

Concert Calendar 2012-2013

hertfordshire chorus



david
temple
musical director



www.hertfordshirechorus.org.uk

Saturday 4 February 2012

St Albans Abbey



Durufle **Requiem**

Allegri **Miserere**

Widor **Toccata**

Kodaly **Missa Brevis**

Gabrieli **Jubilate Deo**

- Charles Andrews organ
- David Temple conducting

Durufle's beautiful and melodic *Requiem* is his best-known work, firmly rooted in Gregorian chant. The haunting pure tones of Allegri's *Miserere* are unique - instantly recognisable even if you know little sacred music. A total contrast but equally familiar is Widor's world-famous *Toccata for Organ* from the last movement of his powerful *5th Symphony for Organ* - always popular as a wedding recessional. Kodaly's *Missa Brevis* was originally written as an organ mass and later rearranged as a *missa brevis* for organ and mixed choir. The first performance was in the Budapest Opera House cloakrooms during the siege of Budapest in 1944/45 - hopefully our performance will be against a less dramatic backdrop! Gabrieli's *Jubilate Deo* (Psalm 99:1-4) blends flawless imitative counterpoint with splendid antiphonal effects - and the Abbey is the perfect place to hear this seventeenth-century miniature masterpiece.

St Albans Abbey, Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 1BY. 7:30pm
 £25, £20, £15, restricted view £7.50 (Jobseeker/student/schoolchild £5)

Saturday 5 May 2012

The Sage Gateshead



Mozart **Requiem**

Will Todd **Ode to a Nightingale**

Mendelssohn **Psalm 42**

- Katherine Watson, Kitty Whately, Joshua Ellicott, Graeme Danby soloists
- English Philharmonic Orchestra
- David Temple conducting

Mozart's *Requiem* was composed in Vienna in 1791, during the last year of the composer's life. It was Mozart's last composition and is one of his most popular and respected works. Will Todd's setting of *Ode to a Nightingale* was commissioned by Hertfordshire Chorus and premiered in 2011. Will Todd: "There are soft harmonies and more urgent ones. Quiet reflective moments and massive climactic gestures. The solo violin weaves in and out of the choral textures like a muse, leading the music forward towards the central moment of the poem, 'now more than ever seems it rich to die'. There are big orchestral colours and very thin and eerie ones. Like the poem I have sought to use a rich harmonic and textural language." Mendelssohn's setting of Psalm 42 was one of his most popular choral works during his lifetime, and still has the same appeal today.

The Sage Gateshead, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear NE8 2JR. 7:30pm
 £25, £20, £15 (Senior citizen/student/schoolchild concessions)

Saturday 14 July 2012

St Mary's Church, Potters Bar



Britten **Missa Brevis**

Britten **Festival Te Deum**

Vaughan Williams **Mass in G Minor**
and works by J S Bach, Jonathan Dove & James McMillan

- Charles Andrews organ
- David Temple conducting

The most substantial work in this concert is the glorious *Mass in G Minor* by Vaughan Williams. With organ accompaniment, the choir will perform Britten's dramatic and emotional *Missa Brevis*, a beautiful piece for upper voices, and also his second setting of the great hymn of praise - his *Festival Te Deum*. As well as *Lobet den Herrn* by Bach, the choir will sing short pieces by two of the UK's leading contemporary composers. We enter Jonathan Dove's awesome soundworld of shimmering choral writing, sweeping vocal lines and lively organ accompaniment with his *Ecce Beatam Lucem*, and the tranquil world of *The Gallant Weaver* by James MacMillan, infused with Scottish flavour.

St Mary's Church, The Walk, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 1QQ. 7:30pm
 £15, (Senior citizen £12, jobseeker/student/schoolchild £5)

Saturday 20 October 2012

St Albans Abbey



Beethoven
Missa Solemnis

"A reading of such power and magnificence... on the strength of this performance there can be few to touch them."
The Organ, reviewing the last Hertfordshire Chorus performance of this work

- Naomi Harvey, Diana Moore, Joshua Ellicott, Graeme Danby soloists
- London Orchestra da Camera
- David Temple conducting

The score of *Missa Solemnis* opens with the words "From the heart - may it go to the heart". In this superb work Beethoven gives us awe-inspiring grandeur; sublime, glowing beauty; touching humility; intoxicating joy. He worked on *Missa Solemnis* for four and a half years. He knew the worth of what he had achieved, and described it as his greatest work. The *Missa Solemnis* has been said to encompass the architectural proportions of Bach, the poignancy of Mozart and the special inwardness of Beethoven. Hertfordshire Chorus is delighted to be performing this glorious music in St Albans Abbey - always a popular venue for us. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a very special evening!

