LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

est. 1960

President
Roderick Williams OBE

Music Director
Mark Forkgen

Tuesday, 20 December 2022, 7:45pm
Holy Trinity Sloane Square

Christmas Carols for St George's Hospital Charity



St George's Hospital Charity

lcchoir.uk

HOLY TRINITY SLOANE SQUARE

WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY

- The consumption of food is not allowed in the Church.
- Please switch off mobile phones and alarms on digital watches.
- Flash photography and audio or video recording are not permitted.
- There will be an interval of 20 minutes during which drinks will be served.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE CONCERT.

making music

SUPPORTING & CHAMPIONING VOLUNTARY MUSIC

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Programme designed by Stephen Rickett and edited by Eleanor Cowie.

London Concert Choir is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England with registered number 3220578 and registered charity number 1057242

Registered Office: 7 Ildersly Grove, Dulwich, London SE21 8EU

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St George's
Hospital
Charity

Christmas Carols for St George's Hospital Charity

London Concert Choir
Mark Forkgen conductor
James McVinnie organ/piano

A Great and Mighty Wonder (Old German tune, arranged by Michael Praetorius)

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

1. **Choir only:** Once in Royal David's city
   Stood a lowly cattle shed,
   Where a mother laid her baby
   In a manger for his bed:
   Mary was that mother mild,
   Jesus Christ her little child.

2. **All:** He came down to earth from heaven
   Who is God and Lord of all,
   And his shelter was a stable,
   And his cradle was a stall;
   With the poor and mean and lowly
   Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. And our eyes at last shall see him,
   Through his own redeeming love,
   For that child so dear and gentle
   Is our Lord in heaven above;
   And he leads his children on
   To the place where he is gone.

4. Not in that poor lowly stable,
   With the oxen standing by,
   We shall see him; but in heaven,
   Set at God's right hand on high;
   Where like stars his children crowned
   All in white shall wait around.

Gaudete (traditional, from *Piae Cantiones*)

Gabriel's Message (Basque Noel, arranged by S. Baring Gould).

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men
From heav'n's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessèd angels sing.

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet-bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold,
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

When the Sun's Reborn (Nasrudin, arranged by Peter Hunt)

Reading: The Trouble with Snowmen (Roger McGough)
Reader: Georgia Toffolo

While Shepherds Watched (John Foster)

GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,
   Let nothing you dismay,
   For Jesus Christ our Saviour
   Was born on Christmas Day,
   To save us all from Satan's power
   When we were gone astray:
   O tidings of comfort and joy,
   comfort and joy,
   O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. From God our heav'nly Father
   A blessèd angel came,
   And unto certain shepherds
   Brought tidings of the same,
   How that in Bethlehem was born
   The Son of God by name:
   O tidings of comfort and joy...

3. The shepherds at those tidings
   Rejoicèd much in mind,
   And left their flocks a-feeding,
   In tempest, storm, and wind,
   And went to Bethlehem straightway,
   This blessèd Babe to find.
   O tidings of comfort and joy...

4. But when Bethlehem they came
   Whereat this infant lay,
   They found Him in a manger,
   Where oxen feed on hay;
   His Mother Mary kneeling,
   Unto the Lord did pray.
   O tidings of comfort and joy...

5. Now to the Lord sing praises
   All you within this place,
   And with true love and brotherhood
   Each other now embrace;
   This holy tide of Christmas
   All others doth deface:
   O tidings of comfort and joy...

A Boy was Born (Benjamin Britten)

Appeal: James Finlay, LCC Chairman and parent of former St George's Hospital Children's Ward patient

Past Three a Clock (English traditional carol, arranged by Charles Wood)

The Sussex Carol (English traditional carol, arranged by David Willcocks)

INTERVAL - 20 Minutes

Personent Hodie (from Piae Cantiones, arranged by Gustav Holst)

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1. O come, all ye faithful,
   Joyful and triumphant,
   O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
   Come and behold him,
   Born the King of Angels:
   O come, let us adore him,
   O come, let us adore him,
   O come, let us adore him,
   Christ the Lord!

