’s on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30 pm. Please call me at (917) 743-4641 if you need additional information about tickets sales, group rates, our organization, or about singing with us for the Holiday 2019 season.

Best wishes to you and your family for a healthy and joyous Spring.



Frances Ciurcina, President

**BCS’s 38th Annual Spring Concert – *Sings My Soul*** is supported, in part, by public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA); and, in part, from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the NYS Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the NYS Legislature, and administered by the BCA; and the support of local businesses, organizations and individuals who appreciate the arts.