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# LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

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est. 1960

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President  
**Roderick Williams OBE**

Music Director  
**Mark Forkgen**

Wednesday 20 December 2023  
Holy Trinity Sloane Square

# CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND AUDIENCE

SUPPORTING ST GEORGE'S  
HOSPITAL CHARITY  
TIME FOR A CHANGE  
CHILDREN'S APPEAL

[lcchoir.uk](http://lcchoir.uk)



St George's  
Hospital  
Charity



HOLY TRINITY  
SLOANE SQUARE

# WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY SLOANE SQUARE

## Please note:

- 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.



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CHAMPIONING  
VOLUNTARY MUSIC



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[@ChoirLCC](https://twitter.com/ChoirLCC)

Programme designed by Stephen Rickett and edited by Eleanor Cowie

London Concert Choir: 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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**LONDON**

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**CONCERT**

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**CHOIR**

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**CAROLS**  
**FOR CHOIR**  
**AND**  
**AUDIENCE**

*Mark Forkgen conductor*

*Laurence Williams organ/piano*

**London Concert Choir**

There will be an Interval of 20 minutes.

## **Creator of the stars of night** (7th Century Office Hymn)

### **ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY**

1. 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. 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.

## **Out of your sleep** (Richard Rodney Bennett)

## **I sing of a Maiden** (Patrick Hadley)



## O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel!  
Redeem thy captive Israel,  
That into exile drear is gone  
Far from the face of God's dear Son.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to Thee, O Israel*
2. O come, thou Branch of Jesse, draw  
The quarry from the lion's claw;  
From the dread caverns of the grave,  
From nether hell, thy people save.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to Thee, O Israel*
3. O come, O come, Adonai,  
Who in thy glorious majesty  
From that high mountain clothed with awe  
Gavest thy folk the elder law.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to Thee, O Israel*

### **Noel Nouvelet**

(French traditional carol, arranged by John Rutter)

### **Reading: Listening to Christmas by Alan Harris**

(Read by Mike Rappolt, Trustee,  
St. George's Hospital Charity)

### **Christmas Eve Carol** (Julian Thomas)

## OF THE FATHER'S HEART BEGOTTEN

1. Of the Father's heart begotten  
Ere the world from chaos rose,  
He is Alpha: from that Fountain  
All that is and hath been flows;  
He is Omega, of all things  
Yet to come the mystic Close,  
*Evermore and evermore.*
2. By his word was all created;  
He commanded and 'twas done;  
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
Universe of three in one,  
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
All that breathes beneath the sun,  
*Evermore and evermore.*
3. O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
When the Maid the curse retrieved,  
Brought to birth mankind's salvation,  
By the Holy Ghost conceived;  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
In her loving arms received,  
*Evermore and evermore.*
4. Sing, ye heights of heav'n, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
Let your joyous anthems ring,  
Every tongue his name confessing,  
Countless voices answering,  
*Evermore and evermore.*

**En! Natus est Emanuel** (Michael Praetorius)

**Appeal: Clare Millington, Parent of St. George's Hospital  
Paediatric Intensive Care Ward Patient**

**Sir Christèmas** (William Mathias)

INTERVAL – 20 Minutes



## Up! Good Christen folk

(Tune from Piae Cantiones, 1582,  
arranged by G.R. Woodward)

## Ding Dong! Merrily on high

(Traditional, arranged by Mack Wilberg)

## 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,...*

## In Dulci Jubilo

(Old German tune, arranged by R.L. Pearsall)

## O men from the fields

(16th Century French tune, arranged by Charles Wood)

## 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.

**In the bleak midwinter** (Pamela Slatter)

**Reading: An Extract from  
"How the Grinch Stole Christmas" by Dr. Seuss**  
(Read by Joe Pike, Insight and Investigations Editor, BBC Newsnight)

## Scots Nativity (Alan Bullard)

### 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.*

**On this day, Earth shall ring**  
(Haldane Campbell Stewart)



# TIME FOR

# A CHANGE

We are the people that parents rely on when the worst happens to their children. Our outstanding care is world renowned.

