

Future Cantorum Concerts

Date: Sunday 11th December
Event: Christmas Carol Concerts
Venue: St John the Baptist Church, Cookham Dean, SL6 9PD

Date: Saturday 24th March, 2012
Event: Handel *Messiah*
Venue: Holy Trinity Church, Cookham, SL6 9SP

Date: Saturday 23rd June, 2012
Event: Summer Concert
Venue: Holy Trinity Church, Cookham, SL6 9SP

Grateful thanks are due to

Our rehearsal pianists: Robert Jones, Andrew McKenna,
Gillian Salmon, Peter Toye

The Organising Committee of Amnesty International

The Chartered Institute of Marketing for Printing

And all who have helped in the production of this concert

If you would like to become a friend or a patron of Cantorum Choir, then please email us: info@cantorumchoir.org.uk. If you or your organization would like to consider sponsoring Cantorum Choir in some way, then please call 01628 427281 to discuss the various options. You can also follow us on Facebook. www.facebook.com/cantorumchoir.

CANTORUM CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

£1.50

Inspiring Voices — Giving Pleasure

MUSICAL DIRECTOR — ELISABETH TOYE

FAURÉ *REQUIEM*

TIPPETT
RAVEL
MESSIAEN
KLEIN

in support of
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

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Cantorum Choir

Registered Charity No 1136210

7.30 pm Saturday 15th October 2011
All Saints' Church, Marlow

Cantorum Choir



Cantorum Choir is a lively, committed choir of approximately forty mixed voices. We are based in Cookham, Berkshire, and draw our membership from a wide sector of the Thames Valley. Founded nearly thirty years ago, the choir has built up a reputation as one of the leading chamber choirs in the area, mixing high standards with a warm and friendly social life. We have undertaken several European tours and appeared a number of times on television and in films, notably in the first of the *Inspector Morse* adaptations. Currently, we give four or five concerts per year, at least one of them orchestral.

Sopranos

Catherine Arnold,
Julia Bentley Dawkes,
Dawn Dearing, Rachel Harrison
Julie Hughes, Sandy Johnstone,
Kirsty Kinge, Julia Millard,
Hilary Monaghan, Valerie Snapes,
Marianne Stork, Eleanor Vale,
Phillipa Wallace

Altos

Bridget Bentley, Annette Cameron,
Sarah Evans, Anne Glover,
Jo Rodgers, Chiu Sung,
Lorna Sykes, Anna Trocmé Latter,
Gill Tucker

Tenors

Will Branston
David Clay
Philip Martineau
Malcolm Stork
John Timewell

Basses

Derek Beaven, John Buck
Arthur Creswell, Mike Creswell
Gordon Donkin, David Hazeldine,
Charles Luxford, Martin Noutch,
Paul Seddon

Inspiring Voices — Giving Pleasure
Cookham's Chamber Choir

The Cantorum Orchestra

Violin

Mark Wilson,

Viola

Nina Kopparhed, Rebekah Brown

Cello

Ilse McFarlane, Alice Hoskins

Bass

Li Boberg, Lucy Heath

Harp

Elizabeth Scorch

Horn

Elin Davis, Jon Frank

Organ

Robert Jones

Amnesty International was started in 1961 by the British lawyer, Peter Benenson, and has had a local Cookham & Maidenhead group for more than 40 years. It works on behalf of prisoners of conscience and people who have been tortured for their beliefs, colour, gender or sexual orientation. The local group has supported many hundreds of prisoners over the past four decades, and this concert is one of several events this year to mark the 50th anniversary.

From Amnesty's website (www.amnesty.org.uk):

"Fifty years ago one man's outrage at the imprisonment of two students for raising a toast to freedom inspired a global movement. Together, we have successfully campaigned for the release of thousands of people, imprisoned just for voicing their opinions. Together, we have given hope to tens of thousands of women and men facing intimidation, violence, or even death. Together, we have made a difference to countless lives. There will be many opportunities to get involved and take action during our anniversary year."