2. God of God,
   Light of Light,
   Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
   Very God,
   Begotten, not created:
   O come, let us adore him,…

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
   Sing in exultation,
   Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
   Glory to God,
   In the highest:
   O come, let us adore him,…

Quem Pastores (German, 14th Century, arranged by John Rutter)

Christmas-tide (Bob Chilcott)

Sans Day Carol (Cornish traditional carol, arranged by John Rutter)

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
   How still we see thee lie!
   Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
   The silent stars go by.
   Yet in thy dark streets shineth
   The everlasting light;
   The hopes and fears of all the years
   Are met in thee tonight.

2. O morning stars together
   Proclaim the holy birth,
   And praises sing to God the King,
   And peace to men on earth;
   For Christ is born of Mary;
   And, gathered all above,
   While mortals sleep, the angels keep
   Their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,
   The wondrous gift is given!
   So God imparts to human hearts
   The blessings of his heav'n.
   No ear may hear his coming;
   But in this world of sin,
   Where meek souls will receive him still
   The dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
   Descend to us we pray;
   Cast out our sin, and enter in,
   Be born in us today.
   We hear the Christmas angels
   The great glad tidings tell:
   O come to us, abide with us,
   Our Lord Emmanuel.

Reading: Christmas Bells (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)
Reader: Joanna Hardman, Deputy Head of Children's Therapies

Tomorrow shall be my Dancing Day
(English traditional carol, arranged by David Willcocks)

Hodie (Hywel Davies)

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.



TIME FOR A CHANGE

With your support we could help to increase our Paediatric Intensive Care Unit by a third.

We could help to transform the wards into bright and welcoming spaces.

And we could help to create better facilities for our staff who work so tirelessly to provide our outstanding care.

Donate today and help us transform children's services at St George's.

HELP US TO RAISE £5M BY 2024



IT'S TIME TO RAISE £5M for children's services at St George's:

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Give today and help us transform children's services at St George's.

St George's Hospital Charity

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Charity Number 1171195

MARK FORKGEN

CONDUCTOR



Last season Mark Forkgen celebrated 25 years as the Music Director of London Concert Choir. He is also Music Director of Canticum chamber choir, Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of Kokoro (the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's New Music Group) and Director of Music at Tonbridge School. Mark was Organ Scholar of Queens' College, Cambridge, before winning a scholarship to study conducting at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Since then he has conducted major UK orchestras, including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, English Chamber Orchestra, English Northern Philharmonia and Manchester Camerata, appearing at major venues, including the Royal Festival Hall, the Royal Albert Hall and the Barbican.

A specialist in the field of choral and contemporary music, Mark has given the first performances of more than 150 works. He has also conducted stage works with the Trestle Theatre Company and Britten Sinfonia, and contemporary opera with the Unicorn Theatre Company and an ensemble from the Philharmonia, at the Linbury Studio, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Mark's wide range of conducting also includes performances with Deep Purple for the Henley Festival and recreating Pink Floyd's *Atom Heart Mother* in the Chelsea Festival. He also enjoys an active life as a pianist, focusing on twentieth century and contemporary music.

He has been Conductor and Artistic Advisor for highly acclaimed festivals including Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' 70th Birthday, Stravinsky, 'A Festival of Britten', 'Music of the Americas', 'Britain since Britten' and 'East meets West'. Outside the UK he has conducted in Denmark, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Eire, the Czech Republic and Italy (including Handel's *Messiah* in Siena and *Israel in Egypt* at the Viterbo Early Music Festival), Bulgaria (concerts broadcast for National TV and Radio) and Hong Kong.

Autumn highlights have included Mahler's Fourth Symphony, a production of *Les Misérables*, and with Canticum chamber choir a Christmas concert at St Sophia's Cathedral and 'Carols in the City' for Marie Curie at Southwark Cathedral.