Our children and their families deserve the best environment to match that care and support. We need more beds to accommodate an ever-increasing demand for our outstanding, world-class care and support.

Help us create the best St George's for our children and our staff.

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£2.4M AND WE NEED YOUR HELP TO  
REACH OUR £5M TARGET.**





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**St George's  
Hospital  
Charity**



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Charity Number 1171195

# MARK FORKGEN

## CONDUCTOR



Mark Forkgen has been the Music Director of London Concert Choir since 1996. 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.

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, and appeared at major venues, including the Royal Festival Hall, the Royal Albert Hall and the Barbican. Outside the UK he has conducted in Denmark, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Eire, the Czech Republic, Italy, Bulgaria and Hong Kong.

A specialist in the field of choral and contemporary music, Mark also enjoys an active life as a pianist, focusing on twentieth-century and contemporary music, and has been Conductor and Artistic Advisor for a number of highly acclaimed festivals.

## Here Mark Forkgen answers questions from the choir:

### WHAT GOT YOU INTO MUSIC?

My early years were dominated by singing. I was a chorister at our local church, St Andrew's, Enfield, before joining the choir of the Temple Church in London under Sir George Thalben-Ball and John Birch. I also sang in some operas at the Royal Opera House. Experiencing this level of music-making at such a young age meant I engaged with music and performing rather than doing exams. I had started the piano at this stage, but instrumentally I was a slow burner!

### WHERE DID YOU STUDY MUSIC?

I attended the City of London School for Boys and was Organ Scholar at the Temple Church before going to Cambridge as the Organ Scholar of Queens'

College, reading Music. I then won a scholarship to study conducting at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where I studied with Christopher Seaman. I was also very lucky to spend time with Michael Tilson Thomas and Mstislav Rostropovich.

### **OUTSIDE 'CLASSICAL' MUSIC, WHAT OTHER GENRES, COMPOSERS, WRITERS, MUSICIANS, BANDS DO YOU LIKE AND LISTEN TO?**

My knowledge of 'pop' music starts to fizzle out post 1980s. I grew up in North London, went to a lot of gigs at Wembley Arena and other venues, seeing Stevie Wonder, Billy Joel, The Police and Queen. Nowadays, I mainly listen in the car. My two favourite 'pop' songwriters are Paul Simon and Billy Joel.

### **DO YOU LIKE JAZZ?**

Absolutely! Many of you would have seen my love of Jazz when we've performed the Ellington *Sacred Concert*, Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* and the Gershwin night. I played in a Jazz Quartet at university and must admit that I pull rank and run the Tonbridge School Big Band!

### **DO YOU PREFER CONDUCTING OR PERFORMING?**

Interesting distinction as I still feel I'm 'performing' when conducting. It's just that you're performing more for the people in front of you rather than those behind you. Obviously, some conductors think of it the other way round! I wouldn't want to just conduct or play. The big adjustment in conducting is that you're not making the sound physically and obviously need musicians around you. This was one of the great attractions as a contrast to the solitary life of a keyboard player.

### **HAVE YOU EVER SPENT TIME IN A MUSIC THEATRE 'PIT BAND'?**

Yes. I've been the MD for several musical theatre productions. For some of these I've been conducting but often I'm leading from the keyboard. These have been short runs rather than the week in-week out West End model. The mix has been eclectic: *West Side Story*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Into the Woods*, *The Boyfriend*, *Oh! What a Lovely War*, *Chess*, *Cabaret* and my favourite, *Sweeney Todd*. Hopefully we'll get to do it with LCC at some point.

### **DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE CONCERT, VENUE AND CONDUCTOR?**

Favourite venue is the KKL [Culture and Congress Centre] in Lucerne.

Favourite concert and conductor can easily be rolled into one. We queued for hours and hours in the snow outside the Philharmonie in Berlin and finally managed to get returns at 7.28pm! It was Bruckner's Symphony No. 7 with Claudio Abbado conducting. The slow movement was simply overwhelming. I realised that our whole row had been reduced to tears. I would have queued for days.

