

The
ELYSIANS@30

Patron: Sir James MacMillan

Director: Sam Laughton



Masters of the Baroque

St James's Piccadilly
197 Piccadilly, London, W1J 9LL

7.30pm, Saturday 16 July 2016

Sacred music in the Baroque period was performed on a grand scale, and we present superb examples of the art from France, Germany, England, and Italy. In Versailles, Du Mont and his more famous successor Lully composed 'Grands Motets' for the French court in the 17th century. Telemann made his only visit to Paris from Germany in 1737 and composed his own 'Grand Motet'. Handel composed anthems for Royal and princely occasions in England, and Vivaldi wrote for Vespers in Venice.

Let thy hand be strengthened

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Psalm 89 vv. 13-14

Composed for the coronation of George II in Westminster Abbey on 11 October 1727.

Let thy hand be strengthened, and thy right hand be exalted.
Let justice and judgment be the preparation of thy seat! Let mercy and truth go before thy face.
Alleluia.

Confitebimur tibi

Henry du Mont (1610-1684)

Psalm 75

Confitebimur tibi, Deus, confitebimur,
et invocabimus nomen tuum;
narrabimus mirabilia tua.

Cum accepero tempus, ego iustitias
iudicabo.

Liquefacta est terra et omnes qui
habitavit in ea, ego confirmavi
columnas eius.

Dixi iniquis: Nolite inique agere, et
delinquentibus: Nolite exaltare cornu.
Nolite extollere in altum cornu
vestrum; nolite loqui adversus Deum
iniquitatem.

Quia neque ab oriente, neque ab
occidente, neque a desertis montibus.
Quoniam Deus iudex est; hunc
humiliat, et hunc exaltat:

Quia calix in manu Domini vini meri,
plenus mixto. Et inclinavit ex hoc in
hoc, verumtamen faex eius non est
exinanita; bibent omnes peccatores
terrae.

Ego autem adnuntiabo in saeculum;
cantabo Deo Iacob.

Et omnia cornua peccatorum
confringam; et exaltabuntur cornua
iusti.

*Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto thee
do we give thanks: for that thy name is near thy
wondrous works declare.*

*When I shall receive the congregation I will
judge uprightly.*

*The earth and all the inhabitants thereof
are dissolved: I bear up the pillars
of it.*

*I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to
the wicked, Lift not up the horn:*

*Lift not up your horn on
high: speak not with a stiff
neck.*

*For promotion cometh neither from the east,
nor from the west, nor from the south.*

*But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and
setteth up another.*

*For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and
the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he
poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof,
all the wicked of the earth shall wring them
out, and drink them.*

*But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to
the God of Jacob.*

*All the horns of the wicked also will I
cut off; but the horns of the righteous shall be
exalted.*

Deus, iudicium tuum

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

Psalm 72 vv. 1-13, 18-19

First performed on 25 March 1738 as part of the 'Concerts spirituels' in the Tuileries, Paris

Chorus

Deus, iudicium tuum regi da, et
justitiam tuam filio regis, iudicare
populum tuum in iustitia, et pauperes
tuos in iudicio.

*Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy
righteousness unto the king's son. He shall
judge thy people with righteousness, and thy
poor with judgment.*

Solo (*Sally de Frates*)

Suscipiant montes pacem populo, et
colles justitiam. Iudicabit pauperes
populi, et salvos faciet filios pauperum,
et humiliabit calumniatorem.

*The mountains shall bring peace to the people,
and the little hills, by righteousness. He shall
judge the poor of the people, he shall save the
children of the needy, and shall break in pieces
the oppressor.*

Solo (*Andy Chan*)

Et permanebit cum sole, et ante lunam,
generationes generationem.

*They shall fear thee as long as the sun and
moon endure, throughout all generations.*

Solo (*John Hayward*)

Descendet sicut pluvia in vellus, et
sicut stillicidia stillantia super terram.
Orietur in diebus ejus justitia et
abundantia pacis, donec auferatur
luna.

*He shall come down like rain upon the mown
grass: as showers that water the earth. In his
days shall the righteous flourish; and
abundance of peace so long as the moon
endureth.*

Chorus/solos (*Harriet Gritton, Alice Ruffle, Francesca Trundle, David Benedict*)

Et dominabitur a mari usque ad mare,
et a flumine usque ad terminos orbis
terrarum.

*He shall have dominion also from sea to sea,
and from the river unto the ends of the earth.*

Solo (*Andrew Daws*)

Coram illo procident Aethiopes, et
inimici ejus terram lingent.

*They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow
before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.*

Solo (*Mark Brafield*)

Reges Tharsis et insulae munera
offerent, reges Arabum et Saba dona
adducent.

