

COLCHESTER CHAMBER CHOIR

DIRECTOR RODERICK EARLE

THE ROMANTICS

PROGRAMME

£2



COLCHESTER CHAMBER CHOIR

Since our first concert in January 2010 we have performed over thirty concerts in an increasing number of venues to an ever-growing audience. We are proud of our reputation for performances of unusual quality, musicality, drama and imagination. This season we number thirty-three auditioned singers from a wide area around Colchester.

We present varied programmes exploring the more challenging and less well-known repertoire, particularly from the pre-baroque and 19th and 20th centuries. Where possible we sing in the original language. In 2013 we gave recitals and concerts in many churches in East Anglia and performed at St Edmundsbury Cathedral and the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich. We were also invited to sing at the Roman River Music Festival and Harwich Festival of the Arts.

Roderick Earle was a principal baritone with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for twenty one years, singing more than sixty roles, and has sung in opera and concerts all over the world. In autumn 2010 Roderick created the role of King Lear in Alexander Goehr's *Promised End* at the Royal Opera House and in spring 2011 he sang the title role in Ligeti's *Le Grande Macabre* at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires. In 2013 he sang the bass solo in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in Singapore and is currently performing the title role in Tippett's *King Priam* for English Touring Opera, a production that has been nominated for an Olivier Award. He is a singing professor at The Royal College of Music, London.

Martyn Noble became the Organ Scholar at Liverpool Cathedral in 2009 before starting his studies at the Royal College of Music. He is currently Organ Scholar at Southwark Cathedral. He has given several recitals across the country, including York Minster, Liverpool Metropolitan and Canterbury Cathedrals and has played for several BBC recordings. He has also made two CDs with Liverpool Cathedral Choir for Priory Records. Last year he played the organ for Southwark Cathedral's choir tour to Rouen, and won second place in the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition in Armagh.

Beth Spendlove went from the Yehudi Menuhin and Purcell Schools and the Colchester Institute to the Royal Academy of Music where she studied with Frederick Grinke and David Martin. She has performed most of the major violin concertos, but also enjoys giving recitals and chamber music concerts. She has a duo partnership with the pianist Nigel Clayton. Beth founded the Kingfisher Ensemble in 1991 and Kingfisher Sinfonietta in 2011.

Peter Humphrey is the choir's rehearsal pianist.

sopranos

Diana Childs, Liz Curry, Anita Filer, Lesley Gunfield, Jess Hazelton, Julia King, Eleanor Loaring, Jennifer Lloyd, Jill Newton, Harriet Orbell, Linda Pearsall, Libby Ridley, Hilary Sellers, Maxine Taylor

altos

Lehla Abbott, Eleanor Campbell, Patsy Cosgrove, Tessa Freebairn, Meg Prolingheuer, Lisa Roberts, Emma Scott-Smith, Mary Stamp

tenors

Tom Chippendale, Zachary Kleanthous, Andrew Marsden, Amrit Nasta, Will Potten

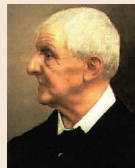
basses

Dominic Blanchard, Joseph Cowie, Sean Moriarty, George Smith, Stephen Smith, Paul Torrington

THE ROMANTICS

The five composers in tonight's programme might not immediately be associated with their sacred music, and yet they all made significant contributions to the repertoire. Verdi's *Requiem*, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* and *Stabat Mater* and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* are well known, Bruckner's great Masses probably rather less so and Liszt's oratorios, like *Christus* and the *Legend of St. Elizabeth*, probably hardly at all. In their smaller sacred compositions all these composers wrote works of rare intensity and beauty. Bruckner's and Liszt were consciously following the precepts of the Caecilian movements which sought to return church liturgical music to the perceived purity of earlier ages. Plainsong and the a cappella style of Palestrina and his contemporaries were considered the ideal models.

Bruckner's *Virga Jesse* is one of his most beautiful motets, appropriate to Christmas time and dates from 1885 when he was starting work on his 8th Symphony. *Vexilla Regis* is a setting of three verses of the hymn sung on Good Friday and is believed to be his last motet, written in 1892.



