CANTORUM CHOIR PRESENTS

Susanni

A Christmas Carol Concert to celebrate
Mary and the Sleeping Christ Child

SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER, 7.30pm

Music Director – Oliver Gooch

Collection for Sepsis UK and Cruse Bereavement Care

CANTORUM CHOIR

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1136210

CANTORUM CHOIR

Patron: Ralph Allwood MBE
Music Director: Oliver Gooch
Associate Music Director: Robert Jones

Cantorum Choir is a dedicated and talented choir of approximately forty voices, based in Cookham, Berkshire. The ensemble boasts a wide-ranging repertoire and performs professional-quality concerts throughout the year. Under the directorship of Oliver Gooch, it has continued to earn itself a reputation as one of the leading chamber choirs in the area.

SOPRANOS	ALTOS	TENORS	BASSES
Nicky Cox	Celia Armstrong	Philip Martineau*	John Buck
Kate Cromar***	Sally Brooks	Richard Palfrey***	Arthur Creswell
Clare Dolan	Jill Burton	Malcolm Stork***	Gordon Donkin
Kirsty Janusz	Sarah Evans***	John Timewell	David Hazeldine
Jenny Knight*	Anne Glover		Paul Reid
Hilary Monaghan	Sandy Johnstone		Paul Seddon***
Marilyn Rogers***	Angela Plant*		James Simpson*, ***
Daphne Rowbottom	Chiu Sung		Ben Styles**, ***
Joy Strzelecki	Lorna Sykes		
Deborah Templing			
Pippa Wallace			

* Soloist in Es ist ein Ros entsprungen ** Soloist in Wexford Carol
*** Soloist in The Twelve Days of Christmas

Programme

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen	Praetorius/Sandström
Ave Maria	Parsons
Adam lay ybounden	Howard Skempton

AUDIENCE CAROL: ***Lo! He comes with clouds descending***
(during which the collection for our charities will be taken)

Bogoroditse Devo	Arvo Pärt
Bogoroditse Devo	Sergei Rachmaninov

READING
Advent 1955, Sir John Betjeman – Read by Timmy Mallett

My Lord has come	Will Todd

AUDIENCE CAROL: ***O little town of Bethlehem***

Five Carols **Richard Rodney Bennett**
There is no rose
Out of your sleep
That younge child
Sweet was the song
Susanni

INTERVAL

A little child there is yborn	Malcolm Archer
Christmas Night	arr John Rutter

AUDIENCE CAROL: ***Away in a manger***

Four Carols, Four Nations

A Scots Nativity	Alan Bullard
Wexford Carol	arr John Rutter
Carol Eliseus	Huw Watkins
Sussex Carol	arr Bob Chilcott

READING
Christmas Shopping, David Hazeldine

Jingle Bells	James Pierpont, arr Willcocks

AUDIENCE CAROL: ***Ding dong! merrily on high***

The Twelve Days of Christmas	Bob Chilcott

(Percussionist – Emma Stoffer)

LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! *(3 times)*
God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing *(3 times)*
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture *(3 times)*
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen! Let all adore thee,
High in thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory:
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! *(3 times)*
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

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.

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 wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
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.

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.

AUDIENCE CAROLS

AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

DING DONG! MERRILY ON HIGH

Ding dong! merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angels singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o,
By priest and people sungen!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

ABOUT OUR CHARITIES

THE UK SEPSIS TRUST

We are supporting the charity Sepsis Trust in memory of Marianne Stork as we approach the 10 year anniversary since she passed away.

Marianne Stork, our dear friend and Cantorum Choir founder member, died from Sepsis in September 2013. The illness known as the 'silent killer' affects 245,000 people every year in Britain and kills 48,000 - considerably more than breast and bowel cancer combined. In fact, Sepsis kills approximately 20% of those taken into hospital. But despite the fatal consequences, it often goes undetected until it is far too late for treatment to be effective. Sepsis occurs when an infection – typically bacterial, but it can also be triggered by fire and infection including COVID-19 – triggers a violent response from the immune system. The body begins attacking its own organs which, if not recognised quickly, can lead to rapid failure of the heart, liver, lungs or kidneys. Thousands of lives could be saved each year if symptoms were spotted earlier according to research. If identified soon enough the condition can be treated with antibiotics and intravenous fluid.

Your donation would support the radical rethinking of the way we research and diagnose this devastating condition; and following the pandemic rebuilding public awareness and health professional engagement is critically important.

Cruse Bereavement Care

Cruse Bereavement Care, combined with its counterpart Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland is the largest bereavement charity in the United Kingdom. Registered as a charity in October 1959, we provide free advice, information, support and bereavement counselling to children, young people and adults when someone dies. Our funding, both nationally and for the Thames Valley branch comes solely from donations and applications to organisations. Covid-19 changed the world as we knew it and people found themselves bereaved while isolated, unable to visit loved ones in hospital and, in some cases, unable to attend funerals. Our services are more important than ever. Face to face sessions have been suspended since lockdown and we desperately need your support to fund technology and training so that our volunteers can provide this vital service remotely.

OLIVER GOOCH, CONDUCTOR, has enjoyed collaborations in recent seasons with the LSO, Philharmonia, BBC Symphony, Hallé, London Philharmonic, Queensland Symphony, Tasmanian Symphony, Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, New York Sinfonietta, Orchestra I Pomeriggi Milano and a debut recording with the RTÉ NSO. He balances orchestral engagements with extensive work in opera, formerly as assistant to Sir Charles Mackerras (Glyndebourne) and Sir Antonio Pappano (ROH). As Associate Conductor (JPYAP) at the Royal Opera House he conducted their debut tour of Australia, winning a Helpmann Award. As a regular guest conductor with Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, his recent engagements in the Royal Albert Hall include Madama Butterfly, La bohème and Carmen. He was Founding Artistic Director of Opera East, most recently premiering O'Regan's Heart of Darkness at the Linbury Theatre; and Artistic Director of Iford Arts since 2005. Oliver received his training at Cambridge University, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and the National Opera Studio. He studied conducting at Tanglewood with Seiji Ozawa and was nominated for a South Bank award and a Creative Scotland award. In 2012, he was elected a Clore Leadership Fellow by the Clore Foundation, elected Fellow of the Royal Society in Arts in 2014; and in 2018, he was appointed Director of the Blyth Centre for Music and Visual Arts at Imperial College London and, closer to home, Cantorum Choir!

STEPHEN WESTROP, ORGANIST, was Organ Scholar at Norwich Cathedral while reading music at the University of East Anglia and then went on to study at the London Opera Centre. He worked extensively as a freelance repetiteur for English Music Theatre, Kent Opera, Opera North and most of the national companies. He enjoyed a particularly long association with the Britten-Pears School and the Aldeburgh Festival where he conducted performances of Albert Herring, The Rape of Lucretia and Iolanta. He was Director of the London Symphony Chorus for 11 years, preparing concerts for Sir Colin Davis, Claudio Abbado and Pierre Boulez, among others, as well as conducting premieres of works by John Tavener and Jonathan Dove at the Barbican. From 2001 to 2014 he was Assistant Chorus Master with the Royal Opera at Covent Garden. During that time he also played the Poulenc Organ Concerto for the Royal Ballet.

SPRING CONCERT

1st April 2023, 7.30pm

Holy Trinity Church, Cookham

This season Cantorum Choir is supporting Cruse Bereavement Care and Sepsis UK.

Cantorum Choir @cantorumchoir www.cantorumchoir.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1136210