#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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the fire within... the desire to sing

### Halifax Camerata Singers 2025-2026

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Dr. Joel Tranquilla, with Collaborative Pianist Lynette Wahlstrom and Associate Conductor Amelia McMahon, this season is all about collaborations: celebrating the amazing Halifax choral landscape and all our wonderful partners across the HRM and beyond. In addition to our continued work with our Composer-in-Residence, Juno award winner India Gailey, Camerata will be commissioning individual works from Jeff Reilly and Peter-Anthony Togni. We are bringing our music to new and non-traditional venues in the spring, leading up to a major outdoor concert in May that will feature a choral collaboration with at least nine local ensembles.

#### **Season Milestones:**

Launch of Camerata's new album, "inhale | exhale" – 15 November, 2025, Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax - Recorded last June at the beautiful Trinity-St. Stephen's United Church in Amherst, NS, this album comprises entirely Canadian works and is a collaboration with the Canadian Mental Health Association, Halifax-Dartmouth Branch, through its album artwork ("Sky, Sea, Sand 4" by Andrea Pottyondy).

Saturday, November 15, 7 pm, Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax: "Resonance" — with guests Galileo Chamber Choir, under the direction of Andrew Pickett. A concert of conversations - between Camerata and Galileo, between Renaissance and contemporary repertoire, and between the singers' voices and the resonance of the sacred space. Featuring the world premieres of works by Peter Togni, Jeff Reilly, and Composer-In-Residence India Gailey.

Tickets: General \$30; Students/Underwaged \$20

https://www.halifaxcamerata.org/concerts/ and at the door.

Friday, 19 December, 7:30 pm | Saturday, 20 December, 7:30 pm, Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, Halifax: Handel's *Messiah* - Dr. Joel Tranquilla, Camerata's Artistic Director and Symphony Nova Scotia Chorus chorusmaster, will raise his baton for the first time in leading the Symphony Nova Scotia's thrilling annual *Messiah* performance. Camerata takes to the stage once again as the SNSC's core choir, ready to make the air full of Hallelujahs.

Tickets: <a href="https://symphonynovascotia.ca">https://symphonynovascotia.ca</a>

**Tuesday, 24 March 24, 2026, 7 pm, Discovery Centre, Halifax: "Reverb"** - Audiences are invited to take flight on a guided musical tour through the oceans, open skies, and galaxies of the Discovery Centre led by Camerata and Polaris. Featuring these two dynamic ensembles in small groups and a big collective

sound. Expect a mix of a cappella and accompanied pieces, pop and classic choral, and a finale that will make the whole building reverberate with song.

Ticket pricing to be announced soon!

https://www.halifaxcamerata.org/concerts/ and at the door.

### Saturday, 23 May, 2026, 2 pm, Kiwanis Grahams Grove Building and Grahams Grove Park, Dartmouth:

**"Echo"** - Camerata is hosting a party and everyone's invited! We're so excited to welcome nine choirs from across Nova Scotia for a joyful afternoon of joint music making. This all-ages event will feature exuberant and accessible songs that will echo across the woods and pond, celebrating of our vibrant choral community.

Tickets: Free admission. Donations accepted

# **About Halifax Camerata Singers:**

Founded by Camerata's Artistic Director Emeritus Jeff Joudrey in 1986, and led by Dr. Joel Tranquilla since 2023, Halifax Camerata Singers includes performers from many parts of Nova Scotia and is one of Atlantic Canada's leading chamber choirs. Supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Lloyd Carr-Harris Foundation, the SOCAN Foundation, the Province of Nova Scotia/Arts Nova Scotia, Halifax Regional Municipality and individual donors and corporate supporters, the choir has distinguished itself by performing exciting choral repertoire from many periods and styles, with special attention to Canadian music. Winner of Music Nova Scotia's Best Classical Recording in 2016, nominated for an ECMA in the same category in 2017, and nominated for ECMA's Choral Recording of the Year in 2023 and Vocal Release of the Year in 2025, the choir also won the Healey Willan Grand Prize in the 2010 National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choir.

Camerata often collaborates with chamber ensembles, Symphony Nova Scotia, and other musicians. Its five recordings are for sale online and through iTunes, and are distributed through Naxos of America, Inc. through Halifax's Leaf Music catalogue. Camerata was nominated for a 2021 Best Classical Recording by Music Nova Scotia for *Music of the Spheres*.

## **Acknowledgements:**

Halifax Camerata Singers thanks its donors and funders, the Canada Council for the Arts, Arts Nova Scotia, Halifax Regional Municipality, the J and W Murphy Foundation, the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth, and the Lloyd Carr-Harris Foundation. The choir acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the

Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship first signed in 1725.

#### For further information:

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You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, and www.halifaxcamerata.org