

A personal welcome from Kevin

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

We are so pleased you are able to join us for this evening's performance which we hope you enjoy as much as we have in preparing for it. I would like to take a moment to share with you some of the highlights of our year which has been exciting, eventful and rewarding.

In October we were privileged to sing for the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire in the Chapel at Chatsworth House and later that month we travelled to Prague where we sang in a variety of venues and made friends with singers and instrumentalists alike. Other pre-Christmas events included a performance at Bamford in Derbyshire, carols in the courtyard at Renishaw Hall and joining with Sheffield Fellowship in their Christmas Cavalcade before concluding the Christmas season with our annual concert at St. Mark's, Broomhill.

Since then life has been equally exciting. In February we competed in the Mrs Sunderland Music Festival at Huddersfield where we were awarded three trophies, one of which was for the most outstanding individual choral performance. Following this we had the delight of meeting and working with the highly distinguished composer, Andrew Carter, as a result of a commission from a member of the choir and in April we thoroughly enjoyed hosting the Gabrieli Choir from Budapest, Hungary, with whom we shared a joint concert. Following this we sang for the Lord Mayor of Dronfield before returning to Bamford for a very moving charity concert. Which brings us to this evening!

We commence with Renaissance polyphony before embarking on a musical tour of sacred Europe which starts and finishes in England and visits the Czech Republic, France and Russia. The second half of the concert commences with the result of our collaboration with Andrew Carter, namely the world premiere of *The Cloths of Heaven*, following which we offer for your consumption an exciting song cycle devoted to food by the hugely talented Bob Chilcott, one of the original King's Singers. We then dip into the rich seam of folk music by visiting a selection of fairgrounds before finishing with a variety of toe-tappers.

And if all that wasn't enough, we also welcome the very gifted performer Kris Garfitt.

And finally, a request if I may be so bold. Please do bear in mind that although we commence with sacred music, it is a concert performance so we would be very pleased to receive some applause after the opening motet!

Thank you so much for supporting us. We do very much hope you enjoy this evening's performance and look forward to seeing you again.

Kevin Haighton, Musical Director



Andrew Carter

Andrew Carter's music is performed worldwide. As composer, guest conductor and workshop leader he has travelled extensively in the US, Antipodes and Europe. A twenty-five year association with Oxford University Press has established his reputation as a writer both of choral miniatures and larger scale concert works for chorus and orchestra. A particular honour was the invitation to write *Missa Sancti Pauli* for the 1997 tercentenary celebrations of St Paul's Cathedral. Over the years several of Andrew's carols have

been included in the renowned Christmas Eve broadcast from King's College Chapel, Cambridge. *Andrew Carter's Christmas Carols*, conducted by the composer, was named among the 'best ever' Christmas CDs in the BBC Music Magazine (Nov, 2007). For his seventieth birthday Banks Music Publications are bringing out a book of twelve Andrew Carter Christmas Carols, three new ones and some of his retrospective personal favourites.

Born in Leicester, Andrew studied music at Leeds University before settling in York. During his time as a bass songman at York Minster, he founded the Chapter House Choir which he conducted for seventeen years and for whom he penned many arrangements.

About tonight's world premiere Andrew writes: "What a joy it was to set this fabulous W B Yeats poem. I studied Yeats fifty years ago at Leeds University, never thinking then that one day I would set his poetry to music. As with any text, the composer tries to amplify the meaning of the words without obscuring them. In matching the music to such a perfect miniature like *Cloths of Heaven*, less is invariably more. Of course, the composer and poet alike are at the mercy of the performers, but having attended a rehearsal I can promise you that there is no choir in the world who can better the Abbeydale Singers' interpretation."



Kris Garfitt

Kris is 17 years old. He started playing the piano at the age of 5. In more recent years he developed his musical interest and expanded to the brass section. At the age of 11 he won a music scholarship and entry to Mount St Mary's College. Recently he has achieved a distinction at grade 8 on both Euphonium and Trombone with marks of 142 and 139. Currently he is working towards grade 8 on piano.

Kris has competed regularly in many music festivals and has won many different trophies for his performances. He plays first trombone in the City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra (CSYO).

In the future Kris is hoping to study for a degree in music and follow a music career.

Kris' accompanist tonight is George Parsons.