JAMES MCVINNIE

ORGAN/PIANO



James McVinnie's work as a performer encompasses music from the 16th century to the present day. His boundless approach to music making has led him to collaborations with many leading figures in music including Philip Glass, Tom Jenkinson/Squarepusher, Angelique Kidjo, Nico Muhly, Martin Creed, David Chalmin, David Lang, Richard Reed Parry, Bryce Dessner and Darkstar, many of whom have written large scale works for him. He has released music on Bedroom Community, Orange Mountain Music and Warp Records.

Last year saw the launch of the James McVinnie Ensemble, a collective of virtuoso keyboardists from London specialising in new music. Launch concerts at Bold Tendencies and Barbican, London, featured composer portraits of Gabriella Smith, John Adams, Philip Glass and Chris P Thompson. Future commissioning projects feature new works from Gabriella Smith and Ryan Lott (Son Lux).

This season's premieres include *Infinity Gradient*, an hour long work written for McVinnie by Tristan Perich for organ and 100 speakers in 1-bit audio; *Breathing Forests*, a new Organ Concerto about the complex relationship between humans, forests, climate change and fire by Gabriella Smith for McVinnie and LA Philharmonic/Esa Pekka Salonen, and a new work by Ellen Reid as part of SOUNDWALK, a GPS-enabled work of public art in London's Regent's Park that uses music to illuminate the natural environment.

James McVinnie was Assistant Organist of Westminster Abbey between 2008 and 2011. Prior to this appointment, he held similar positions at St Paul's Cathedral, St Albans Cathedral, and Clare College, Cambridge, where he studied music. His teachers were Sarah Baldock, Thomas Trotter and Hans Fagius.

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President
Roderick Williams OBE

Music Director
Mark Forkgen

Assistant Conductor
and Accompanist
Laurence Williams

James Finlay
Chairman

Martin Goodwin
Concert Manager

Chris Finch
Treasurer

Stephen Rickett
Design and Communications

Jennifer Greenway
Membership

Eleanor Cowie
Publicity

Simon Livesey
Company Secretary

London Concert Choir had its 60th anniversary in 2020. Notable for the commitment and musicality of its performances in an unusually varied repertoire, the choir regularly appears with Mark Forkgen at London's premier concert venues, while tours abroad have included visits to France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Spain.

The choir's 50th anniversary saw two performances of Britten's *War Requiem*. Among other major works in recent seasons have been Mozart's Requiem with the London Mozart Players, Rachmaninov's choral symphony *The Bells* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah,* Brahms' *German Requiem* and Vaughan Williams' *Sea Symphony*, all with Southbank Sinfonia. LCC recently presented a joint concert with Southbank Sinfonia as part of the Christmas Festival at St John's Smith Square.

Operas in concert performance have ranged from Gluck's *Orfeo* and Purcell's *King Arthur* to Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. Performances with Counterpoint period instrumental ensemble include Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *St Matthew* and *St John Passions* and *Christmas Oratorio,* Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610* and Mozart's C minor Mass. LCC has also performed Ellington's *Sacred Concert*, Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* and a concert to mark Leonard Bernstein's centenary.

The choir often gives concerts for charity and also commissions new works, including *A Light not yet Ready to Go Out* by Alison Willis, in aid of Breast Cancer Now, and *Per Ardua ad Astra*, a major work by Roderick Williams to commemorate the centenary of the RAF.

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LONDON CONCERT CHOIR MEMBERS

Soprano
Anja Augenschein
Dagmar Binsted
Eleanor Blackman
Alison Carpenter
Eleanor Cowie
Polly Creed
Emma Davidson
Christine Dencer
Emma Dixon
Emily Dresner
Tessa Forrest
Kay Fox
Sarah French
Jennifer Greenway
Dalia Gurari
Jennifer Hadley
Emily Hunka
Eva Ignatuschtschenko
Carol Ihnatowicz
Christine Ingram
Danielle Johnstone
Jane Joyce
Julia Keddie
Vickie Kelly
Anna Kosicka
Joanna Kramer
Susanna Lutman
Hannah Mason
Annie Meston
Delyth Morgan
Adrienne Morgan
Stephanie Moussadis
Margaret Perkins
Jutta Raftery
Ines Schlenker
Frances Shaw
Caroline Sheppard
Tara Springate
Aisling Turner
Francesca Wareing
Janet Wells
Belinda Whittingham
Guyanne Wilson
Julie Wilson
Josephine von Zitzewitz
Ioulia Zoukova

