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"The Crossing" Invited To Be Choir In Residence For The 50th Anniversary Spoleto Festival

*After A Six Year Hiatus, Donald Nally Returns To Spoleto To
Conduct "The Crossing" In Memorial Concerts For Gian
Carlo Menotti*

Ardmore, PA, May 15, 2007: The Crossing, conducted by Donald Nally, has been invited to be the core of the Festival Choir for this year's 50th anniversary Festival Dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy. The 18 member chamber choir will be augmented by an additional 22 singers to handle the demands of the summer's music that will primarily feature music by recently deceased composer Gian Carlo Menotti, one of the founders of the Festival. The choir will be in residence June 25 through July 17 at the famed festival in the ancient Umbrian hill town.

Major works performed by The Crossing this summer include Menotti's opera *Maria Golovin, Landscapes and Remembrances*, a symphonic cantata, *Missa O Pulchritudo*, and the popular choral fable *The Unicorn, the Gorgon, and the Manticore*. The Festival will also be the venue for the ensemble to present the Italian Premieres of Philip Moore's *Three Prayers of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, Gabriel Jackson's *O nata lux*, and Tarik O'Regan's *Care charminge Sleepe*.

"Gian Carlo Menotti was a trusted artistic friend in my musical life, and a major influence in the lives of many of the singers with whom I work regularly. I am so glad that we're able to answer the Festival's request to once again bring our

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ensemble, this time to honor the life, musical work, and festival legacy of this wonderful composer." said Donald Nally, Chorus Master of Lyric Opera of Chicago, speaking from Cardiff, where he is guest Chorus Master with Welsh National Opera this spring.

The Crossing was founded specifically to perform new and modern Choral Music. Its prior critically-acclaimed concerts have included works by James Macmillan, Jonathan Dove, Judith Weir, Benjamin C.S. Boyle, Herbert Howells, Bruno Bettinelli, and Gian Carlo Menotti.

The 07-08 Season will feature works by Gabriel Jackson, Erhard Karkoshka, David Lang, Kaija Saariaho, a world premiere and recording of a new work of Kile Smith, commissioned by Piffaro, the Renaissance Wind Band, and performed in collaboration with The Crossing. The Crossing has also been invited to present a premiere of versatile contemporary artist Eyvind Kang, featuring vocalist Mike Patton.

About The Crossing

The Crossing was founded in 2006 by Donald Nally specifically to perform new and modern choral music. Since the premiere concert in November, 2006, The Crossing has been garnering accolades about the beauty and accuracy of its performances. The Crossing is comprised of individual singers with a shared vision of sound and phrasing based upon years of singing together in other ensembles. The Crossing will perform a full 07-08 season. For more information, visit www.CrossingChoir.com.

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