

## **Atlantic Odyssey**

Each year for many hundreds of thousands of years the Arctic Tern has made its extraordinary, annual, 40,000 mile Atlantic migration from polar north to polar south and back – further than any other migrating bird.

**Atlantic Odyssey** celebrates this yearly circumnavigation of the Atlantic Ocean, depicting through music and song the Arctic Tern and many of the places and events that the terns have passed over since the first arrival of humans on the ocean shores: the early seafarers of the northern seas, the monks of western Ireland, the love of women for their absent fishermen, the arrival of the first humans on the African coast, shipping through the ages, the arrival of Europeans in North America, the slave trade, Inuit and African goddesses of the sea, and above all **key moments in the extraordinary year of the Arctic Tern - weighing no more than an apple and flying the equivalent of three times to the moon and back in its 30 years of life.**

Through this historical and geographical journey, **Atlantic Odyssey** celebrates both this remarkable bird and the Atlantic Ocean itself, while also warning of the terrible damage being done to the oceans through pollution, destruction of habitats and the melting of the Arctic ice.

Written for chorus and orchestra with soloists and a children's choir, **Atlantic Odyssey** will also feature projected images and video of the Arctic Tern's year and some of the places and events depicted in music and song.

**Arctic Tern  
Annual  
Migration Routes**