St Albans Abbey, Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 1BY. 7:30pm
 £25, £20, £15, restricted view £7.50 (Jobseeker/student/schoolchild £5)

All concert information listed is correct as we go to press. Sometimes changes have to be made due to circumstances beyond our control. Please check the website for the latest information.

Sunday 16 December 2012

Haileybury College Chapel



Hertfordshire Chorus
Christmas Concert

- Charles Andrews chamber organ
- David Temple conducting

An evening of traditional seasonal music in the company of Hertfordshire Chorus. It is our privilege to sing glorious music in wonderful venues throughout the year, but we all have a special love of Christmas at Haileybury. It is always a magical concert, and this year promises to be no exception. As ever this will be a family concert with audience carols, and the Chorus will sing a range of Christmas music old and new. Please note the early start time of this concert.

Haileybury College Chapel, Hertford Heath, St Albans SG13 7NU. 6:00pm
 £12 (Senior citizen £10, jobseeker/student/schoolchild £5)

Saturday 9 February 2013

St Albans Abbey



Mozart **Mass in C Minor**

Mendelssohn **Die Erste Walpurgisnacht**

- Soloists and orchestra to be confirmed
- David Temple conducting

Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* (the 'Great Mass') is far more ambitious and elaborate than even his magnificent *Requiem*. Although (like the *Requiem*) it was never completed, it is a wonderful work on the grandest scale, and considered by many scholars to be one of the greatest mass settings of all time. One of Mozart's loftiest and most sublime creations, this work is a real treat for all lovers of choral music. Mendelssohn's rousing and choral spectacle *Die Erste Walpurgisnacht* was hailed by Berlioz as a masterpiece of romanticism. A sort of musical *Midsummer Night's Dream*, the piece tells a story of Druid pagan rituals in the Harz mountains.

St Albans Abbey, Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 1BY. 7:30pm
 £25, £20, £15, restricted view £7.50 (Jobseeker/student/schoolchild £5)

BUY TICKETS

- Online: www.ticketsource.co.uk
- Email: tickets@hertfordshirechorus.org.uk
- Phone: Hertfordshire Chorus 24-hour Ticketline 0870 4580445



www.hertfordshirechorus.org.uk

“there can be few to touch them...”

■ “The finest performance of *The Kingdom* that I have ever heard, or can ever hope to hear.”

MARTIN BIRD, ELGAR SOCIETY

Elgar *The Kingdom*: St Albans Cathedral

■ “Astounding. Splendidly immediate and vivid. The Chorus was magnificent, as was the orchestra.”

BARRY COLLETT, ELGAR SOCIETY

Elgar *The Apostles*: St Albans Cathedral

■ “What an excellent evening. I thought the choir was on brilliant form. I was thrilled with the performance of *Ice*.”

ORLANDO GOUGH, COMPOSER

Orlando Gough *Ice*: Haileybury College

■ “A reading of real authority from David Temple and the Hertfordshire Chorus. ... the quality of their training and pacing obviously shows through.”

DR BRIAN HICK, THE ORGAN

Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*: St Albans Cathedral

■ “Really splendid!”

JOHN RUTTER, CBE

Will Todd *Mass In Blue*, Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem*: Barbican Hall

■ “A truly inspirational evening...The whole programme was a delight... Hertfordshire Chorus suggested to me last year at the Barbican, in a spectacular performance of the *Mass In Blue* they commissioned from Will Todd, that they can hold their own against any choir in the land. This year at the Royal Festival Hall my view was confirmed.”

HELEN WRIGHT, MUSICOMH

Holst *Hymn to Jesus*, Berlioz *Te Deum*, Tallis *Spem in Alium*: Royal Festival Hall

■ “The quality of singing was a joy...an unforgettable experience.”

HAROLD HUGHES, OBE, THE BERLIOZ SOCIETY

Berlioz *Grande Messe des Morts*: St Albans Cathedral

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If you are thinking of joining a choir and would like to know more about the great musical and social opportunities Hertfordshire Chorus offers, please go to the ‘Join Us’ page on our website or ring 01462 491647.

www.hertfordshirechorus.org.uk



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