

THE SPIRE SERIES

The Spire Series is committed to presenting both musical and visual artists and fostering community, while celebrating the unique space at First & Franklin Presbyterian Church. Receptions are an integral part of the programs, where the audience and artists meet and are treated as our honored guests.

LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES!

The First & Franklin Presbyterian Church building was erected between 1854 and 1859, and is widely regarded as American architect Norris G. Starkweather's masterpiece. The central spire, completed in 1879, soars 273 feet and is the tallest in Baltimore. The triple-vault ceiling, awe-inspiring plasterwork, and beautiful stained glass windows (three of which are Tiffany) make this sacred space a gem in the city of Baltimore. A full renovation-restoration of the sanctuary was completed in 2010.

The Spire Series
First & Franklin Presbyterian Church
210 West Madison Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 728-5545
www.firstfranklin.org



The Spire Series

2016 ~ 2017

presented by

First & Franklin Presbyterian Church

CECIL B. (JERRY) BISHOP MEMORIAL CONCERT
THE THIRTEEN CHAMBER CHOIR
"Reincarnations"
Friday, October 21, 2016 – 8:00 p.m.

The Thirteen is an all-star professional choir known for inspired and powerful live performance. Founded in 2012, the choir is excited to call Washington DC its new home.



This memorial concert, "Reincarnations," features a diverse and engaging program of masterworks new and old, including the American premiere performance of Thomas Tallis' epic *Ave Dei patris lia*, Samuel Barber's touching *Reincarnations*, and the virtuosic and infectiously-fun *I'll Fly Away* by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw. Don't miss this performance replete with choral pyrotechnics and electric harmonies.

The Thirteen draws its artists from among the best ensembles in the world, including Chanticleer, Seraphic Fire and Apollo's Fire. The choir's peerless singers are best described by National Public Radio commentator M.D. Ridge: "to talk about the remarkable abilities and sound of the individual singers would...be like trying to say which whitecaps on the ocean reflect the sun most beautifully, or which leaves on a tree dance most gracefully with the wind... I stand in awe."

CANDLELIGHT CHORAL CONCERT
Sunday, December 11, 2016 – 4:00 p.m.
The First & Franklin Sanctuary Choir
Jacqueline Pollauf, harp
Jason Kissel, conductor



The First & Franklin Sanctuary Choir, regarded for its beautiful tone and consummate musicianship, presents a *cappella* choral music for the seasons of Advent and Christmas, including beloved works by American composers Morten Lauridsen and Randall Thompson.

DARIUSZ SKORACZEWSKI, cello
MICHAEL SHEPPARD, piano
Tuesday, March 14, 2017 – 7:30 p.m.

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Principal cellist, **Dariusz Skoraczewski** was presented with the prestigious Baker Artist Award (2013), the highest recognition for artists in Maryland. In 2016, he released his second solo album, *Cello Phantasia*, and is joined by the peerless Michael Sheppard for an intimate program of cello and piano music showcasing the two virtuoso musicians in dazzling partnership.



Michael Sheppard is a pianist of extraordinary virtuosity and musicianship. Trained by the legendary Leon Fleisher and Ann Schein at the Peabody Conservatory, Michael was selected by the American Pianists Association as a Classical Fellow. He has also appeared in numerous performances with the *Monument Trio*, which included cellist Dariusz Skoraczewski.



BALTIMORE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS
SENIOR VOICE RECITAL
Sunday, April 23, 2017 – 3:00 p.m.



The Baltimore School for the Arts, located just one block from First & Franklin, strives to be the leading pre-professional arts high school in the country. Join us for this special program featuring vocal solos sung by the school's talented senior voice majors.

BALTIMORE PIANO MARATHON
Sunday, May 7, 2017 - 2:00 – 7:00 p.m.

The First Annual Baltimore Piano Marathon will celebrate over 300 years of the piano, in a concert by 8-10 superb pianists from the Greater Baltimore/Washington area playing repertoire of their own choosing. Every 30 minutes, a different artist will perform - you are invited to come to hear a single performer, a whole hour, or stay for the entire event! The glorious Steinway B in First & Franklin's sanctuary will be the featured instrument.



The Spire Series Membership 2016-2017

Your donations make The Spire Series possible.
We thank you in advance for your generous contributions!

- ☐ **INDIVIDUAL** - \$50 donation. One ticket to each event.
- ☐ **FRIEND** - \$100 - \$149 donation
Receive a heartfelt thank you in each event program, and two (2) tickets to each event of the 2016-2017 season.
- ☐ **TOWER PATRON** - \$150-\$499 donation
Enjoy all of the above benefits, except you will receive three (3) tickets to each event of the 2016-2017 season.
- ☐ **STEEPLE CIRCLE** - \$500+ donation
Enjoy all of the above benefits, except you will receive four (4) tickets to each event of the 2016-2017 season. In addition, we will offer you preferred seating at each event, along with the opportunity to advertise your business logo on event advertising, on our website and at the event receptions. Further details provided upon request.

Enclosed is my check for: \$_____

Order single tickets:

- ☐ **THE THIRTEEN CHAMBER CHOIR**
#_____ general admission (\$20 ea); #_____ student (\$10 ea)
- ☐ **CANDLELIGHT CHORAL CONCERT**
A freewill offering will be collected.
- ☐ **SKORACZEWSKI & SHEPPARD**
#_____ general admission (\$20 ea); #_____ student (\$10 ea)
- ☐ **BALTIMORE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS**
A freewill offering will be collected.
- ☐ **BALTIMORE PIANO MARATHON**
#_____ general admission (\$20 ea); #_____ student (\$10 ea)

Name as you prefer it to appear in our event listings:

☐ I wish to remain anonymous.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

TWO WAYS TO PAY!

1) Make checks payable and send to: First & Franklin Presbyterian Church, The Spire Series, 210 W. Madison Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

2) Use PayPal through our website: [www.firstfranklin.org/Music & Arts/The Spire Series/](http://www.firstfranklin.org/Music%20Arts/The%20Spire%20Series/)click PayPal under The Spire Series.