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NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:
Rebecca Bolden
Executive Director
Phone: 215-751-9494

e-mail: rbolden@philadelphiasingers.org
High resolution photos available upon request

THE PHILADELPHIA SINGERS' FIRST PERFORMANCES OF RANDALL THOMPSON'S *THE PEACEABLE KINGDOM* AND SIR JAMES MACMILLAN'S *SEVEN LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS* HIGHLIGHT THE 2010-2011 SEASON

*The Philadelphia Singers Chorus celebrates its 10th Season as the
Resident Chorus of The Philadelphia Orchestra*

PHILADELPHIA, PA - The Philadelphia Singers' 38th Season showcases the ensemble's artistic versatility and embraces the organization's tradition of presenting masterworks as well as its enthusiastic commitment to the preservation and creation of American choral music. The subscription series offers choral masterworks, intimate chamber works and a world premiere by Philadelphia composer David Shapiro. Subscription packages range from \$42 - \$99. Single Tickets for individual concerts range from \$20 - \$43. Subscriptions and single tickets can be purchased by calling 215-751-9494 or visiting www.philadelphiasingers.org.

The 2010-2011 subscription Season opens on Sunday, October 17, 2010 at 4:00pm at the Church of the Holy Trinity on 19th and Rittenhouse Square. The concert explores what inspires us in art and music and features The Philadelphia Singers' first performance of Randall Thompson's *The Peaceable Kingdom* based on the Edward Hicks painting of the same name. Music Director David Hayes says, "Thompson's inventive use of a cappella choral textures has made it a true American classic." In her *Bar xizam* (Upward I Rise), Minnesota composer Abbie Betinis pairs medieval Persian poetry with contemporary vocal techniques and Gavin Bryars, whose work received audience acclaim last season, chooses Pope Leo XIII's words praising photography in the Philadelphia premiere of *On Photography*, scored for chorus, harmonium and piano. The Philadelphia Singers will also give the world premiere of *Metamorphoses* by Philadelphia composer David Shapiro, part of the organization's ongoing commitment to perform works by composers who live and create in our region.

The Philadelphia Singers presents its beloved "Christmas on Logan Square" concerts on Saturday, December 11 and December 18 at 5:00pm at Philadelphia's St. Clement's Church on 20th and Cherry Streets. The Singers will also bring this annual favorite to the Main Line with a performance on Sunday, December 11 at 4:00pm at the Church of the Good Samaritan in Paoli, located at 212 W. Lancaster Avenue. This year's program features Benjamin Britten's much loved *A Ceremony of*

The Philadelphia Singers 2010-2011 Season

Carols for women's chorus and harp, a set of motets by San Francisco composer Ingram Marshall and David Shapiro's *Et Incarnatus Est* alongside holiday favorites. The concert which begins with a candlelight procession will conclude with a glorious audience carol sing.

The Philadelphia Singers will close its subscription season on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 8:00pm with at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia. This concert coincides with the start of Holy Week and features The Philadelphia Singers' first performances of Bach's Cantata No. 182, *Himmelskönig, sei willkommen* (King of Heaven, Welcome) and Sir James MacMillan's modern masterwork, *Seven Last Words from the Cross* for chorus and string orchestra.

The 2010-2011 Season also marks The Philadelphia Singers Chorale's 10th Season as Resident Chorus of The Philadelphia Orchestra. The Philadelphia Singers Chorale appears on all of the orchestra's choral subscription concerts including performances at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts and annual performances of Handel's *Messiah*. In the 2010-2011 Season, The Philadelphia Singers Chorale will join The Philadelphia Orchestra for Handel's *Messiah* on December 19, Mozart's *Requiem* and Debussy's *Nocturnes* with Music Director Designate Yannick Nézet-Séguin on January 6,7 and 8, Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* (part of the Philadelphia International Festival for the Arts) on April 28, 29 and 30, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* and Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* on May 19, 21 and 22 and Berlioz's *Damnation of Faust* on May 27 and 28. Tickets for these performances can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999 or through The Philadelphia Orchestra's website at www.philorch.org

The Philadelphia Singers, a professional choral ensemble, engages and inspires audiences in the Philadelphia region with compelling concert experiences. The Singers has a special commitment to preserve and strengthen America's rich choral heritage through performances, commissions, and music education. It seeks to enrich the broader community through embodying the highest standards of classical musicianship and providing a platform for its musicians to serve the community in a wide variety of formats.

Founded in 1972 by Michael Korn, The Philadelphia Singers is now under the dynamic leadership of Music Director and Conductor David Hayes. For 38 years, The Philadelphia Singers has contributed to the city's vibrant cultural community through presenting choral music of the highest caliber, meaningful education and community programs, and significant collaborations with local, national and internationally recognized performing arts organizations. In 2001, The Philadelphia Singers Chorale was named Resident Chorus of The Philadelphia Orchestra, the first time in the orchestra's history that a chorus has received this distinction. Maestro Wolfgang Sawallisch, Conductor Laureate of The Philadelphia Orchestra, hails The Singers as "one of the musical treasures of Philadelphia."

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