Liszt had a glittering career as a virtuoso pianist; all fashionable Europe was at his feet. In the 1850s he turned his energies to composition and wrote some remarkably innovative orchestral music. In 1861 he retired to Rome. Having become a Franciscan Tertiary a few years earlier he took minor clerical orders in 1865, the year that he composed the *Missa Choralis*. The *Vater Unser* was written in 1860 and later (slightly modified) he gave it a prominent place in his oratorio *Christus*.



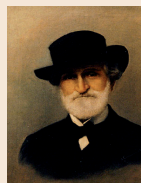
Puccini was commissioned by the publisher Riccordi to write his short *Requiem* (for three part choir, organ and viola) in 1905, the year after the premiere of *Madame Butterfly*, to mark the fourth anniversary of the death of Verdi. This short and moving piece is a setting of just the opening of the introit of the requiem mass.



Rossini wrote *Guillaume Tell*, his last opera, in 1829 at the age of 38. Apart from the *Stabat Mater* and *Petite Messe* he wrote no further major works. In 1855 he finally settled in Paris. It was here that he wrote a wealth of small scale works intended for private performance. *O Salutaris Hostia* and *Preghiera* (for four part male chorus) date from this period and are part of his 14 volume collection of *Péchés de Vieillesse* or *Sins of Old Age*.



Verdi made two settings of religious texts by Dante from his *La Divina Commedia*, or at least he believed he did although it is now thought that the Italian version of the *Lord's Prayer* is by Antonio Beccari da Ferrara (1315-c1370) as it differs in many instances from the text in *Il Purgatorio* (canto XI). The setting of the *Laudi alla Vergine Maria* (for four part women's chorus) is a setting of text from the final canto (XXXIII) of *Il Paradiso* and was written in 1888 between the composition of his final two operas *Otello* and *Falstaff*. The five part *O Padre Nostro* was written before the *Requiem* in 1873.



PROGRAMME

Virga Jesse

Anton Bruckner (1824 - 1896)

Vexilla Regis

Missa Choralis

Franz Liszt (1811 - 1886)

Kyrie

Gloria

Credo

Sanctus

Benedictus

Agnus Dei

organ Martyn Noble

INTERVAL

Requiem

Giacomo Puccini (1858 - 1924)

viola Beth Spendlove

organ Martyn Noble

O salutaris hostia

Gioacchino Rossini (1792 - 1868)

Preghiera

Vater unser

Franz Liszt

organ Martyn Noble

Laudi alla Vergine

Giuseppe Verdi (1813 - 1901)

O Padre nostro

Virga Jesse Anton Bruckner

Virga Jesse floruit:

Virgo Deum et hominem genuit:
pacem Deus reddidit,
in se reconcilians ima summis.
Alleluja.

The branch of Jesse blooms:

a Virgin brings forth God and man:
God has restored peace,
reconciling in Himself the lowest with the highest.
Alleluia.

Vexilla regis

Vexilla regis prodeunt
fulget cruces mysterium
quo carne carnis conditor
suspensus est patibulo.

Abroad the regal banners fly,
now shines the Cross' mystery.
Upon it Life did death endure,
and yet by death did life procure.

O Crux ave spes unica
hoc passionis tempore
auge piis justitiam
reisque dona veniam.

Hail Cross, of hopes the most sublime.
Now, in the mournful Passion time;
grant to the just increase of grace,
and every sinner's crimes efface.

Te summa Deus Trinitas
collaudet omnes spiritus
quos per cruces mysterium
salvas rege per saecula. Amen.

You, mighty Trinity, one God.
let every living creature praise;
Whom by the Cross You did deliver,
O guide and govern now and ever. Amen.