Alto
Galina Borisova
Kate Britten
Janet Cole
Carys Cooper
Deborah Curle
Kathleen Dormer
Rebecca Foulkes
Anna Garnier
Sarah Gasquoine
Mary Glanville
Muriel Hall
Penny Hatfield
Denise Howell
Chrina Jarvis
Chris Joseph
Margaret Kalaugher
Sharon Kipfer
Sarah Knight
Sabine Koellmann
Carol Lane
Lorna Lewis
Liz Lowther
Norma MacMillan
Bridget Maidment
Adrienne Mathews
Catherine McCarter
Neetu Menon
Anna Metcalf
Sophy Miles
Rosie Norris
Cathy Packe
Barbara Paterson
Judith Paterson
Rachel Pearson
Gillian Perry
Emilia-Valerie Pilss
Dubravka Polic
Beccy Reese
Jessica Rosethorn
Rosie de Saram
Pamela Slatter
Tabitha Strydom
Gabriel West
June Williams

Tenor
Samuel Ajose
David Broad
Richard Davison
William Durant
Fabyan Evans
Graham Hick
Richard Holmes
Carolyn Knight
Ian Leslie
Frances Liew
Andrew Lyburn
Seb Marlow
Ben Martin
Stephen Rickett
Tim Steer
Ruth Yeo

Bass
Colin Allies
John Ancock
Miles Armstrong
Peter Banks
Tim Bourns
Andrew Cullen
David Elkan
Chris Finch
James Finlay
Martin Goodwin
Nigel Grieve
Keith Holmes
Ian Judson
Robert Kealey
Stefan Klaazen
Simon Livesey
Hamish Naismith
Morgan Roberts
Jonathan Rogers
Tom Roles
Anthony Sharp
John Somerville
Ryszard Stepaniuk
Wilson To
Tony Trowles
Dai Whittingham



LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

SUPPORTING THE CHOIR

London Concert Choir greatly appreciates the financial contribution of its regular supporters in helping the choir to maintain its position as one of London's leading amateur choirs. However, we cannot promote our concerts at major venues with professional performers of the required calibre unless we receive income from sources other than ticket sales. The choir runs a Supporters' Scheme and also offers opportunities to sponsor soloists or orchestral players and to advertise in our concert programmes.

To find out more, please email **treasurer@londonconcertchoir.org**

JOINING THE CHOIR

London Concert Choir welcomes new members, who are invited to attend a few rehearsals before an informal audition. Rehearsals are on Monday nights at Bloomsbury Baptist Church near Tottenham Court Road station. If you are interested in joining the choir, please fill in your details online at **londonconcertchoir.org**

MAILING LIST

If you would like to receive advance information about our concerts, you can join the choir's free mailing list by clicking on the link on the home page of the website.

The information you provide is subject to data protection regulations (GDPR) and as such will be used exclusively by London Concert Choir.

LCC SUPPORTERS

Sue Blyth
Deborah & Girome Bono
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Janet and Michael Orr
Christopher and Jennifer Powell Smith
Caroline Proddow
Ruth Steinholtz
Clare Ford Wille
Charles Williams
Anthony Willson
Clare and Philip Ziegler

LIFE FRIENDS

LCC is delighted to acknowledge the invaluable contribution made by the following individuals:

Peter Barley
Tim and Patricia Barnes
Anne Clayton
Mark Loveday
Sue McFadyen
Gregory Rose

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COME SING WITH US

Interested in becoming a member?

Monday Night Rehearsals

7:15–9:30pm

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church

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FUTURE CONCERTS



WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2023, 7.45PM
HOLY TRINITY SLOANE SQUARE

RACHMANINOV: VESPERS
(ALL-NIGHT VIGIL)



THURSDAY 6 JULY 2023, 7.30PM
CADOGAN HALL, SLOANE TERRACE, SW1

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