# LAURENCE WILLIAMS

ORGAN/PIANO



Laurence Williams is an accompanist, organist, bass-baritone soloist and choral conductor. He has played for London Concert Choir since 2018. He was organ scholar at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, and now balances a career encompassing conducting, playing and singing.

As a bass-baritone soloist, he specialises in oratorio, and is acclaimed for his eloquent singing and rich tone. He has sung with many renowned UK choirs including Polyphony and the Monteverdi Choir.

As a director, he runs the music at the church of St Michael and All Angels, Barnes, a choral society and two children's choirs. He is also Assistant Conductor of London Concert Choir. He delights in working with non-professional musicians and bringing his singing expertise to help people achieve their best.

Laurence is also the founder of Dowland Youth Works, a scheme that introduces teenagers to Lute song and consort singing.



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President

**Roderick Williams OBE**

Music Director

**Mark Forkgen**

Assistant Conductor  
and Accompanist

**Laurence Williams**

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**James Finlay**

Chairman

**Martin Goodwin**

Concert Manager

**Tabitha Strydom**

Treasurer

**Stephen Rickett**

Design and Communications

**Jennifer Greenway**

Membership

**Barbara Paterson**

Committee Secretary

**Simon Livesey**

Company Secretary

Since its formation in 1960, London Concert Choir has grown to more than 100 members of a wide range of ages and is now one of London's leading amateur choirs. Notable for its commitment and musicality in an unusually varied repertoire, the choir regularly appears with Music Director Mark Forkgen at London's premier concert venues and in cathedrals and churches in and around the capital, while tours abroad have included visits to France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Spain.

The choir celebrated its 50th anniversary with memorable performances of Britten's *War Requiem* in the Barbican and Salisbury Cathedral. Among other major choral/orchestral works have been 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.

Operas in concert performance have ranged from Purcell's *King Arthur* to Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. Concerts 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 'Great' C minor Mass.

This year LCC has sung two concerts of sacred music: Rachmaninov's unaccompanied *Vespers* and music by French organist-composers Langlais and Duruflé. In contrast, the choir has previously performed Duke Ellington's *Sacred Concert* and Will Todd's *Mass in Blue*, and this summer joined forces with current and past members of Southbank Sinfonia for a popular concert of highlights from the musicals of Rodgers and Hammerstein. For the second year running, London Concert Choir and Southbank Sinfonia recently gave the opening concert of the annual Christmas Festival at St John's Smith Square.

The choir's performances for charity have included a new work by Alison Willis, *A Light not yet Ready to Go Out*, in aid of Breast Cancer Now. The choir also commissioned *Per Ardua ad Astra*, a major work by the choir's President, Roderick Williams, written to mark the centenary of the RAF in 2018.

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# LONDON CONCERT CHOIR MEMBERS

## **Soprano**

Anja Augenschein  
Dagmar Binsted  
Eleanor Blackman  
Melanie Bowman  
Alison Carpenter  
Eleanor Cowie  
Ann-Gaelle Cox  
Emma Davidson  
Christine Dencer  
Emma Dixon  
Kay Fox  
Sarah French  
Jennifer Greenway  
Dalia Gurari  
Jennifer Hadley  
Emily Hunka  
Eva Ignatuschtschenko  
Carol Ihnatowicz  
Christine Ingram  
Danielle Johnstone  
Julija Jones  
Jane Joyce  
Julia Keddie  
Vickie Kelly  
Anna Kosicka  
Joanna Kramer  
Stephanie Lacey  
Susanna Lutman  
Annie Meston  
Adrienne Morgan  
Millie O'Neil  
Margaret Perkins  
Jutta Rafferty

Ines Schlenker  
Frances Shaw  
Caroline Sheppard  
Lucy Smith  
Tara Springate  
Trina Stevens  
Emily Taylor  
Aisling Turner  
Josephine von Zitzewitz  
Janet Wells  
Belinda Whittingham  
Julie Wilson

