



COVERS
PURE FUNK

SUMMER 2025



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Baritone, Cantus



Photo by: Nate Ryan



***If you've
been to one
of our Covers
concerts
before, you
may recognize
a few grooves
tonight.***

But ***Pure Funk*** isn't just a throwback—it's a full-on celebration of a genre that has shaped American music and culture for over five decades.

Funk was born in the late 1960s, fusing soul's emotion, jazz's complexity, and rhythm & blues' drive into something raw, rebellious, and deeply danceable. From its earliest days, funk was liberation you could feel in your body, music grounded in rhythm and resistance. The earliest architects, such as James Brown, didn't just push music forward; they created space for a new cultural voice to emerge. That voice exploded in the '70s as artists like George Clinton and Sly Stone infused funk with wild imagination and social commentary, inviting listeners to dance and think in equal measure.

Then came the golden thread of Stevie Wonder who melded the groove with spiritual urgency, socio-economic and political relevance, and melodic brilliance. You can hear echoes of his innovations in the work of Chaka Khan, Earth, Wind & Fire, and Prince, each layering funk with their own sound in unique combinations of glam, grit, psychedelia, and orchestration. By the 2000s, artists like Beyoncé and Bruno Mars weren't just channeling the sound, but also paying homage to its roots while pushing it into the future.

Beyond the historical legacy of it all, this music is just plain FUN to sing, to dance along with, and to hear. And we wanted to make sure it felt as full and connected to the originals as possible, so we're lucky to have an incredible, unusually large Covers band to help us bring this journey to life. We have returning friends Tarek Abdelqader, Emily Watkins, and Lee Blaske alongside new collaborators Trever Peterson, Anna Dolde, and Butchy Austin.

Thanks for being here and dancing to the music with us.

Paul John Rudoi
tenor

Cantus gives voice to shared human experiences by inspiring audiences through song and word, sparking new depths of understanding and empathy.

The online concert is made possible with generous support from Elizabeth Cannon and Steve Erdahl.

The Luminary Arts Center is located on Dakota Land that is of great historical, spiritual, and cultural significance to Dakota people. We acknowledge the past and present harm done to Dakota, Anishinaabe, and other Indigenous nations through the systematic forced removal of communities and the unjust seizure of their lands.

*This program is approximately 65 minutes long
and will be performed without intermission.*

Give Up the Funk (Tear the Roof off the Sucker)

made famous by: **PARLIAMENT**

written by: **JEROME BRAILEY, GEORGE CLINTON, & BOOTSY COLLINS**

I Got You (I Feel Good)

written and made famous by: **JAMES BROWN**

Brick House

made famous by: **THE COMMODORES**

written by: **LIONEL RICHIE, MILAN WILLIAMS, WALTER ORANGE,
RONALD LAPREAD, THOMAS MCCLARY, & WILLIAM KING**

Lady Marmalade

made famous by: **LABELLE**

written by: **BOB CREWE & KENNY NOLAN**

Work It Out

made famous by: **BEYONCÉ**

written by: **BEYONCÉ KNOWLES, PHARRELL WILLIAMS, & CHAD HUGO**

Upside Down

made famous by: **DIANA ROSS**

written by: **NILE RODGERS & BERNARD EDWARDS**

Rock Steady

written and made famous by: **ARETHA FRANKLIN**

Tell Me Something Good

made famous by: **RUFUS & CHAKA KAHN**

written by: **STEVIE WONDER**

STEVIE WONDER MEDLEY

Living For the City

written and made famous by: **STEVIE WONDER**

Superstition

written and made famous by: **STEVIE WONDER**

Higher Ground

written and made famous by: **STEVIE WONDER**

Maybe Your Baby

written and made famous by: **STEVIE WONDER**

Birdland

made famous by: **WEATHER REPORT**

written by: **JOE ZAWINUL**

Shining Star

made famous by: **EARTH, WIND & FIRE**

written by: **MAURICE WHITE, LARRY DUNN, & PHILIP BAILEY**

Kiss

written and made famous by: **PRINCE**

Dance to the Music

made famous by: **SLY & THE FAMILY STONE**

written by: **SLY STONE**

THE ARTISTS

TENORS

Jacob Christopher
Alexander Nishibun
Paul John Rudoj
Paul Scholtz

BARITONES

Rod Kelly Hines
Jeremy Wong

BASSES

Samuel Bohlander-Green
Chris Foss

SOUND

Maury Jensen

KEYS & SYNTH

Lee Blaske

PERCUSSION

Tarek Abdelqader

GUITAR

Emily Watkins

BASS

Trevor Peterson

HORNS

Butchy Austin
Samuel Bohlander-Green
Anna Dolde



For singers in Grades K - 12

Join us for our 45th Anniversary Season!