Amnesty International has a proud history of working with musicians, actors, comedians and others in the artistic community. They have added their impassioned voices to those of millions of other Amnesty International members worldwide and used their skills and talents to spread the message.

Local Amnesty contact:

Mike Copland – 01628 63037 or mandlcopland@yahoo.co.uk



Jonathan Wood (Baritone) took singing lessons at the Royal Academy of Music. He has been a regular soloist in oratorio and choral music throughout the UK. More recently, Jonathan has appeared with Opera Holland Park in London, London Sound Opera, Chisinau National Opera, and at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. In 2011 he made his English National Opera debut in a memorial concert for Sir Charles Mackerras. He has featured as a soloist on many CDs, most notably with Sir Ian Partridge for the album *Lights Out* (2003). Jonathan's next engagement is Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman* at the Royal Opera House, starting later this month. He also sings locally with the parish church choir of Holy Trinity Church, Cookham.

Ignatius Crean (Treble) attends St Benedict's School, Ealing and has sung with the Ealing Abbey Choir for three years. He sang on the Choir's Christmas CD *Personet Hodie* last year, and next week goes with them on a ten day tour to the USA. We are very grateful to him for working so hard at the *Pie Jesu* for tonight's concert.



Mark Wilson (Violin) co-founded the highly regarded Solaris String Quartet after graduating from the Royal Academy of Music. From 2006 - 2007, Mark was the Concertmaster of the Orquestra de Camara do Estado de Mato Grosso, Brazil, where he helped establish the orchestra as one of Brazil's foremost professional ensembles. Mark has also freelanced with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, Chameleon Arts Ensemble, City of Oxford Orchestra and London Musical Arts. He worked with the well-known pianist and composer Mike Westbrook on his project *Chanson Ir-responsible*, which was broadcast live on BBC Radio Three. Mark has appeared as a soloist with leading orchestras in England, Scotland and Brazil. He is also a talented conductor.



Nina Kopparhed (Viola) has many years' experience as a session musician, chamber musician and freelance orchestral player. After graduating from the Birmingham Conservatoire in 2001 she lived and worked in London for 5 years before taking up the position of principal viola with the Orquestra do Estado de Mato Grosso, Brazil. In 2008 Nina moved to Glasgow. Since then she has worked with several orchestras, such as the RSNO and Scottish Ballet, performing in Sweden, Denmark, France, Spain, Brazil and Bolivia as well as all over the UK and Ireland. Nina is also a professional lyric coloratura soprano.



Ilse McFarlane (Cello) was awarded a scholarship to study at the Royal Academy of Music. She has since studied with Eileen Croxford of the Royal College of Music, Ulrich Heinen of the Royal Northern College of Music and John Todd of the Coull String Quartet. Concerto performances have taken her to London, Warwick, Cambridge, Aberdeen, Italy, Belgium and the Czech Republic. Her main love, however, has always been chamber music, and she has performed extensively as a member of the Richey String Quartet, the Salon Quartet, Contrasts Chamber Ensemble and the Warwick Piano Trio.

Elisabeth Toye (Musical Director)

Elisabeth is a graduate of Birmingham University and the Royal Academy of Music. She has built a busy and successful career as a professional soprano, vocal coach, and choral trainer. She has for some years been working with Berkshire Maestros (The Young Musicians' Trust) and is currently Director of Berkshire Young Voices and Director of the Royal Borough Children's Choir. In addition, Elisabeth has tutored for the National Youth Choir of Wales and, in 2008, worked alongside the Director of The National Youth Choirs of Great Britain.



Notes on the Composers

Elisabeth has designed tonight's programme to reflect the French character of our main work, the Fauré *Requiem*, and also the fact that the concert is in support of Amnesty International.