Missa Choralis Franz Liszt

Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison

Christe Eleison

Kyrie Eleison

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili Unigenite, Jesu Christe,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;

qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu:
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks
for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world
receive our prayer.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Credo

Credo in unum Deum,
Patrem omnipotentem,
factorem caeli et terrae,
visibilium omnium et invisibilium.
Et in unum Dominum, Jesum Christum,
Filium Dei unigenitum,
et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula.
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
Deum verum de Deo vero,
genitum, non factum,
consubstantialem Patri:
per quem omnia facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines
et propter nostram salutem
descendit de caelis.
Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto
ex Maria Virgine: et homo factus est.
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis
sub Pontio Pilato:
Passus, et sepultus est.
Et resurrexit tertia die,
secundum scripturas.
Et ascendit in caelum:
Sedet ad dexteram Patris.
Et iterum venturus est
cum gloria iudicare vivos et mortuos:
cujus regni non erit finis.
Et in Spiritum sanctum Dominum,
et vivificantem:
Qui ex Patre, Filioque procedit.
Qui cum Patre, et Filio simul adoratur,
et conglorificatur:
Qui locutus est per Prophetas.
Et unam, sanctam, catholicam et
apostolicam Ecclesiam.
Confiteor unum baptisma
in remissionem peccatorum.
Et expecto resurrectionem
mortuorum
et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father:
through him all things were made.
For us men
and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection
of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Osanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Osanna in excelsis.

Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

Requiem Giacomo Puccini

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Amen.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them.
Amen.

O Salutaris Hostia Gioacchino Rossini

O salutaris hostia,
quae coeli pandis ostium:
bella premunt hostilia,
da robur, fer auxilium.

O saving victim,
opening wide the gate of heaven to us below;
our foes press hard on every side;
your aid supply; your strength bestow.

Preghiera

Tu che di verde il prato
vesti e i giardin di fiori,
tu che di dolci umori
sempre fecondi il suol.

You clothe the meadows with green
and gardens with flowers,
you make the soil fertile
with sweet dew.

Signor, la mesta prece
a te non s'alzi invan,
ma porgi a noi la mano,
rattempra il nostro duol.

Lord, let this sad prayer
not rise to you in vain,
but stretch out your hand to us
to relieve our suffering.

Vater Unser Franz Liszt

Vater unser, der du bist im Himmel,
geheiligt werde dein Name,
zu komme uns, komme dein Reich.
Es geschehe dein Wille
Gleich wie im himmel also auch auf Erden.
Gib uns heute unser täglich Brot,
und vergib uns unsere Schulden,
gleich wie auch wir vergeben
unseren Schuldigern,
und nicht einführe uns nicht in Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem Übel.
Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
that trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Laudi alla Vergine Maria Giuseppe Verdi

Vergine madre, figlia del tuo Figlio
umile ed alta più che creatura
termine fisso d'eterno consiglio.
Tu se' colei che l'umana natura
nobilitasti sì, che'l suo Fattore
non disdegnò di farsi sua fattura.

Nel ventre tuo si raccese l'amore
per lo cui calda nell'eterna pace
così è germinato questo fiore.
Qui se' a noi meridiana face
di caritate e giuso, intra i mortali
se' di speranza fontana vivace.

Donna se' tanto grande e tanto vali
chequal vuol grazia ed a te non ricorre
sua disianza vuol volar senz'ali.
La tua benignità non pur soccorre
a chi dimanda ma molte fiate
liberamente dimandar precorre.

In te misericordia, in te pietate,
in te magnificenza, in te s'aduna
quantunque in creatura è di bontate.
Ave. Ave.

Virgin Mother, daughter of your Son,
humbler and higher than any creature,
fixed goal of eternal plans,
you are she whom human nature
ennobled so much, that its Creator
did not disdain to make himself its creature.

Within your womb that love was lit again,
whose warmth in the eternal peace
has made this flower fully unfolded.
Here to us you are a noonday torch
of charity, and down among mortals
you are a living spring of hope.

Lady, you are so great and of so much worth
that he who seeks grace and does not turn to you
his longing seeks to fly without wings.
Your kindness not only helps him
who asks, but many a time
liberally anticipates the plea.

In you compassion, in you pity,
in you magnificence, in you gathers
anything of goodness in a creature.
Hail. Hail.

