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For Immediate Release:

Friday, November 16, 2012

Chorus pro Musica Presents
A Dickens Christmas, Celebrate the Holidays with Story and Song
Friday, December 21, 8 PM
Old South Church, Boston
With Terrence O'Malley, Narrator

Boston, MA--The esteemed Boston-based chorus, **Chorus pro Musica**, under the direction of Dr. Betsy Burleigh, will present "**A Dickens Christmas, Celebrate the Holidays with Story and Song**," celebrating the 200th anniversary of Charles Dickens' birth, on Friday, December 21st at 8:00 PM at Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street in Boston's Copley Square. The concert will be enlivened by readings from Charles Dickens, the Victorian-era author with perhaps the greatest expression of Christmas spirit, *A Christmas Carol*. Boston actor **Terrence O'Malley** who has performed frequently with Lyric Stage and New Repertory Theatre Company, will provide the narration.

The readings of *A Christmas Carol*, adapted by Betsy Burleigh, will feature traditional Christmas carols as arranged by Willcocks, Jacques, Rutter and Fissinger along with other holiday compositions such as Holst's ***On This Day Earth Shall Ring*** and ***Three Old English Carols*** and Vaughan Williams's ***Fantasia on Christmas Carols***, all integrated into the charming holiday program. Other pieces include Darke's ***In the Bleak Midwinter***, Wassail Songs arranged by Holst and Vaughan Williams and arrangements of *What Child Is This?*, *The Coventry Carol*, *I Saw Three Ships*, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, *Good Christian Men Rejoice*, *Tomorrow Shall be My Dancing Day* and *Good King Wenceslas*.

"This special concert combines two holiday favorites—music of the season and selections from Dickens' immortal ***A Christmas Carol***," says Betsy Burleigh. "We'll alternate between great arrangements of beloved English carols and favorite readings about Scrooge and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future."

"I've chosen each carol to enhance or reflect on the mood of the readings, and am very excited about the effect of wedding great literature to great music. The evening promises to be a lot of fun, and the program is varied enough to appeal younger listeners as well as our traditional audience. Almost all of our Christmas traditions began in the Victorian era—sending cards, Christmas trees and singing carols. Carols were sung in the parlor and on the street, and in this spirit we'll invite the audience to sing along at various points in the program."

Concert tickets for this performance at Old South Church are \$25, \$35 and \$45 with discounts available on selected seats for groups, students, seniors and WGBH members. Reserved seats may be selected and tickets purchased at www.choruspromusica.org, or by phone (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) at 800-658-4CPM (800-658-4276). For wheelchair-accessible seats, call 617-267-7442.

Terrence O'Malley is an actor who has performed with the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, SpeakEasy Stage Company, and The New Repertory Theatre. He has also found performing work acting in commercials and industrial videos, singing in Christmas Carol quartets and playing sax in rock 'n roll bands. In addition, Terrence is an educator at the New England Aquarium and a presenter at the Museum of Science.

Friday, December 21, 2012, 8:00 P.M.

Old South Church

645 Boylston Street, Boston

A Victorian Christmas, with the Spirit of Charles Dickens

Traditional Holiday Carols

Readings from Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

Tickets: \$25, \$35 and \$45; www.choruspromusica.org, or 800-658-4CPM (800-658-4276)