www.angelicantanti.org
952-563-8572



KEEPING CANTUS VITAL

The singers, staff, and Board of Directors of Cantus thank you for your support of Cantus in the past year. Your contributions ensure that we continue to provide artistic and educational enrichment to our community here in the Twin Cities and beyond. Thank you to the following donors who allow Cantus to continue giving voice to shared human experiences. The following list honors our donors for the fiscal year ending July 31, 2024. Cantus strives for accuracy in its donor listings. If your name is listed incorrectly, please contact Zachary Colby at zcolby@cantussings.org. We are incredibly grateful for your extraordinary support of Cantus.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



John H. Williams
WILLIAMS FOUNDATION



Fredrikson



Twin Cities
Opera Guild



A complete list of Cantus donors can be found on our website at cantussings.org/donors or by scanning the following QR code.



To complete a brief survey on your concert experience, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/COVERS-PF — email us at info@cantussings.org — or scan the QR code.



WILL YOU HELP KEEP CANTUS SINGING?

Through generous support from our donors, the eight full-time musicians of Cantus provide innovative world-class music, meaningful community and educational residencies, and increased access to in-person and online concerts through pay-what-you-can tickets.

Thank you for considering making a contribution today to ensure the future of this work. Donate by calling (612) 435-0046, ext. 3, by scanning the QR code, or by visiting cantussings.org/how-to-give.



BUILD A SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE 2025-26 SEASON

Single tickets on sale Tuesday, September 2, 2025



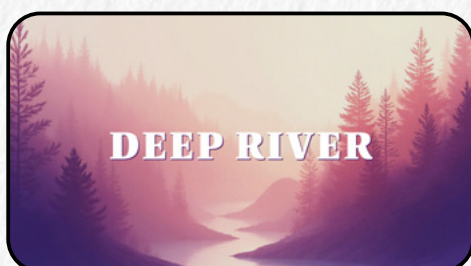
LAND THAT I LOVE
OCTOBER 18 - 26, 2025



CHRISTMAS WITH CANTUS
DECEMBER 12 - 22, 2025



CANTUS & THE KING'S SINGERS*
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026



DEEP RIVER
MARCH 15-22, 2026



COVERS: DOLLY & FRIENDS
MAY 30 - JUNE 7, 2026



GENIUS CHILD
JULY 14 - 17, 2026



cantussings.org/2025-26



* **Cantus & The King's Singers is not eligible for inclusion in a subscription package. Further details to be announced soon.**

2025-2026 SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ PHONE # _____

EMAIL _____

I WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A SUBSCRIPTION TO

THREE (3) CONCERTS \$120

FOUR (4) CONCERTS \$145

FIVE (5) CONCERTS \$170

← Above prices are **per adult, per package** →

CHOOSE YOUR CONCERTS AND NOTATE SEATING PREFERENCES OR ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS ON NEXT PAGE

SUBSCRIPTION TOTAL

EX. $\frac{2}{\# \text{ of Adults}} \times \$ \frac{120}{\text{Package Price}} = \$ \frac{240}{\text{SUBTOTAL}}$

If you have questions regarding the pricing of subscription packages, please call the Cantus box office at (612) 435-0055.

EX. $\frac{2}{\# \text{ of Adults}} \times \$ \frac{145}{\text{Package Price}} = \$ \frac{290}{\text{SUBTOTAL}}$

EX. $\frac{2}{\# \text{ of Adults}} \times \$ \frac{170}{\text{Package Price}} = \$ \frac{340}{\text{SUBTOTAL}}$

_____ × \$ _____ = \$ _____
of Adults Package Price SUBTOTAL

PAYMENT

Check enclosed payable to CANTUS

Donation _____

Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover)

Handling Fees 0

CC # _____

TOTAL _____

EXP. DATE _____ / _____ SECURITY CODE _____

DONATION: Our ticket revenue only covers a portion of our annual expenses. Your tax-deductable contribution helps us keep our programming strong.

