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Tuesday, September 16, 2008

For immediate release

“Candlelight”

Tuesday, December 2, 2008, at Dominion- Chalmers Church (355 Cooper St) - 8:00 P.M.

Thirteen String’s annual Candlelight concert features guest conductor Robert Cooper who leads the orchestra and guest artists, Charlene Pauls, soprano and James McLellan, tenor. Seventeen Voyces joins the orchestra in Haydn’s Advent Cantilena, Mass in G (the St Nicholas) and Britten’s Company of Heaven. As well, three seasonal carols will be sung with the audience.

One of Canada’s leading choral conductors, Robert Cooper began his career under the tutelage of Helmuth Rilling and Robert Shaw. He is currently the Artistic Director of the Orpheus Choir of Toronto, Chorus Niagara, the Opera in Concert Chorus. Alan Horgan of The Globe and Mail said:

"...a live wire on the podium, Cooper showed himself a sensitive and persuasive interpreter of this sublime work" As a superb choral trainer and conductor, Mr Cooper also provided strong artistic leadership to the Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir for 22 years. He has had the honour of conducting the National Youth Choir of Canada, made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1997 for a Celebration of Canadian Choral Music.

The Company of Heaven, a cantata for 2 speakers, soprano, tenor, chorus, tympani, organ & strings was written for a special broadcast on Michaelmas, 1937. The text was devised by Richard Robert Ellis, and consists of sections of scripture, of poetry, and of speeches some of which are spoken and others of which are set to music by Britten. The music itself is large-scale and expansive. Included in the work is a radiant tenor solo to Brontë’s poem "A Thousand, Thousand Gleaming Fires".

Franz Joseph Haydn is the composer who, more than any other, epitomizes the aims and achievements of the Classical era. In hundreds of instrumental sonatas, string quartets, and symphonies, Haydn both broke new ground and provided durable models. His influence upon later composers is immeasurable; Haydn’s most illustrious pupil, Beethoven, was the direct beneficiary of the elder master’s musical imagination.

Ticket prices: Adults \$40.00, Seniors \$35.00, Students \$10.00

Tickets are available on line at www.thirteenstrings.ca also available at the door, at all CD Warehouse locations, at Compact Music outlets, Books on Beechwood and at Leading Note or by calling 613-738-7888.

Thirteen Strings, formed in 1976, is one Canada’s premiere string ensembles. We are a professional string ensemble occupying a unique niche in the musical landscape. Our mission is to provide audiences with the leading edge of live, classical music where sophisticated repertoire intersects with dynamic, high quality performances.

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Concert programme is attached below.

For further information please contact:

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