



Pacific Boychoir Academy
215 Ridgeway Avenue
Oakland, CA 94611
510-652-4722
PacificBoychoir.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PACIFIC BOYCHOIR RELEASES SOLOIST ALBUM
Oakland-based Choir's 8th Independent Recording Features Prominent Solos

August 2, 2016 – Oakland, California – The GRAMMY-winning Pacific Boychoir Academy (PBA) has released its eighth independent album, a compilation of solos from 2004-2014. Five treble soloists sing fifteen tracks of music by Mozart, Bach, Schubert, Fauré, Barber, and Ellington. The project was spearheaded by PBA's founder, Kevin Fox, with distinguished Bay Area instrumentalists Miles Graber (piano), Anna Maria Mendieta (harp), and The Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra. The digital release is available on [iTunes](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon](#), [LOUDR](#), and other digital music outlets.

The majority of the solos were recorded by George Goodhead and Ian Pitman, now alumni of the choir school. Goodhead attends Bishop O'Dowd High School while singing baritone in PBA's tenor-bass ensemble. Pitman now sings as a tenor at University of Chicago where he studies Math and Economics. "I'm grateful for the opportunity I had to sing—at a young age—so many wonderful and technically demanding pieces, and at such a high level," says Pitman.

Highlights from the album include a Mozart duet, *Sub tuum praesidium*, in which Pitman sings both parts. His rendition of Gounod's *Repentir* features his grasp of the French language. Marcus Shelby lends his jazz orchestra for *On a Turquoise Cloud*. The full choir can be heard in the ethereal spirituals, one of two on the album being *I've Been in the Storm*, with solo by Goodhead. Artistic Director Kevin Fox says of Goodhead's singing, "I always enjoyed the clarity and control in George's voice, which you can hear especially in Barber's *Sure on this Shining Night* and Mozart's *Grabmusik*."

The album was officially released at a fundraiser hosted by Susan and Willie Brown, patrons of the choir through the The Willie L. Brown, Jr. Music Scholarship for Boys. The choir's other albums include two recordings of African-American spirituals, Rachmaninoff's *All Night Vigil*, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, Bach masses, and more available at [PacificBoychoir.org](#)

CONTACT: Jonathon Hampton, Associate Dir. Music & Outreach
Hampton@PacificBoychoirAcademy.org | 510-550-7229

Pacific Boychoir Academy (PBA) is a GRAMMY-winning, independent choir school for boys in grades four through eight, with seven after-school choirs for boys in pre-kindergarten through high school. PBA provides a richly diverse community, focusing on excellence in music education, academics, and performance. Founded in Oakland, California in 1998 by Artistic Director Kevin Fox, PBA serves over 170 choristers a season, has released seven independent albums, tours internationally each year, and has garnered three Grammy Awards with the San Francisco Symphony. The only North American boychoir school outside of the East Coast, PBA offers unique and rigorous choral and academic programs, producing confident, engaged young scholars and artists. The L.A. Times calls PBA's sound quality "astonishing," while the New York Times hails PBA's ability to perform music "far beyond the reach of most children's choirs."

Day School Grades 4-8 • After-School Choirs Grades Pre K-12

2004 GRAMMY Winner: Best Classical Album • 2010 GRAMMY Winner: Best Classical Album & Best Choral Performance