



ANIMA MUNDI PRODUCTIONS

Healing the soul of the world through the arts

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ashland, Oregon

Local Arts Organization Launches New Socially Oriented Concert Series in Ashland

Anima Mundi Productions, a Rogue Valley-based nonprofit organization dedicated to “healing the soul of the world through the arts,” plans to unveil the details of their new *Heart of Humanity* concert series at a launch event on Sunday, March 31 at Grizzly Peak Winery in Ashland. All *Heart of Humanity* concerts will take place in the Oregon Center for the Arts Music Recital Hall on Mountain Ave. on the campus of Southern Oregon University. The upcoming 2019-2020 season will be the inaugural year for this series, with concerts planned on October 6, 2019, January 12, 2020, and April 26, 2020.

The Heart of Humanity concert series is distinguished for its strong emphasis on addressing an urgent social theme at each concert, often through the creation and premiere of new and inspiring concert works by composers who are directly involved in the concert, including Rogue Valley-based creators. The series also features internationally renowned performers, including a Grammy-award winning soprano, a string quartet hailed as “the state’s finest chamber ensemble” by Oregon ArtsWatch, and a Syrian-American composer/pianist whose work has been called “a major new addition to the 21st century symphonic literature” by Fanfare Magazine.

The company’s first production, the 2014 opera *The Canticle of the Black Madonna* on the subject of combat PTSD, was called “generous, carefully crafted and supremely compassionate by *The Oregonian* and “one of the most exciting developments of the arts season” by *Oregon ArtsWatch*. *The Oregonian* wrote that “Production values overall reflected artistry, hard work and commitment... Contemporary opera is alive in Oregon, and not just that, it’s vital, addressing contemporary issues with determination and compassion.”

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Anima Mundi Productions is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to creating, promoting, and producing original works that harness the power of art to stir the soul, foster community, and address urgent social problems.

For further inquiries, please contact executive director Ethan Gans-Morse: 541-778-1211.

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