

## John Rutter Requiem

## Leonard Bernstein Chichester Psalms

Pacific Spirit Choir with orchestra and soloists Gerald van Wyck, Conductor

2:00 pm Sunday, April 23, 2017

West Vancouver United Church 2062 Esquimalt Avenue (Marine Dr. & 21st)

Soloists (Rutter) Soloists (Bernstein) Erin Sutton, Kiyomi Hori Sopranos,

Kiyomi Hori Soprano, Erik Kallo Alto, Counter Tenor, Taka Shimojima Tenor,

William Liu Bass

John Rutter unashamedly composes instantly memorable tunes. In a world where so many composers believe music is no longer primarily about melody, Rutter stands out as someone who defiantly bucks that trend. Nowhere is it more evident than in his glorious Requiem. Composed in 1985, the work is reminiscent of the Requiem of Fauré for its simplicity, brevity and rich choral writing.

Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms are a compelling blend of Bernstein's Broadway style with lyrical, intimate settings of three complete psalms in their original Hebrew, plus stray verses from several other psalms. The overall mood alternates joyful exuberance with moments of violent frenzy and tender entreaties for peace in a manner that is hopeful and life-affirming.