

## **Nathan Gunn and Jane Seymour to Perform in Annual Concert *Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square***

**SALT LAKE CITY** (6 October 2011)—Baritone Nathan Gunn and guest narrator Jane Seymour will join the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square for their annual Christmas concerts, titled *Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square*. Mack Wilberg and Ryan Murphy will conduct the concerts.

The concerts will be presented in the Conference Center in downtown Salt Lake City on Thursday, 15 December, and Friday, 16 December, and Saturday, 17 December. All the evening concerts begin at 8 p.m. The weekly half-hour CBS radio broadcast of *Music and the Spoken Word* on Sunday, 18 December, at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Center will also feature Gunn and Seymour. This will be followed by additional music from the previous performances in a mini-concert.

Recognized as one of the most exciting and in-demand baritones of the day, Gunn has appeared in the most renowned opera houses across the U.S. and Europe including the Metropolitan Opera, the San Francisco Opera, the Paris Opera and the Madrid Opera.

Also a distinguished concert performer, Gunn has performed with acclaimed orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra and San Francisco Symphony. He won a Grammy Award in 2010 for singing the title role in the London Symphony Orchestra's recording of *Billy Budd* (Virgin Classics).

Seymour has showcased her diverse talents on the Broadway stage, in motion pictures and television. Her long list of film credits includes the James Bond movie, *Live and Let Die*, and the romantic classic *Somewhere in Time*, and the role of Dr. Michaela Quinn on television's *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman* for six seasons. Her appearances in television movies and mini-series have garnered for her an Emmy Award and two Golden Globes.

In addition to acting, Ms. Seymour has written several books including *Open Hearts*, *Making Yourself at Home*, and *This One 'N That One*, a series of children's books, written with her husband James Keach, now being made into an animated series.

"Each year we have the good fortune to work with guest artists of exceptional caliber and this year is no exception," said Mack Wilberg, music director of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. "Nathan Gunn is a versatile performer who has performed music at the Metropolitan Opera, at Carnegie Hall and the Broadway musicals as well. He has sung with the Choir before and our audience will be pleased to get to know him better. Jane Seymour as our narrator will delight our audiences as she has done for years on TV and the screen. We look forward to having them both here in December." Choir President Mac Christensen added, "It's hard to imagine but each year these Christmas concerts just keep getting better and better. When you combine the genius of Mack Wilberg with the talent of guests like Nathan Gunn and Jane Seymour, you're in store for a magnificent set of concerts. Together with the Choir, the Orchestra, the Bells and our Christmas dancers, you have an event unlike any other. We are blessed to share it with our community and the world every year."

### **Random Ticket-Selection Process**

Free tickets for these concerts and the *Music and the Spoken Word* broadcast are required. Because of very high demand for tickets to this event in past years, tickets are distributed through a random selection process.

Those interested may register on the Internet at [www.lds.org/events](http://www.lds.org/events) for the opportunity to receive tickets from Saturday, 8 October 2011, at 12:01 a.m. through Monday, 17 October 2011 at 11:59 p.m. Those without Internet access may register over the phone at (801) 570-0080 (local) or at 1-866-537-8457 (toll free). All registrations received during those two weeks will have equal chances at receiving tickets in the random selection process.

Not all registrations will be selected to receive tickets, and only one registration per household can be accepted. The maximum number of tickets that a household may request is four. Tickets will be mailed to those selected shortly after the registration process closes. Persons not selected to receive tickets will be notified by e-mail.

Standby tickets for those without tickets will not be issued. However, patrons are invited to stand by for last-minute seating each evening and on Sunday morning for the *Music and the Spoken Word* broadcast. The standby line will form at the North Gate on Temple Square at 6 p.m. for the evening performances and at 7:30 a.m. for the Sunday broadcast.

The doors of the Conference Center will open at 90 minutes before each concert. The length of the evening performance will be approximately 90 minutes. The broadcast and mini-concert on Sunday should last roughly an hour. Seating is limited to those 8 years of age and older. **Given the increase in traffic due to other scheduled downtown holiday events, guests are asked to allow extra time for travel and parking in order to be seated not later than 30 minutes before the performance begins.** Recommended parking locations for the ticket household address will be included with the mailed tickets.

For more information on the Choir and these concerts, become a fan of the Choir's Facebook page at [Facebook.com/mormontabernaclechoir](https://www.facebook.com/mormontabernaclechoir) and sign up for the weekly Choir newsletter on [mormontabernaclechoir.org](http://mormontabernaclechoir.org).

Contacts for news media only. Please do not publish.

Michael von Rosen	801-240-6360
Eric Hawkins	801-240-0298