SUBMIT ORDER

ONLINE: cantussings.org

BY PHONE: (612) 435-0046, ext.4

MAIL your completed form with payment to: **CANTUS • 1201 Marquette Ave S, Suite 100 • Minneapolis, MN 55403**

CHOOSE 3, 4, OR 5 CONCERT DATES & TIMES TO CREATE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGE

LAND THAT I LOVE *(select one date)*

- Sat, Oct 18, 2025 at 7:30pm** – Westminster Hall
- Sun, Oct 19, 2025 at 3:00pm** – St. Philip the Deacon
- Tues, Oct 21, 2025 at 11:00am** – Meetinghouse Church
- Fri, Oct 24, 2025 at 7:30pm** – Sundin Hall
- Sun, Oct 26, 2025 at 3:00pm** – Trinity Lutheran

CHRISTMAS WITH CANTUS *(select one date)*

- Fri, Dec 12, 2025 at 11:00am** – Westminster Hall
- Sat, Dec 13, 2025 at 7:30pm** – Capri Theater
- Sun, Dec 14, 2025 at 3:00pm** – St. Philip the Deacon
- Mon, Dec 15, 2025 at 7:30pm** – Bloomington Center for the Arts †
- Tues, Dec 16, 2025 at 11:00am** – Meetinghouse Church
- Thur, Dec 18, 2025 at 7:30pm** – Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas
- Fri, Dec 19, 2025 at 7:30pm** – Hamline United Church
- Sat, Dec 20, 2025 at 3:30pm**** – Westminster Hall
- Sat, Dec 20, 2025 at 7:00pm**** – Westminster Hall
- Sun, Dec 21, 2025 at 3:00pm** – Trinity Lutheran
- Mon, Dec 22, 2025 at 7:00pm** – Christ United Methodist Church, Rochester †

** Relaxed environment for families, 60-min concert † New Venue

DEEP RIVER *(select one date)*

- Sun, Mar 15, 2026 at 3:00pm** – Sundin Hall
- Tues, Mar 17, 2026 at 11:00am** – Meetinghouse Church
- Sat, Mar 21, 2026 at 7:30pm** – Westminster Hall
- Sun, Mar 22, 2026 at 3:00pm** – St. Philip the Deacon

COVERS: DOLLY & FRIENDS *(select one date)*

- Sat, May 30, 2026 at 7:30pm**
- Sun, May 31, 2026 at 3:00pm**
- Fri, June 5, 2026 at 7:30pm**
- Sat, June 6, 2026 at 7:30pm**
- Sun, June 7, 2026 at 3:00pm**

ALL PERFORMANCES AT
THE LUMINARY ARTS CENTER

GENIUS CHILD *(select one date)*

- Tues, July 14, 2026 at 7:30pm** – The Museum of Russian Art
- Thurs, July 16, 2026 at 7:30pm** – American Swedish Institute
- Fri, July 17, 2026 at 11:00am** – Westminster Hall
- Fri, July 17, 2026 at 7:30pm** – Westminster Hall

SEATING PREFERENCES OR ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS

To remove, tear along the perforated line. →

CANTUS 2025-26 SEASON LAUNCH CRUISE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

PADELFORD RIVERBOAT CRUISES

205 DR. JUSTUS OHAGE BLVD, SAINT PAUL, MN 55107

BOARDING: 6:00PM

LAUNCH: 6:30PM • RETURN: 8:30PM

PRICE: \$75 (\$50 TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

Join us for an exciting preview performance of our upcoming season on Thursday, August 21 at 6:30pm on the Betsey Northrup of the Padelford Riverboat Cruises. Boarding from Harriet Island in downtown Saint Paul begins at 6:00pm with the boat launching at 6:30pm.

Your ticket includes a complimentary drink, light hors d'oeuvres, a two-hour boat cruise, and a performance by Cantus.

Space is limited, so secure your tickets today!



cantussings.org/season-launch



CANTUS & THE KING'S SINGERS

Experience an unforgettable evening as two of the world's finest vocal ensembles – the American warmth and innovation of Cantus and the British precision and charm of The King's Singers – come together for the first time on one stage. A one-night-only event showcasing a transcendent program of music from across centuries and continents. Don't miss this rare moment in vocal history.

FEBRUARY 12, 2026 · 7:30PM

ORCHESTRA HALL, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Buy a season subscription before July 31 and get early access to purchase tickets for CANTUS & THE KING'S SINGERS starting August 5!

Tickets for the general public will go on sale Tuesday, September 2, 2025.