The first performance of **Gabriel Fauré's** *Requiem* took place on January 16th 1888, at the church of La Madeleine in Paris, where Fauré was organist and choirmaster. After the service, the priest enquired about the piece, and, on being told that it was something 'of my own composition,' is said to have replied: 'M. Fauré, we don't need all these novelties. La Madeleine's repertoire is quite rich enough; just content yourself with that.' True, the *Requiem* wasn't in its final form: for a second performance in 1893, Fauré added the two items with baritone solo, the *Offertoire* and the *Libera me*. But if history has proved the priest quite wrong — the *Requiem* is today one of our best loved works — it's still worth noting that it didn't achieve widespread popularity until the 1950s! Tonight's performance features two local singers to whom we are particularly grateful: Ignatius Crean (Treble) who will take the beautiful *Pie Jesu* movement, and Jonathan Wood, who will sing the Baritone solos.

Maurice Ravel wrote his *Trois Chansons* in 1914 while he was waiting to be called up to fight in the First World War. The second of the three songs (he wrote the poems himself) surely reflects — with great beauty — some preoccupation with the possibility of his own death in battle. By contrast, the first and the third songs show an ironic humour at what seemed perhaps the sudden emptiness of old forms.

Swept up by the invading Germans after the fall of France, **Olivier Messiaen** experienced a year as a prisoner of war from 1940-41. His *O Sacrum Convivium!* is an earlier piece, however. Written in 1937, it shows the composer using the choir like a church organ, experimenting with harmonic possibilities within the context of the French tradition and owing some debt to Fauré as well as to more Modernist influences.

We are particularly honoured to have Mark Wilson, Nina Kopparhed and Ilse McFarlane here tonight to play the **Gideon Klein String Trio**. Mark will introduce this astonishing composition — written and performed in 1944 in Theresienstadt (Terezín) concentration camp, where Klein, as a Czech Jew, was interned before being sent to Auschwitz.

The English composer **Michael Tippett's** much loved Spirituals were part of his oratorio *A Child of Our Time*, a piece he composed in response to the horrific events of *Kristallnacht* in Germany in 1938.

Maurice Ravel (1875 — 1937)

Trois Chansons (poems by the composer)

I. Nicolette

Nicolette went skipping to the meadow at evening to pick flowers. She met a hairy wolf: “Come home with me to Grandmother’s!” She ran away. She met a handsome page. “Be my lover!” Wisely, sadly, she rejected him. She met a gross old aristocrat. “How would you like plenty of money!” She was in his arms at once and never bothered going to the meadow again.

II. Trois beaux oiseaux du Paradis

Three beautiful birds of paradise appeared (my lover has gone to the war). The first was sky blue, the second white as snow, the third bright red. “What do you bring me, birds (my lover has gone to the war)?” “I bring you the gaze of his blue eyes.” “I bring a kiss for your snow white brow.” “But red bird, what do you bring me?” “A lovely heart all blood crimson (your lover has gone to the war).” “Ah, I feel my own heart grow cold. Take it with you, too.”

Soloists: Julia Millard Soprano, Anne Glover Alto,
Malcolm Stork Tenor, Charles Luxford Baritone

III. Ronde (Roundelay)

THE OLD WOMEN: “Don’t go to the wood of Ormonde, young girls. It’s full of satyrs, centaurs, sorcerers, hobgoblins, incubi, ogres, imps, fauns, elves, lamias, devils, demons, werewolves... etc etc.
THE OLD MEN: And you lads, don’t go to the woods, they’re full of she-fauns and bacchantes, evil fairies, she-satyrs and ogresses, Baba Yagas, centaurettes and she-devils, witches... etc etc.
THE YOUNG: Sadly, we’ll never go to the woods again. There are no more satyrs, centaurs, sorcerers etc etc (or their female equivalents); you deluded oldies have frightened them all away!

Olivier Messiaen (1908 — 1992)

O Sacrum Convivium! (O Sacred Banquet!)

