

London Concert Choir has been a significant part of the London music scene since its formation as the Brompton Choral Society in 1960. Now with more than 100 singers, the choir regularly performs in major London concert halls, cathedrals and churches and has given concerts in France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and most recently Ireland.

The choir has a wide and varied repertoire. Over the last three years concerts have included Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*, and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* – all with the period instrumental ensemble Counterpoint. The choir has also sung rarely-heard unaccompanied settings of the Russian Orthodox liturgy by both Gretchaninov and Tchaikovsky.

With the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra the choir has performed Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Dvorak's *Stabat Mater* to capacity audiences in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and welcomed the Year of the Sea 2005 with Vaughan Williams' majestic *Sea Symphony* in the Royal Festival Hall.

Mark Forkgen has been Music Director of London Concert Choir since 1996. He is Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of Kokoro, the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's contemporary music group, Music Director of the chamber choir Canticum and Ealing Youth Orchestra, and conductor of Dorset Youth Orchestra. Mark has also worked as guest conductor with a number of leading British orchestras and has given the first performances of more than ninety works.

Benjamin Bayl is Principal Accompanist of London Concert Choir. Ben also conducts The Orchestra of the City and the Saraband Consort. As an organist and harpsichordist he broadcasts regularly on BBC Radio 3. Ben was Organ Scholar at King's College, Cambridge, before studying at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the National Opera Studio.



Join Us!

London Concert Choir provides a friendly, stimulating and enjoyable experience for its members and constantly aims to stretch its abilities and to extend its repertoire and range of styles.

If you would like to join the choir, come to a rehearsal and sing with us for a few weeks before an informal audition.

Rehearsals take place on Monday evenings from 7.15pm to 9.30pm at St Stephen's Church Hall, Emperor's Gate, London SW7 (very close to Gloucester Road underground station).

Contact for choir membership:
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Mailing List

If you would like advance information about our concerts, join the choir's free Mailing List:

mailinglist@london-concert-choir.org.uk

London Concert Choir is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England. Registered number 3220578, registered charity number 1057242.

All information in this season guide was correct at the time of going to print. London Concert Choir reserves the right to make alterations to the season. ©2005 London Concert Choir

London Concert Choir

Music Director: Mark Forkgen

Season 2005-06

www.london-concert-choir.org.uk

Wednesday 28 September 7.30pm
**Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Saint Sophia,
Moscow Road, W2**

'Consider the Lilies...'

...a concert for the wildlife of Chios

**Tchaikovsky - Nine Sacred Choruses
and motets by Gabrieli, Palestrina, Bruckner,
Rachmaninov and Gorecki**

In Tchaikovsky's glorious settings of texts from the Orthodox Liturgy, the severe style of Russian church music blends with a Western approach to melody and harmony. The concert is in aid of Chios Nature, set up to help conserve the diverse wildlife on the island.

Tickets £20 available from
07900 493 437 or 07789 873 359
and on the door

Thursday 6 October 7.30pm
Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, SW7
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra presents
Here Come the Choral Classics

London Concert Choir
Royal Choral Society
Conductor Nicholas Cleobury
Tickets £40, £38, £30, £20, £15, £10, £5
Box Office (020) 7589 8212

Thursday 20 October 7.45pm
Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, SW1
Fauré, Vierne and Janáček
Fauré - Requiem
Vierne - Messe Solennelle
Janáček - Otčenáš
with Benjamin Bayl, Organ

Vierne's *Mass* is a work of great contrasts, in which the organ plays a major role (the composer was organist of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris from 1900 to 1937). Janáček's *Otčenáš*, 'Our Father', is a sensitive setting of the Lord's Prayer in Czech, accompanied by organ and harp. Fauré's *Requiem* is intimate in scale, in deliberate contrast to earlier, more dramatic settings.

Tickets £16, £12, £5
LCC Box Office (020) 7937 7540

Autumn 2005



Saturday 3 December 7.30pm
**St Martin-in-the-Fields,
Trafalgar Square, WC2**
Advent Carols by Candlelight

with Benjamin Bayl, Organ

Tickets £20, £16, £12, £9, £6
Box Office (020) 7839 8362

Thursday 15 December 8.00pm
Leatherhead Parish Church
Carols for SeeAbility

with Benjamin Bayl, Organ

Tickets £15, £10
Box Office (01372) 755016

Wednesday 21 December 7.30pm
Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, SW1
The Spirit of Christmas

Purcell/Britten - Chacony
Corelli - Christmas Concerto
Britten - A Ceremony of Carols
Finzi - In Terra Pax
Vivaldi - Gloria

with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Britten's radiant interpretation of selected Christmas carols contrasts with Vivaldi's sublime *Gloria*. Britten also pays homage to Purcell, whose Italian contemporary Corelli provides music "made for Christmas Night". Finzi, in setting lines by Robert Bridges and St Luke, magically seeks peace on Earth.

Tickets £35, £28, £20, £10
Box Office (020) 7730 4500

Dvorák - Stabat Mater July 2004

The singing was ample and fiery at those moments where Dvorák lets rip with a full-throated outburst, yet well controlled and sensitive to the general atmosphere of measured, meditative mourning.

The Daily Telegraph

Monday 20 February 2006, 7.30pm
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2
American Night

Gershwin - Overture *Girl Crazy*
**Tippett - Spirituals from
*A Child of Our Time***

**Gershwin, arr. Litton -
Porgy and Bess concert suite**

with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
and Canticum

Andrew Litton's arrangement is a condensed concert version containing all the best-loved solos and choruses from Gershwin's 'American folk opera'. The overture to the hit musical *Girl Crazy* features the songs 'I Got Rhythm' and 'But Not for Me'. Tippett inserted five familiar spirituals into his oratorio to act as chorales, including 'Steal Away' and 'Deep River'.

Tickets £26, £22, £18, £13, £7
Box Office (020) 7638 8891

Thursday 30 March 7.45pm
Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, SW1
Music and Readings for Passiontide

with Benjamin Bayl, Organ

The concert includes **Mendelssohn's *Hear My Prayer***, music by **Bruckner** and **Lotti** and hymns for all to sing.

Tickets £16, £12, £5
LCC Box Office (020) 7937 7540

Monday 10 July 7.45pm
Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, SW1
Mozart - C minor Mass

with period instrumental ensemble Counterpoint

Regarded as one of Mozart's church music masterpieces, the *C minor Mass* was written as a thanksgiving for his marriage and a showpiece for the talents of his wife, the soprano Constanze Weber. No complete manuscript of the work exists: this is a recent reconstruction by a team led by Prof. Philip Wilby of Leeds University.

Tickets £20, £16, £12
Box Office (020) 7730 4500

Christmas 2005



Spring/Summer 2006

