

Beat: Arts

## World Premiere of MEVLIDI SHERIF in English

By Renowned soloist CarolAnn Barrows

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**USPA NEWS** - CarolAnn Barrows has been invited by a sacred music scholar who works for the Turkish Ministry of Culture to be the first person ever to sing their most beloved, 500-year-old epic poem "the Mevlidi Sherif" in English....

CarolAnn Barrows has been invited by a sacred music scholar who works for the Turkish Ministry of Culture to be the first person ever to sing their most beloved, 500-year-old epic poem "the Mevlidi Sherif" in English. This is the most frequently recited poem in the world and is cherished by Turkish Muslims, much as Christmas carols are by Christians. Unlike Christmas carols, this poem is sung and recited throughout the year.

In order to make this epic tale accessible and aesthetically pleasing to Western sensibilities, classical composer, Taylor Kroff has composed a symphony that will be remembered as lovingly as Handel's Messiah. Funds are being sought for the orchestral recording and documentary filming. The composition and transcription of the musical score, video production, studio and engineering time for preliminary samples of the music, as well as web design and international promotion, has already been done. In addition, countless hours have been devoted to research, rehearsal and collaboration.

Rewards for support include: recordings of the English Mevlidi Sherif, voice lessons with the soloist, a catered Turkish meal, copies of the documentary, priority seating and a reception following the World Premiere. This September two Grammy Award winning producers will be recording the Mevlidi Sherif in English, with an orchestra and soloist CarolAnn Barrows, in the acoustically perfect Saint Edward's Chapel in Seattle, Washington.

Every aspect of the creation of the English Mevlidi Sherif is being filmed in order to create a documentary, to introduce international audiences to this cultural marvel. The World Premiere performance will be held on December 12, 2016 in Seattle Symphony's 2,500 seat Benaroya Hall.

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