O Padre Nostro

O Padre nostro, che ne' cieli stai,
santificato sia sempre il tuo nome.
E laude e grazia
di ciò che ci fai.
Avvenga il regno tuo siccome pone
Questa orazione: tua volontà si faccia,
siccome in cielo, in terra in unione.
Padre, dà oggi a noi pane, e ti piaccia
che ne perdoni li peccati nostri;
Nè cosa noi facciamo che ti dispiaccia.
e che noi perdoniam, tu ti dimostri
esempio a noi per la tua gran virtute;
acciò dal rio nemico ognun si schiostri.
Divino Padre, pien d'ogni salute,
ancor ci guarda dalla tentazione
dell' infernal nemico, e sue ferute.
Sí che a te facciamo orazione,
che meritiam tua grazia,
e il regno vostro
a posseder veniam con divozione.
Preghiamo, Re di Gloria e Signor nostro,
che tu ci guardi da dolore: e fitto
la mente abbiamo in te,
col volto prostro.
Amen.

O our Father, who is in heaven,
hallowed be you name always,
and praise and thanks be
for everything that you do.
Your kingdom come, as prayer entreats.
Your will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.
Father, give us this day our daily bread,
and may it please you to forgive us our sins:
and let us not do anything that displeases you.
And in order that we may forgive,
you make yourself an example to us
through your great goodness;
so that we can all escape from the cruel enemy.
Heavenly Father, fount of all salvation,
keep us always from temptation,
from the satanic enemy and his onslaughts.
As we pray to you that we may
deserve your grace
and that we may devoutly enter
into your kingdom.
We beg you, King of Glory and our Lord,
to preserve us from sorrow:
and we have our minds fixed on thee,
with head lowered.
Amen.

THE **Kelvedon**
singer present

**Celebrating
Mr Haydn**

**The Creation (Excerpts)
The 'Nelson' Mass**

**Directed by Christopher Phelps
Accompanied by David Mitchell**

**St Mary's Church, Kelvedon
Saturday 29th March 7pm**





Marking the centenary of the First World War

Benjamin Britten

WAR

REQUIEM



Wilfred Owen

Snape Maltings Concert Hall

Saturday 3 May 2014 7pm

The University of Essex Choir

Canterbury Choral Society Youth Choir

Alwyn Mellor soprano

Benjamin Hulett tenor

Benjamin Appl bass

Essex Sinfonia

Conductor Richard Cooke



Tickets: £24, £20, £16, £12 (students £8 on £12 seats) from Aldeburgh Box Office (01728687110) or online at <https://tickets.aldeburgh.co.uk/online/> email tickets@universityofessexchoir.org or telephone us (01206 820813)



COLCHESTER
CHAMBER
CHOIR

Director
RODERICK EARLE

SACRED
AND
PROFANE

European choral music
including
Allegri's Miserere
& Stanford's The Bluebird

Saturday 21st June 3pm
St Barnabas' Church, Alphamstone

Saturday 21st June 7pm
St John the Baptist Church,
Finchingfield

Sunday 22nd June 7.30pm
St John the Baptist Church,
Chrishall

Sunday 29th June 2.30pm
St Leonards Church, Lexden

Sunday 29th June 6.30pm
St Peter's Church, Boxted

for more information visit
www.colchesterchamberchoir.org

Help a young person sing with Colchester Chamber Choir!

It has always been the choir's aim to encourage young people to join us and learn the delights of choral singing and performing, so we offer subsidised fees for all full time students and provide travel and other expenses where needed. This year, we are proud to have nine young people singing with us – nearly a third of our number. Helped by their experiences with the choir, several have gained places to study music at higher level and will shortly be leaving us. We now need to attract more young people to take their places.

You can help to make this possible by sponsoring a young singer. Just £150 would cover fees and expenses for a whole season, or £50 for a single concert series.

If you would be interested in supporting a young person to sing with the choir, or helping the choir in other ways such as sponsoring young professional musicians to accompany us or placing an advertisement in future programmes, please contact Choir Chairman Amrit Nasta on 01206 393293 or email chair@colchesterchamberchoir.org.



Of course we would also be very pleased to hear from any young people interested in joining the choir. Please email our musical director at roderick.earle1@ntlworld.com. You can find out more about experiences of young people singing with the choir on our website www.colchesterchamberchoir.org.



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