## **Alto**

Camilla Banks  
Galina Borisova  
Kate Britten  
Janet Cole  
Carys Cooper  
Deborah Curle  
Rosemary de Saram  
Kathleen Dormer  
Rebecca Foulkes  
Anna Garnier  
Sarah Gasquoine  
Mary Glanville  
Maria Grabar  
Muriel Hall  
Penny Hatfield  
Denise Howell  
Chrina Jarvis  
Chris Joseph  
Margaret Kalaugher  
Sharon Kipfer

Sarah Knight  
Sabine Koellmann  
Kyra Köslér  
Carol Lane  
Lorna Lewis  
Liz Lowther  
Bridget Maidment  
Adrienne Mathews  
Karen McManus  
Neetu Menon  
Anna Metcalf  
Rosie Norris  
Cathy Packe  
Barbara Paterson  
Rachel Pearson  
Gillian Perry  
Dubravka Polic  
Beccy Reese  
Pamela Slatter  
Tabitha Strydom  
Gabriel West  
June Williams

## **Tenor**

David Broad  
Richard Davison  
Dave Dosoruth  
Fabyan Evans  
Sam Hansford  
Graham Hick  
Richard Holmes  
Carolyn Knight  
Ian Leslie  
Frances Liew

Andrew Lyburn  
Benjamin Martin  
Stephen Rickett  
Tim Steer  
Andrew Sutcliffe  
Geoffrey Williams  
Ruth Yeo

## **Bass**

Colin Allies  
Miles Armstrong  
Timothy Bourns  
Chris Finch  
James Finlay  
Martin Goodwin  
Nigel Grieve  
Rob Harris  
Keith Holmes  
Ian Judson  
Robert Kealey  
Simon Livesey  
Mark Livingstone  
Hamish Naismith  
Morgan Roberts  
Jonathan Rogers  
Tom Roles  
Anthony Sharp  
John Somerville  
Ryszard Stepaniuk  
Wilson To  
Tony Trowles  
Dai Whittingham

# SUPPORTING LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

London Concert Choir appreciate the encouragement of our audiences especially those of you who come along regularly, bringing friends and family with you, and those who share the word about our achievements, enhancing our reputation.

As one of London's leading choirs we want to share our joy in making music with as many people as possible. We love performing large concerts at major venues with amazing soloists and orchestras. To do that we need financial support that we can't get from ticket sales alone. We rely on our **Friends**, **Companions** and **Patrons** who give regularly. We would love you to join them by becoming a regular financial supporter!

The following levels of support all get you a mention in our concert programmes, regular communications from the Choir, invitations to supporter events and huge gratitude from our membership! To find out more, please email [supporters@londonconcertchoir.org](mailto:supporters@londonconcertchoir.org)

*giftaid it*

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed from HMRC by the choir from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

## BECOME A FRIEND OF THE CHOIR

A: by setting up a direct debit for **£5/month**.  
[Scan the QR code or visit: [lcc.gd/f](http://lcc.gd/f) to set this up]



B: by paying **£60** by BACS on an annual basis  
[LCC Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account No: 00018215]



### SUPPORTERS

Peter Banks  
Sue Blyth  
Deborah and Girome Bono  
Carys Cooper  
Eleanor Cowie  
Dianne Denham  
Geoffrey Deville  
Fabyan and Karen Evans  
James Finlay

Judith Greenway  
Nicholas Halton  
Tim and Christine Ingram  
Carolyn Knight  
Miriam Kramer  
Simon Livesey  
Jill Marx  
Janet and Michael Orr  
Adrienne Morgan

Barbara Paterson  
Gillian Perry  
Christopher and Jennifer Powell Smith  
Will Tilden  
Dai Whittingham  
Charles Williams  
Anthony Willson

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B: by paying **£240** by BACS on an annual basis



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## BECOME A PATRON OF THE CHOIR

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B: by paying **£600** by BACS on an annual basis



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### LIFE FRIENDS

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

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

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# LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

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## FUTURE CONCERTS

Thursday 14 March 2024, 7:30pm  
Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, SW1  
DVORAK: STABAT MATER

Thursday 20 June 2024, 7:30pm  
Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, SW1  
PURCELL: DIDO AND AENEAS  
HANDEL: DIXIT DOMINUS

## 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](https://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.