



# 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

### **World-renowned baritone to perform “*With Malice Toward None, With Charity For All*” vocal recital in Ashland dedicated to themes of peace and reconciliation**

Anima Mundi Productions, a Rogue Valley-based nonprofit organization dedicated to “healing the soul of the world through the arts,” will present the second concert of its *Heart of Humanity* series—entitled *With Malice Toward None, With Charity For All*—at **3:00 on Sunday, January 12**. The concert features Christopheren Nomura, a classically trained baritone whose numerous career highlights include performances at the Vatican, on Broadway, and in the Martin Scorsese feature film, *Madama Butterfly*.

#### **A FIRST-RATE PERFORMER**

Mr. Nomura is known for the “force and beauty of his voice” (*The Washington Post*) and his “first-rate” performances (*The New York Times*). He has performed with many of the world’s greatest ensembles—including the **Boston Symphony**, the **Philadelphia Orchestra**, the **San Francisco Symphony**, and the **Oregon Bach Festival**. He has given hundreds of acclaimed recitals including at **Carnegie Hall**, the **Kennedy Center**, **Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center**, and **San Francisco Performances**. In 2015, he was featured in the original cast of the George Takei-led Broadway hit, *Allegiance*, which told the story of Japanese Internment Camps in the 1940’s.

#### **WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE**

*With Malice Toward None, With Charity For All* exemplifies Anima Mundi Productions’ commitment to fostering social healing through music. The title of the concert is based on the inspiring words of Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address at the end of the Civil War, and this program will take audiences on a transformative journey out of the wounds of war and into an uplifting portrayal of hope for a better world. Mr. Nomura will speak from the stage about how the music he has selected exemplifies the power of song to reconcile the damage caused by conflict between people and between nations alike.

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## **TWO WORLD PREMIERES**

In addition to singing works by classically renowned composers such as **Brahms**, **Copland**, and **Barber**, Mr. Nomura will present the **World Premieres** of two new songs by local composers: *The Legend of Leaving* by **Jodi French** of Southern Oregon Repertory Singers (poetry by Oregon's former Poet Laureate Lawson Fusao Inada) and *Dragons into Angels* by Anima Mundi resident composer Ethan Gans-Morse and poet Tiziana DellaRovere.

Local audiences will recognize Mr. Nomura from his past appearances with the Rogue Valley Symphony, the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers, and on the Chamber Music Concerts series.

## **THE HEART OF HUMANITY CONCERT SERIES**

All *Heart of Humanity* concerts take place at the **Oregon Center for the Arts Music Recital Hall on Mountain Ave.** on the campus of **Southern Oregon University**.

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. The stated mission series is *to give voice to marginalized people with compassion and depth, turning the concert hall into a space for renewed hope, communal healing, and mutual understanding.*

In October, Anima Mundi Productions brought composer, pianist, and peace activist Malek Jandali to the Rogue Valley to launch "Pianos for Peace Oregon," which involved the placement of artistically painted pianos in downtown Ashland and a week of "Peace through Music" events that culminated in a riveting performance by the Malek Jandali Trio that touched local audiences deeply.

Tickets are on sale at [www.HumanityTickets.com](http://www.HumanityTickets.com) or by calling 541-833-3066.

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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.