

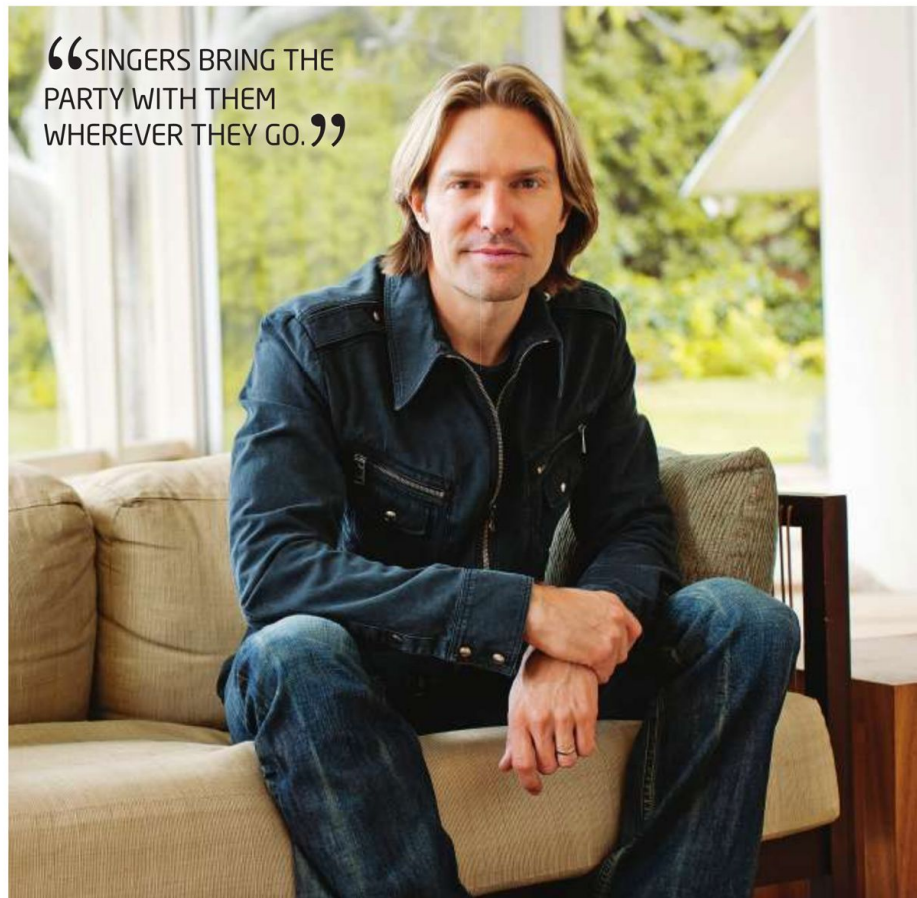
Road Warrior // Eric Whitacre, Composer

Current Role: World-renowned composer, conductor and lecturer

Based: Los Angeles

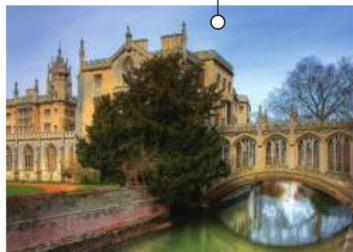
Days Spent on the Road: Concerts, guest lecture appearances and other work keep Whitacre on the road for about six months each year.

Street Cred: Juilliard-trained Whitacre has gained a following in the classical and pop arenas for his work that glides effortlessly between traditional choral elements and more contemporary ambient and techno sounds. His works such as "Lux Aurumque" and "Cloudburst" are becoming standards in choral repertoires. Last October, his debut album *Light & Gold* topped the U.S. and U.K. classical album charts, and he gained international acclaim for his virtual choir project, in which he combined the submissions of more than 100 singers from around the world into a single digital choir performing "Lux Aurumque." Coming up, Whitacre will speak at TED 2011 in March and unveil his second virtual choir project, "Sleep," during an April concert at Lincoln Center in New York City.



“SINGERS BRING THE PARTY WITH THEM WHEREVER THEY GO.”

• BEST PLACE TO FIND INSPIRATION
Cambridge University, England
I love taking long walks around Cambridge University, where I just spent the last three months as a visiting fellow at Sidney Sussex College. The river, the architecture, the greens—it's perfection. cam.ac.uk



• BEST PLACE TO DINE WITH FRIENDS
Jumpin' Java, Los Angeles
When I am home in Los Angeles, I go to Jumpin' Java on Ventura Boulevard for pancakes every Sunday morning with my wife, son and friends.



• FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE THE FAMILY
Tel Aviv
I like the white-sand beaches in particular. My wife is from Israel, and we visit every year. My son and I bodysurf all day until the sun sinks into the Mediterranean.

• BEST PLACE TO UNWIND AFTER A CONCERT
Anywhere
Singers bring the party with them wherever they go. I recently had a concert in Hamburg, and afterward the choir transformed a quiet local Turkish restaurant into a joyous, raucous concert hall/tavern.

• FAVORITE RESORT
Post Ranch Inn, Big Sur, California
My wife took me here for my birthday last year. We spent three gorgeous days hiking and visiting wineries. It is easily one of the most beautiful places I've ever seen. postranchinn.com



• BEST PLACE FOR A GUILTY PLEASURE
São Paulo
After concerts in the gorgeous Teatro Municipal, we go for dancing and caipirinhas in the Vila Madelena District. The nightlife in São Paulo only begins after midnight.



PHOTOS: MARC ROYCE (ERIC); ANIK MESSIER (CAMBRIDGE); WWW.GOISRAEL.COM (TEL AVIV); RIOTUR (SAO PAULO); K.C. ALFRED/ZUMA PRESS/CORBIS (KATY); GETTY IMAGES (ELMO); FRANK TRAPPER/CORBIS (JUSTIN)