Michael Tippett (1905 — 1998)

Five Spirituals from A Child of Our Time

- I. Steal Away (Soloists: Kirstie Kinge Soprano, Derek Beaven Baritone)
- II. Nobody Knows (Soloists: Valerie Snapes Soprano, William Branston Tenor)
- III. Go Down Moses (Soloists: Eleanor Vale Soprano, Arthur Creswell Bass)
- IV. By and By (Soloists: Marianne Stork, Julia Bentley Dawkes, Sandy Johnstone Soprani)
- V. Deep River (Soloists: Kirstie Kinge Soprano, Anna Trocmé Latter Alto, William Branston Tenor, Charles Luxford Baritone)

Gideon Klein (1919 — 1945)

String Trio

- Allegro
- Variations of a Moravian Folk Song
- Molto Vivace

Mark Wilson *Violin*, Nina Kopparhed *Viola*, Ilse McFarlane *Cello*

Interval

Gabriel Fauré (1845 — 1924)

Requiem

- I. **Introit and Kyrie:** Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine et lux perpetua luceat eis. Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion: et tibi redetur votum in Jerusalem. Exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis caro veniet. Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.
- II. **Offertory:** O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu. O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas defunctorum de ore leonis, ne absorbeat Tartarus, ne cadant in obscurum. Hostias et preces tibi Domine laudis offerimus: tu suscipe pro animabus illis, quarum hodie memoriam facimus. Fac eas Domine de morte transire ad vitam. Quam olim Abrahae promisisti, et semine eius. O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu, ne cadant in obscurum. Amen.

Soloist: Jonathan Wood Baritone
- III. **Sanctus,** Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis! Sanctus.
- IV. **Pie Jesu** Domine, dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem.

Soloist: Ignatius Crean Treble
- V. **Agnus Dei,** qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem. Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine: cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es. Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis.
- VI. **Libera Me,** Domine de morte aeterna, in die illa tremenda, in die illa: quando caeli movendi sunt et terra: dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem. Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira. Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis et miseriae, dies illa, dies magna et amara valde. Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Libera me Domine, de mortis aeterna, in die illa tremenda, in die illa: quando caeli movendi sunt et terra dum veneris iudicare saeculum per ignem.

Soloist: Jonathan Wood Baritone
- VII. **In Paradisum** deducant angeli: in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.

Translation

- I. Give them eternal rest, O Lord, and may a perpetual light shine upon them. O God, a hymn is fitting for you in Zion, and a vow shall be fulfilled for you in Jerusalem. Oh, hear my prayer; all flesh shall come to you. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.
- II. O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, free the souls of the departed from the pains of the fire and from the deep lake. O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, free the souls of the departed from the lion’s mouth, lest the abyss of hell absorb them, lest they fall into the darkness. We offer you sacrifices and prayers of praise, Lord: receive them for those souls whom today we commemorate. Lord, make them pass from death into life—as you once promised to Abraham and to his seed. O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, free the souls of the departed from the pains of the fire and the deep lake, lest they fall into the darkness.
- III. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Holy!
- IV. Faithful Jesus, Lord, give them rest, eternal rest.
- V. O Lamb of God, who bear the sins of the world, give those souls rest, eternal rest. May an everlasting light illuminate them, Lord: in company with your saints for ever, because you are faithful. Give them eternal rest, Lord, and may the everlasting light shine on them.
- VI. Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death, in that dreadful day, in that day when heaven and earth are to be shaken while you come to judge the age through fire. I am left trembling and terrified, until destruction arrives and the coming rage. That day, the day of wrath, of calamity and wretchedness, that day, that great and most bitter day. Give them rest, Lord, and may a perpetual light shine on them. Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death in that dreadful day, in that day when heaven and earth are to be shaken, when you shall come to judge our times through fire.
- VII. Into Paradise the angels shall lead you; on your arrival, the martyrs will receive you and take you through into the holy city of Jerusalem. A choir of angels will greet you, and you, just as Lazarus who once lived destitute, shall have eternal rest.