St Martin in the Fields

# Advent Carols by Candlelight

# **London Concert Choir**

Conductor: **Mark Forkgen** Organist: **James Longford** 

Saturday, 28 November 2015, 4.00pm

St Martin-in-the-Fields Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ Box Office 020 7766 1100 Online: www.smitf.org

## Please note:

- Smoking and the consumption of food and drink are not allowed in the church.
- Kindly switch off mobile phones and alarms on digital watches.
- Photography and audio or video recording are not permitted.
- The interval in the evening concert is 20 minutes. A bell will be rung 5 minutes and 2 minutes before the end of the interval. Once the concert starts again admittance will only be between pieces.
- The Café-in-the-Crypt is normally open during the interval. The Café-in-the-Crypt can be hired for private functions. Tel: 020 7766 1165.
- The Neville Marriner Rehearsal Room is available to hire for rehearsals and workshops. Please call 020 7766 1136 for further information
- For more information about St Martin's, please visit our website: www.smitf.org



SUPPORTING & CHAMPIONING VOLUNTARY MUSIC

LCC would like to thank the Time Bank Volunteers from Age UK Bromley & Greenwich for their help in handing out these programmes.

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

## The truth from above

(English traditional carol, arranged by Vaughan Williams)

## O COME, O COME EMMANUEL!

- 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
- O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright! Pour on our souls thy healing light; Dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom, And pierce the shadows of the tomb: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel
- 4. O come, O come, Adonaï, 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*

The Lord at first did Adam make (English traditional carol, arranged by David Willcocks)

Adam lay ybounden (Boris Ord)

## COME, THOU REDEEMER OF THE EARTH

- Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest Thy virgin birth: Let every age adoring fall; Such birth befits the God of all.
- Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, Thou art still The Word of God in flesh arrayed, The promised Fruit to man displayed.
- Forth from His chamber goeth He, That royal home of purity, A giant in twofold substance one, Rejoicing now His course to run.
- All laud, eternal Son, to Thee Whose advent sets Thy people free Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen – A rose has sprung up (arranged by Michael Praetorius and Melchior Vulpius)

Hymn to the Mother of God (John Tavener)

## IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

 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.

- 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.
- 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!
- 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.

Ave Maria (Anton Bruckner)

Dixit Maria (Hans Leo Hassler)

Magnificat (William Byrd)

## OF THE FATHER'S HEART BEGOTTEN

#### Verse 2 Men, verse 4 Women

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Zion hört die Wächter singen – Zion hears the watchmen's voices (J.S. Bach, from Cantata 140)

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

# Mark Forkgen conductor

Mark Forkgen has been 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, appearing at major venues, including the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican and the Royal Albert Hall.

A specialist in the field of choral and contemporary music, Mark has given the first performances of more than 100 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 20th Century and contemporary music. His recitals last season covered repertoire by Stravinsky, Debussy, Messiaen, Bartok, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Oliver Knussen and Thomas Adès.

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 Sienna and *Israel in Egypt* at the Viterbo Early Music Festival), Bulgaria (concerts broadcast for National TV and Radio) and Hong Kong.

Last season's highlights included Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' *Vesalii Icones* with the composer, productions of *Cabaret* and *The Boy Friend*, programmes based on Masters of the Kings' and Queens' Music, a project combining the music of Eric Satie with film, and a highly acclaimed concert including three first performances at the Cheltenham Festival. Other highlights this Autumn include a programme based on the theme of 'Light' for the Bournemouth Festival, a series inspired by Shakespeare, the choral music of Howard Blake and, as a pianist, performances of Shostakovich's Second Piano Trio with works by Stravinsky and Debussy.

# James Longford organist

James Longford works as a chamber and orchestral pianist, repetiteur and continuo player, as an arranger and copyist and in music theatre and education. He studied with Nicholas Danby, Margaret Philips, John Blakely and Yonty Solomon at the Royal College of Music, where he was awarded the Tagore Gold Medal. He is also a former organ scholar of St.Martin-in-the-Fields, where he studied with Paul Stubbings. He was selected as a Steinway Artist in 2014.



He works with the Royal Opera House and Royal Ballet, English National Opera, Southbank Sinfonia, Gabrieli Consort and Players, Ensemble NAYA, Kokoro, Bregenzer Festspiele and Schauspiel Köln, in addition to London Concert Choir. He has appeared at the Avignon, Chichester, Aix-en-Provence, Aldeburgh, Latitude, Deal, Sounds New, Anghiari, London Schubert and the Israel festivals.

In 2001, James Longford and Lindy Tennent-Brown established the longfordbrown piano duo. Laureates of several international competitions and placed in the top nine piano duos in the world at the 2008 Dranoff International Two Piano Competition in Miami, they hold an enviable reputation for innovative programming and thrilling performances.

James is also a member of the Galos Piano Trio, established in 2009, specialising in the lesser-known corners of the piano trio repertoire by English and women composers.

Please visit jameslongford.com for more information.

# London Concert Choir

London Concert Choir, founded as the Brompton Choral Society in 1960, now has around 150 members of a wide range of ages and is notable for its wide-ranging musical repertoire. With Music Director Mark Forkgen the choir appears at all the major London concert venues and in cathedrals and churches in and around the capital, as well as touring further afield.

In 2014 the choir performed Haydn's oratorio *The Seasons* in the Basilica di San Francesco at Assisi with Southbank Sinfonia. A performance of Verdi's Requiem with the Augsburg Basilica Choir in the Royal Festival Hall in 2011 was followed by a joint concert at the Augsburg Peace Festival. A tour to Krakow will take place in July 2016.

LCC celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010 with two memorable performances of Britten's *War Requiem*: at the Barbican and in Salisbury Cathedral. Among other major works in earlier seasons have been Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the English Chamber Orchestra and Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, both with Southbank Sinfonia.

Performances of Baroque music with Counterpoint include Handel's Messiah and Judas Maccabaeus and Bach's Christmas Oratorio and St Matthew Passion. On a smaller scale, the choir has sung unaccompanied church music by British and Russian composers, and Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle.

Operas in concert performance have ranged from Gluck's *Orfeo* to Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and the London premiere of *The Chalk Legend* by Stephen McNeff. LCC has also performed Duke Ellington's *Sacred Concert*, and Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* as part of a jazz concert. The choir often gives concerts for charity and has commissioned a number of new works.



Mark Forkgen Music Director

James Longford Principal Accompanist

Fabyan Evans Chairman

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#### www.london-concert-choir.org.uk

# **Members of London Concert Choir**

#### Soprano

Eleanor Austin Gillian Bibby Mickey Bowden Ellie Boyd Aisling Caroll-Turner Alison Carpenter Beatrice Conchado Amandine Consigny **Eleanor** Cowie Christine Dencer Gillian Denham Susan Deville Emma Dixon **Emily Dresner** Rachel Duffield Serena Ede Francesca Ede Anna Field Sarah French Lisa Gardner Suzanne Gee Sonja Gray Jennifer Greenway Jennifer Hadley Emma Heath Ruth Hobbs Laura Holland lennifer Howe Charlotte Hunt Christine Ingram Jane Joyce Roxana Kashani Vickie Kelly Anna Kosicka Frances Lake Sarah Lewin Susanna Lutman Elsa Martinez Hannah Mason Jessica Metcalfe Adrienne Morgan Stephanie Moussadis Margaret Perkins Olivia Purdy Jutta Raftery Ines Schlenker Frances Shaw Caroline Sheppard Imogen Small Imogen Smith Teresa Tilden Natalie Tompkins Emily Tuite Francesca Wareing Janet Wells Belinda Whittingham Julie Wilson

#### Alto

**Rachel Adams** Angela Alonso **Fionnuala Barrett** Heide Baumann Helen Beddall-Smith Chloe Bridgen Gesa Brinkmann Frances Cave Lucy Charman **Carys** Cooper Deborah Curle Georgie Day Kathleen Dormer Stefanie Ettelt Alice Everitt Rebecca Foulkes Georgina Furr Annie Gair Clare Garbett Anna Garnier Mary Glanville Ruth Grychtol Muriel Hall Penny Hatfield Andrea Heaedus Ioan Herbert

Anu Holter Chrina larvis Chris Joseph Sabine Köllmann Joanna Kramer Katie Kumar Lorna Lewis Liz Lowther Norma MacMillan Bridget Maidment Adrienne Mathews Corinna Matlis Anna Metcalf Sophy Miles Cathy Packe Judith Paterson Gillian Perry Katja Pluto Dubravka Polic Agnes Ringa Theresa Roaers Pamela Slatter Tabitha Strydom Kate Tranter Mary Varney Erin Vlasved Rachel Vroom Gabriel West Barbara Whent lune Williams Nathalie Wilson Rosie de Saram

#### Tenor

Andrew Bolan David Broad Dave Dosoruth James Ede Fabyan Evans Bram Frankhuijzen Nicholas Hall Sam Hansford Richard Holmes Carolyn Knight Ian Leslie Frances Liew Ben Martin Stephen Rickett Tim Steer Barry Sterndale-Bennett Tim Thirlway Ruth Yeo

#### Bass

Colin Allies Peter Banks Richard Burbury Mark Chater Henry Cook Andrew Cullen Chris Finch James Finlay Richard Gillard Nigel Grieve Julian Hall Nigel Hartnell Graham Hick **Richard Hughes** lan Judson Robert Kealey Stefan Klaazen Simon Livesey Angus Macdonald Alan Machacek Alex Morley-Smith Christopher Powell-Smith Morgan Roberts Desmond Sandford Anthony Sharp **Ryszard Stepaniuk** William Tilden Tony Trowles Philip Vickers Dai Whittingham

# Supporting the Choir

London Concert Choir is committed to high standards and constantly strives to raise the level of its performances by means of workshops and other special events. The choir is grateful for the financial contribution of all its supporters in helping to achieve these aims, and welcomes their active involvement.

## **LCC Supporters**

Sue Blyth, Deborah Bono, Simon Cave, Bill and Bronwen Cook, Angela Cooper, Dianne Denham, Geoffrey Deville, Karen Evans, John and Judith Greenway, Jeremy Groom, Nicholas and Maureen Halton, Tim Ingram, Miriam Kramer, Mark and Liza Loveday, Jill Marx, Janet and Michael Orr, Jennifer Powell Smith, Michael Shipley, Anthony Smith, Sybil and Nicholas Spence, Ruth Steinholtz, Alison Stone, Jill Tilden, Susan Wheatley, Anthony Willson

For information on helping the choir to maintain its position as one of the leading amateur choirs in London via the Supporters' Scheme, please email: **treasurer@london-concert-choir.org.uk** 

The choir also offers opportunities for targeted giving and for corporate support through sponsorship or programme advertising and enquiries should be sent to the same address.

## Life Friends

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

Peter Barley, Tim and Patricia Barnes, Anne Clayton, Bill Cook, Mr and Mrs Michael Hunt, Mark and Liza Loveday, Sue McFadyen, Gregory and Helen Rose, Nicholas Spence

# Joining the Choir

London Concert Choir welcomes new members, who are invited to attend a few rehearsals before an informal audition. If you are interested in joining the choir, please fill in your details online at **www.london-concert-choir.org.uk/joinus** 

# **Mailing List**

If you would like to receive advance information about our concerts, you can join the choir's free mailing list by emailing **mailinglist@london-concert-choir.org.uk** 

The information you provide is subject to the Data Protection Act and as such will be used exclusively by London Concert Choir.



Conductor: Mark Forkgen

# Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December 2015, 7.30pm St Sepulchre's Church, Holborn Viaduct, EC1 Carols for Choir and Audience

Monday 7 March 2016, 7.30pm St John's, Smith Square, SW1

# Monteverdi: Vespers of 1610

Wednesday 15 June 2016, 7.30pm Barbican Hall, Silk Street, EC1

### THE JUTLAND CONCERT Vaughan Williams: A Sea Symphony Britten: Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes

To commemorate the Centenary of the Battle of Jutland and the lives of all who died at sea during the Great War and for the benefit of Seafaring Charities

Thursday 14 July 2016, 7.30pm Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, SW1

Hymns to the Virgin