

# CERDDORION

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

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[www.cerddorion.org](http://www.cerddorion.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CERDDORION ANNOUNCES ITS THIRD ANNUAL EMERGING COMPOSERS COMPETITION. ENTRIES DUE DECEMBER 15, 2014.**

Cerddorion Vocal Ensemble's third annual Emerging Composers Competition is designed to foster the creation and performance of new works for mixed chorus. Composers in the early stages of their professional careers, without substantial publishing credit, national awards or commissions, are invited to submit new, unpublished works for mixed chorus *a cappella*. The competition is open to composers from throughout the world, and there is no age limit.

In addition to a \$250 cash prize, the winning work will be premiered by Cerddorion in May/June 2015 as part of a program entitled *Rise Up, My Love: Choral Settings of the Song of Songs*, the third subscription concert of Cerddorion's 2014-2015 season. Submissions should be consistent with this theme. One or more runners-up may also be selected for performance.

Judges for the 2015 competition are [Chandler Carter](#), Associate Professor of Music at Hofstra University (New York); [David Wordsworth](#), Music Director of the Addison Singers (London); and [James John](#), Cerddorion's Artistic Director. Past winners have included [Dominick DiOrio](#) (2013), [Steven Serpa](#), [Joshua Fishbein](#) and [Theo Popov](#) (2014).

For full details, and to download an application form, visit [www.Cerddorion.org/ECC](http://www.Cerddorion.org/ECC). The application fee is \$25, and submissions must be received by December 15, 2014.

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Now celebrating its twentieth season, **Cerddorion** (the name, pronounced *kehr-DOHR-ee-on*, is Welsh for “Musicians”) is one of New York’s most highly regarded volunteer choral ensembles. The group is known for its technical excellence, interpretive depth, and wide-ranging repertoire, spanning choral literature from the early Renaissance to world premieres. Cerddorion has commissioned new works by such composers as Paul Moravec, David Schober, Lisa Bielawa, David Lang, Elliot Z. Levine, Robert Dennis, and Julie Dolphin. Cerddorion is Artist in Residence at St. Ignatius of Antioch on Manhattan’s Upper West Side, and a member of the New York Choral Consortium.

**James John** is in his fifth season as Artistic Director of the Cerddorion Vocal Ensemble. He is also Associate Professor and Director of Choral Activities at the Aaron Copland School of Music, Queens College-CUNY, where under his leadership the choral program has become recognized as one of the finest collegiate programs in the region. Recent professional highlights include performances of Brahms’s *Requiem* and Beethoven’s *Missa Solemnis* with the Tokyo Oratorio Society, an invited performance by the Queens College Choir at the 2012 Eastern Division Conference of the American Choral Directors Association, and Poulenc’s *Dialogues of the Carmelites* with the Aaron Copland School of Music Opera Studio.

As a teacher and scholar, Dr. John has served as Guest Lecturer in conducting at the Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, Germany, and presented seminars on American choral music in Basel and Stockholm. His dissertation on Brahms won the Julius Herford Prize from the American Choral Directors Association and will be published in revised form as a book by The Edwin Mellen Press. In July 2011 he was appointed Editor of *American Choral Review*, a bi-annual scholarly journal published by Chorus America. His articles have appeared in *Choral Journal*, *American Choral Review*, and Chorus America’s *Research Memorandum Series*. Dr. John received his Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting from the Eastman School of Music.

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