Programme

O quam gloriosum Tomás Luis de Victoria
Missa O quam gloriosum est regnum Tomás Luis de Victoria

Kris Garfitt

Sonata - Euphonium Benedetto Marcello

Unto Thee, O Lord will I lift up my soul

Aidan Cruttenden

Veni, sancte Spiritus Antonín Tučapsky

Hymne à la Vierge Pierre Villette

Ave Maria Sergei Rachmaninoff

God be in my head Walford Davies

Interval

The cloths of heaven Andrew Carter

Fragments from his dish

Bob Chilcott

Grace The pie

Harvest in my croft Christmas Day – 1666 Whines from the wood

Kris Garfitt

Dances with bears – Trombone

Czardas – Euphonium

Jim Parker

Vittorio Monti

Strawberry fair arr. Donald James

She moved through the fair arr. Darryl Runswick

Yarmouth fair arr. Peter Warlock

Italian salad Richard Genée, arr. C.E. Rowley

Summertime George & Ira Gershwin, Dubose & Dorothy Heyward

arr. Roderick Williams

Country dances arr. Ward Swingle

During the interval complimentary refreshments will be served from the back of the church.

O Quam Gloriosum

O how glorious is the kingdom in which all the saints rejoice with Christ! Clothed in white robes, they follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

Missa O Quam Gloriosum est Regnum (Mass for four voices)

1. Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

2. Gloria

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;

thou only art most high, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

3. Credo

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son of God,

Begotten of his Father before all worlds.

God of God, light of light, Very God of very God.

Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father:

by whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven.

And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary: and was made man.

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate: suffered, and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the scriptures.

And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father

And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead:

His kingdom shall have no end.

And (I believe in) the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life:

Who proceedeth from the Father and Son.

Who with the Father and Son together is worshipped and glorified:

Who spake by the Prophets.

And in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

4. Sanctus

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

5. Benedictus

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

6. Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Veni, sancte Spiritus

Come, O holy Breathe Divine! And from heaven send forth to shine That light's ray which is Thine Own.

Come, Thou Father of the poor! Come of gifts Thou rich bestower! Come, Thou Light in all hearts shown.

Thou of all Consolers best!
Thou of souls the sweetest Guest!
Thou their sweet Refreshment too.

Thou to those in toil art Rest! Shelter to the heat-opprest! Thou, 'mid tears, their Solace true!

O most blest Light! we implore, Fill Thou, in their inmost core, Hearts that place their faith in Thee. Unless by They Godheads' call, Naught in man exists at all, Naught is sinless found to be.

Wash Thou what is stained with sin; Water what is dry within; Heal Thou what is wounded sore.

Bend Thou what is stiff of will; Warm Thou what will cold is chill; Guide Thou what has strayed before.

To They faithful who remain Trustful in Thee, do Thou deign Of They sevenfold grace to give.

Grant them virtue's merit great; Grant salvation's final state; Grant them joys that ever live.

Hymne à la Vierge – Hymn to the Virgin (Words by Roland Bouhéret)

O fairest Virgin Mary, Your soul finds in the Lord perfect love; He clothes you in robes of grace Like a bride attired with jewels. Alleluia. I will sing thy praise, O Lord, For thou hast looked after me, and covered me with the veil of innocence. You were born before the hills,
O wisdom of the Lord, Gate of Redemption,
Blessed be he who walks in your steps
And tunes his heart to the voice of your counsels.
Alleluia. I will sing thy praise, O Lord,
For thou hast made me, before dawn,
For thou has made me precede the gushing forth of springs.

Before the stars you were there, Mother of the Creator, In the highest Heaven; When God was setting the limits of the world you shared his love as you laboured with him. Alleluia, O fairest Virgin Mary.

Ave Maria

Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee,
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now, and in
the hour of our death.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 19 September – Notre Dame Chapel - in aid of the restoration of the Shepherd Wheel, Mayfield Valley

Saturday 12 December – St Mark's Church, Broomhill, Sheffield Christmas concert

If you would like to be added to our mailing list then please send an email to the Choir Secretary, or complete one of the forms contained within this programme and hand it to one of the choir.

The Abbeydale Singers are available to sing at special events of all kinds such as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, conferences and dinners.

Contact our Secretary for further information.

The Abbeydale Singers

Musical Director: Kevin Haighton

Sopranos: Naomi Baynes, Ann Charlett-Day, Michelle Hayward,

Kirsty Parsons, Hilary Pye, Aparna Ravi,

Sarah Rooper, Anna Rutherford, Rebecca Smith,

Julia Stockton, Pat Turner

Contraltos: Helen Beach, Helen Cowen, Sue Haighton,

Rachel Kitt, Rachael Nyarko, Linda Wareham

Tenors: Nick Baynes, Peter King, Chris Nicholson

Basses: Nigel Boucher, Michael Hannon,

Steve Holden, Matthew Lovell, Robert Wareham

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Programme cover art by Robert Wareham.

With special thanks to:

