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# PACIFIC BOYCHOIR ACADEMY (USA)

KEVIN FOX, DIRECTOR



*The Pacific Boychoir's musical sophistication and quality of sound were astonishing.*

—Los Angeles Times  
January 2006



# THE TROUBADORS AND CONTINUUM

The Troubadors are the most accomplished choristers and soloists of the Grammy-winning Pacific Boychoir Academy of California. Founded in 1998, the Pacific Boychoir has over 130 boys in five choirs. In its short history, the Troubadors have become known as one of the top boys choirs in the world, known for its rich sound, musicianship, phrasing, and talented soloists. The boys sing everything from Mozart to Cole Porter, from Bach Cantatas to American spirituals. The Continuum group, made up of former boy choristers and directed by Christopher Kula, join the Troubadors on tour for SATB and TTBB music.

With the addition of a day school, the PBA has become home to the only choir school in the Western USA. The choir school integrates a full academic program with daily music instruction for boys in grades 4-8 who love to sing. Boys in the school get 15 hours of training every week. The Boychoir's Music Staff is composed of experienced professionals committed to diverse repertoire and the pursuit of excellence.

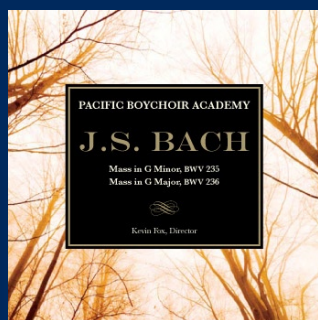
The PBA appears frequently with the San Francisco Symphony (SFS), having performed under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas, Kurt Masur, Robert Spano, Charles Dutoit, Herbert Blomstedt, James Conlan, David Robertson, and Vance George. The PBA recorded Mahler's Third Symphony with the SFS, awarded the Grammy for Best Classical Album in February 2004. The PBA appeared with the SFS to perform Mahler's Eighth Symphony, Britten's War Requiem, Wagner's Kinderkatechismus zu Kosels Geburtstag, Orff's Carmina Burana, Liszt's Dante Symphony, and Britten's Spring Symphony. In 2006, the



PBA performed Bach's St. Matthew Passion with the American Bach Soloists and the Youth Orchestra of the Americas and in January 2006, the Boychoir joined Delos recording artists Dmitri Hvorostovsky and the Moscow Chamber Orchestra for concerts in Los Angeles and San Francisco. In 2007, the PBA presented the first performances of Rachmaninoff's Vespers by an American boys choir.

On tour, the Pacific Boychoir has been heard across America, the South Pacific, and Europe. In 2003, the Troubador ensemble traveled to Italy, where they were chosen to represent the USA at the Seventh European Children's Choral Festival in Lecco, and in 2004 the Troubadors and Continuum ensembles represented California at the World Festival of Singing for Men and Boys in the Czech Republic. In 2005, the Boychoir traveled to France, with performances at Notre Dame in Paris, Chartres Cathedral, and Ver-

sailles. In 2006, the Troubadors and Continuum traveled to Brazil, with concerts including the Teatro Polyteama in Jun-diai, Sala São Paulo, and Teatro Municipal in Rio de Janeiro, including two concerts with Brasil's National Symphony Orchestra. Later that year, the Pacific Boychoir performed Bach's St. Matthew Passion in Brasil with the California festival Chorale under the direction of Kent Nagano. In the summer of 2007, the choir was part of the Gubbio Music Festival, the Soave Choral Festival, and the Riva del Garda Music Festival in Italy. In the 2008 the Boychoir traveled to Argentina for concerts at some of Argentina's most prestigious concert venues such as Auditorium Vitoria in San Juan and Teatro Independencia in Mendoza.

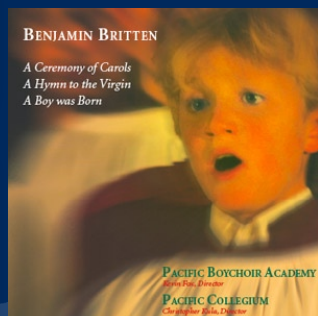
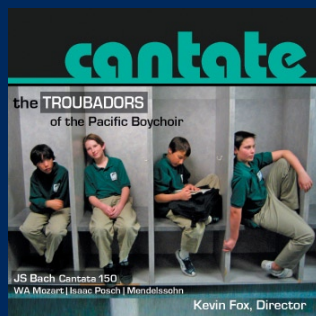


## Recordings

**Bach Lutheran Masses (2007)**  
Two of Bach's "Lutheran" Masses recorded for the first time by a boys choir, including period instruments at Baroque pitch.

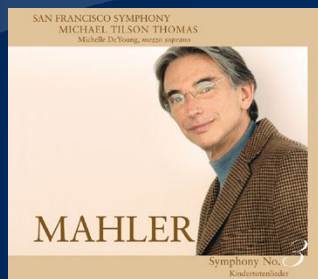
**That Promised Land (2006)**  
A collection of American Spirituals and gospel songs arranged by Moses Hogan, William Dawson, Andre Thomas, and others

**Benjamin Britten (2005)**  
Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, *A Hymn to the Virgin*, and *A Boy Was Born* with Pacific Collegium



**Cantate (2004)**  
Bach's *Cantata 150* with period instruments at Baroque pitch, Mozart's *Sub tuum praesidium*

**Mahler's Third Symphony (2003)**  
Grammy -award winning CD also includes Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder*



**Live Down Under (2001)**  
Recorded on tour in Australia and New Zealand, features Casals' *Nigra Sum* and Copland's *Old American Songs*

## Tours

2008 Argentina  
2008 Southern California  
2007 Italy  
2007 Hawai'i, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Connecticut  
2006 Denmark  
2006 Brazil (2x)  
2006 Northwest USA, Canada  
2005 France  
2005 Minnesota & Iowa  
2005 Southern California  
2004 Czech Republic  
2004 Arizona  
2003 Italy  
2003 Oregon  
2002 Germany & Austria  
2002 Washington & Oregon  
2001 Australia & New Zealand  
2000 Alabama, Georgia, & Florida

## Collaborations

San Francisco Symphony  
National Symphony Orchestra, Brasil  
Moscow Chamber Orchestra  
Berkeley Symphony  
Youth Orchestra of the Americas  
American Bach Soloists  
Harvard Men's Glee Club  
University of Michigan Men's Glee Club  
Boni Pueri Czech Boys Choir  
Vienna Boys Choir  
American Boychoir  
Florianer Sangerknaben  
San Francisco Girls Chorus  
Wiesbaden Knabenchor  
Pacific Collegium  
UC Davis Orchestra and Chorus  
UC Berkeley Chamber Chorus  
Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys



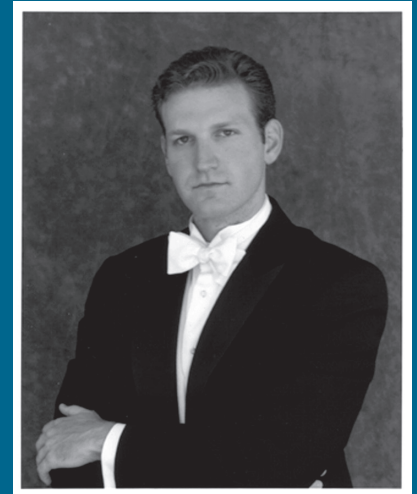
## Performance venues

Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco  
War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco  
Dorothy Chandler Pavillion, Los Angeles  
Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris  
Chartres Cathedral, Chartres  
Dvorak Hall, Prague  
St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City  
Teatro Independencia, Mendoza ARG  
Auditorium Vitoria, San Juan ARG  
Basilica San Marco, Venice  
Sala Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo  
Teatro Municipal, Rio de Janeiro  
Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley  
Grace Cathedral, San Francisco  
Our Lady of Angels Cathedral, Los Angeles  
Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center, Davis, CA  
Stanford Memorial Chapel, Stanford  
Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley  
Public Radio International's "From the Top"  
Danish National Radio



## Kevin Fox, Director

Kevin Fox has been involved with boys choirs since the age of eight. He holds degrees in Music and Economics from Wesleyan University, Connecticut, where he received the Lipsky Prize for outstanding scholarship in choral studies. He studied music at Oxford University, England, with Edward Higginbottom and choral conducting at Westminster Choir College in Princeton with Jim Jordan and Vincent Metallo. He served as Proctor for the American Boychoir, working closely with Jim Litton and Craig Denison, and has sung with the choirs of Trinity Church in New Haven and Trinity Church in Princeton, and the Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys in San Francisco, where he also worked as Interim Assistant Choirmaster. He sings regularly with the American Bach Soloists and Pacific Collegium.



Under his direction, the Pacific Boychoir Academy has grown from 6 to 130 choristers. The Boychoir consists of five treble choirs and one alumni choir. Working with the PBA staff, Mr. Fox has developed a proprietary music reading and music theory training program comparable to university-level music classes.

In 2002, Mr. Fox developed a business plan for the choir school, a comprehensive document compiling the ideas of staff and board members in preparation for the opening of the school in the fall of 2004.



Mr. Fox has been on over 40 tours with boys choirs to almost all 50 United States including Alaska and Hawaii, as well as to Taiwan, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, France, England, Wales, Ireland, Italy, the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Brazil, Canada, Argentina, and Spain.

*The sound that these boys produce is of a quality that I have not heard in any group of young singers performing in the States at present. This is combined with secure intonation, sensitive blend, strong musicianship, and a rigid discipline which never inhibits the pure joy that these boys invest in their singing.*

—Donald Palumbo  
Chorus Master, Chicago Lyric Opera  
February 2005



## **Pacific Boychoir**

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