

# RU'IA

SACRED VISIONS INSPIRED BY ISLAM

Proceeds from this concert series will benefit HATE FREE ZONE.

CONTEMPORARY CHORAL MUSIC  
IN ARABIC, FRENCH, AND TATAR  
WITH ENGLISH SUPERTITLES

# The Esoterics

DIRECTED BY ERIC BANKS

"Does any other group in town perform as much new music (and do it well) as The Esoterics? Nope."  
—The Stranger

# R U ' I A

SACRED VISIONS INSPIRED BY ISLAM

To commemorate the end of Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting and reflection, The Esoterics will present this concert of repertoire inspired by Islamic scripture and poetry: *Mombasa matatu meditation*, an African cityscape based on the Muslim call to prayer by Vancouver composer Hussein Janmohamed; Bern Herbolzheimer's *Kader kiç [The night of destiny]*, setting of poem Gabdulla Tukai (the national poet of Tatarstan) in which the angels descend to earth to hear the prayers of the suffering. This concert will also feature the Islamic-inspired *Prière* by the Dutch composer Ton de Leeuw, and Eric Banks' *Twelve Qur'anic visions*. Banks' cantata was composed after his travels in India and Indonesia and his extensive study of the *Holy Qur'an*. In it, strands of Qur'anic chant are superimposed like the swirling forms of sacred Arabic calligraphy. This series of twelve dreamscapes unveil the essence of Muslim faith, including visions of God and the prophets, light and darkness, the day of reckoning, hell and paradise, justice and injustice, war and peace.

**A portion of the proceeds from The Esoterics' RU'IA will benefit HATE FREE ZONE.**

**Please join The Esoterics for RU'IA at one of the following venues:**

**Saturday • 13 October 2007 • 8 pm • Tacoma**  
Trinity Lutheran Church • 12115 Park Ave S

**Sunday • 14 October 2007 • 3 pm • Medina**  
St Thomas Episcopal Church • 8398 NE 12<sup>th</sup> St

**Saturday • 20 October 2007 • 8 pm • Seattle**  
Olympic Sculpture Park Pavilion • 2901 Western Ave

**(This is a new venue with limited seating; please purchase tickets in advance online.)**

**Sunday • 21 October 2007 • 3 pm • West Seattle**  
Holy Rosary Catholic Church • 4139 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave SW

Ticket prices are \$20 at the door, \$18 in advance, and \$15 for students, seniors, the un(der)employed, and the differently-abled. The ticket price for groups of five or more is \$12 per person. *Active singers of any choral group may attend for only \$10.* Advance tickets are available online at [www.TheEsoterics.org](http://www.TheEsoterics.org) (through PayPal.com). Tickets for the door price can be reserved by phone at 206.935.7779.

**The Esoterics' Season 2007 is made possible by grants from:** 4Culture • ArtsFund The Paul G Allen Family Foundation • The Horizons Foundation • Meet the Composer The National Endowment for the Arts • The Norcliffe Foundation • The Seattle Foundation The City of Seattle's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs • Washington State Arts Commission

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

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"In multiple tongues, Eric Banks' choir has created a new music sensation. The Esoterics has built a loyal following without the benefit of opera's glamour, chamber music's prestige, or the orchestra's sonic glitter. Perhaps more than anything else, what has drawn appreciative listeners for ten years is The Esoterics' atmosphere of enveloping goodwill."

—Seattle Weekly

"This superb chorus, probably the premier such ensemble in Seattle, has distinguished itself for bold repertoire choices and fine voices. The Esoterics are what the phrase 'not to be missed' is all about."

—The Stranger Guide to Seattle

"This is a very accomplished chorus, with exemplary blend and a clear sense of pitch...just beautiful."

—The Seattle Times

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