

ITALIA ! canta !

ITALIA canta! Choral Festival (Rome, Italy)

Craig Courtney, Guest Conductor

June 29-July 5, 2019 – Rome, Italy with an extension to Florence and Venice

This festival is about making terrific music with other choral musicians from across the United States. **Craig Courtney** will serve as the festival's Guest Conductor in rehearsals and formal performances in **Rome** and **Venice**. **St. Peter's Basilica** in **Vatican City** will also serve as the backdrop for a wonderful and memorable music making experience for all!

An inspiring and captivating experience awaits you and your singers!

The Festival Repertoire is listed below. All participants are expected to order, purchase, and prepare ON YOUR OWN.

Contact your preferred music retailer – Our preferred retailer is **Musical Resources** (Toledo, OH) - orders@musical-resources.com

FESTIVAL REPERTOIRE: *All music written or arranged by Craid Courtney

All titles mixed voicing (SATB) and are **Beckenhorst Press** publications except for two, published by **Lorenz Corp.** indicated in yellow highlight below

1) **FESTIVAL GLORIA** – CU1026 (string quartet, percussion) -

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/festival-gloria-satb/>

<https://soundcloud.com/beckenhorst-press/10-festival-gloria-satb>

2) **MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT** – BP2080 (string quartet)

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/make-me-an-instrument-satb/>

<https://soundcloud.com/beckenhorst-press/4-make-me-an-instrument-satb>

3) **OUR FATHER** – BP2145 (string quartet)

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/our-father-satb/>

<https://soundcloud.com/beckenhorst-press/our-father-craig-courtney>

4) **SANCTUS** – 10/2499R [Lorenz]

<https://www.lorenz.com/choral/church/choral/church-choral/sanctus-22>

<https://soundcloud.com/tim-sawyer/sanctus-courtney>

5) **PEACE I GIVE TO YOU** - BP1632 (solo violin)

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/peace-i-give-to-you/>

<https://soundcloud.com/beckenhorst-press/peace-i-give-to-you-craig>

6) **CORONATION** – BP1273 (brass quartet)

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/coronation/>

7) O SACRED HEAD – 10/4329L [Lorenz]

<https://www.lorenz.com/choral/church/o-sacred-head-2>

<https://soundcloud.com/user-614120866/o-sacred-head-from-in-my-place>

8) LET THERE BE LIGHT – BU1021

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/let-there-be-light-satb/>

<https://soundcloud.com/beckenhorst-press/08-let-there-be-light-craig>

9) PRAISE THE LORD WHO REIGNS ABOVE – BP1489 (brass quartet)

<http://www.beckenhorstpress.com/praise-the-lord-who-reigns-above/>

10) PREMIERE – TBA

About Craig Courtney



A native of Indiana, **Craig Courtney** began playing the piano at the age of three and the cello at the age of eleven. He received a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in piano performance at the University of Cincinnati, studying piano under Raymond Dudley and chamber music under Walter Levin of the LaSalle Quartet. During that time, he was a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda Honorary Music Society.

Following a three-year stay in Milan, Italy, where Mr. Courtney studied the piano with Illonka Deckers, performed for the *Associazione Musicale "Gustav Mahler"*, and worked extensively as a vocal coach, he was invited to join the music faculty of the famed Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, serving as piano teacher and accompanist for the woodwind and brass department.

It was during this six-year period, while serving in the music ministry of the Salzburg International Baptist Church, that Mr. Courtney began directing a church choir and composing sacred choral music, due to the unavailability of English language music. In 1985, his compositions came to the attention of John Ness Beck through the publication of his octavo, *Thy Will Be Done*, initiating a close working relationship between the two men which continued until Mr. Beck's death in 1987. In making plans for the ongoing of Beckenhorst Press, Mr. Beck appointed Craig Courtney to assume his responsibilities as staff composer and editor. In addition to his duties at Beckenhorst Press, he presently works at Capital University where he teaches choral arranging and directs the Chordsmen.

Mr. Courtney's published works include more than three hundred choral octavos, nine vocal collections, three piano solo collections, one cantata and six extended works for choir and orchestra. His music is performed world-wide and has been translated into several foreign languages. He has been a frequent recipient of ASCAP achievement awards and his composition, *Peace I Give to You*, was awarded 1st place in the 2003 John Ness Beck Foundation competition.

In demand throughout the world as a choral clinician and featured composer, Craig Courtney now resides in Columbus, Ohio with his wife, Susan, and his fourth son, Nathan.