Composer Biography

DR. PETER KWASNIEWSKI, who studied composition and conducting with Roy Horton and voice with Carol Horton at Delbarton School in Morristown, New Jersey, has been directing choirs and scholas for two decades. He served first as Assistant Choir Director at Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, California (1990–1994), then as Director of the Schola Cantorum at Old St. John’s Catholic Church in Silver Spring, Maryland (1994–1998), and, prior to relocating to Wyoming, as Director of the Schola Cantorum at the International Theological Institute in Gaming, Austria (1999–2006). In 2006 he joined the founding team of Wyoming Catholic College, where he currently serves as Professor of Theology and Philosophy, Instructor in Music, and Choirmaster of the Wyoming Catholic College Choir.

Choral works by Dr. Kwasniewski—Mass settings, motets, hymns, carols, antiphons, and acclamations—have received frequent performances from 1990 to the present. In addition to vocal music, Kwasniewski has written a three-movement Wind Quintet ‘Fire and Flame’ (premiered by the Antero Winds on January 15, 2012), a violin sonata, organ accompaniments for the Vatican II Hymnal, pieces for brass quartet and string quartet, and other instrumental works. Alongside scholarly publications in theology, he has published numerous articles on music, especially on the recovery and renewal of sacred music in the Catholic Church, and writes regularly for The Latin Mass, New Liturgical Movement, and Views from the Choir Loft.