*The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall
bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba
shall offer gifts.*

Solo (*Sally de Frates*)

Et adorabunt eum omnes reges terrae,
omnes gentes servient ei; quia
liberabit pauperem a potente, et

*Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all
nations shall serve him. For he shall deliver the
needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him*

pauperem cui non erat adiutor.

that hath no helper.

Duet (*Soo-Lin Lui, Penny Chalmers*)

Parcet pauperi et inopi, et animas
pauperum salvas faciet.

*He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall
save the souls of the needy.*

Chorus

Benedictus Dominus, Deus, Deus Israel,
quia fecit mirabilia solus; et
benedictum nomen majestatis ejus in
aeternum et replebitur majestate ejus
omnis terra. Amen.

*Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed
be his glorious name for ever: and
let the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen.*

INTERVAL

Caffè Nero is open during the interval

Lauda Jerusalem

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Psalm 147

*Solos: Jessica Buchanan-Barrow, Charlotte
Dodson*

Chorus

Lauda Jerusalem Dominum. Lauda
Deum tuum Sion.

*Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem: praise thy God,
O Sion.*

Solos

Quoniam confortavit seras portarum
tuarum et benedixit filiis tuis in te.
Qui posuit fines tuos pacem et adipe
frumenti satiat te.

*For he hath made fast the bars of thy gates:
and hath blessed thy children within thee.
He maketh peace in thy borders: and filleth
thee with the flour of wheat.*

Chorus

Qui emittit eloquium suum terrae,
velociter currit sermo eius.

*He sendeth forth his commandment upon
earth: and his word runneth very swiftly.*

Solos

Qui dat nivem sicut lanam; nebulam
sicut cinerem spargit.
Mittit crystallum suum sicut buccellas,
ante faciem frigoris eius quis
sustinebit?

*He giveth snow like wool: and scattereth the
hoar-frost like ashes.
He casteth forth his ice like morsels:
who is able to abide his
frost?*

Chorus

Emittet verbum suum et liquefaciet ea,

He sendeth out his word, and melteth them: he

flabit spiritus eius et fluent aquae.

bloweth with his wind, and the waters flow.

Solos

Qui annuntiat verbum suum Jacob,
iustitias et iudicia sua Israel.
Non fecit taliter omni nationi, et iudicia
sua non manifestavit eis.

*He sheweth his word unto Jacob: his statutes
and ordinances unto Israel.
He hath not dealt so with any nation: neither
have the heathen knowledge of his laws.*

Chorus

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et
semper et in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to
the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is
now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.*

Notus in Judaea

Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687)

Psalm 76

Solos: Ruth Ilton, John Hayward, Mike Chambers

Notus in Judaea Deus; in Israel
magnum nomen eius.
Et factus est in pace locus eius, et
habitatio eius in Sion.
Ibi confregit potentias arcuum, scutum,
gladium, et bellum.
Illuminans tu mirabiliter de montibus
aeternis; turbati sunt omnes
insipientes corde.
Dormierunt somnum suum, et nihil
invenerunt omnes viri divitiarum
manibus suis.
Ab increpatione tua, Deus Jacob,
dormitaverunt qui ascenderunt equos.
Tu terribilis es; et quis resistet tibi? ex
tunc ira tua.
De caelo auditum fecisti iudicium terra
tremuit et quievit cum exurgeret in
iudicium Deus, ut salvos faceret omnes
mansuetos terrae.
Quoniam cogitatio hominis
confitebitur tibi, et reliquiae
cogitationis diem festum agent tibi.
Vovete et reddite Domino Deo vestro,
omnes qui in circuitu eius affertis
munera: terribili, et ei qui aufert
spiritum principum: terribili apud
reges terrae.

*In Jewry is God known: his Name is great in
Israel.
At Salem is his tabernacle: and his dwelling in
Sion.
There brake he the arrows of the bow: the
shield, the sword, and the battle.
Thou art of more honour and might:
than the hills of the
robbers.
The proud are robbed, they have slept their
sleep: and all the men whose hands were
mighty have found nothing.
At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob: both the chariot
and horse are fallen.
Thou, even thou art to be feared: and who may
stand in thy sight when thou art angry?
Thou didst cause thy judgement to be heard
from heaven: the earth trembled, and was still;
When God arose to judgement: and to help all
the meek upon earth.
The fierceness of man shall turn to thy
praise: and the fierceness of them shalt thou
refrain.
Promise unto the Lord your God, and keep it, all
ye that are round about him: bring presents
unto him that ought to be feared. He shall
refrain the spirit of princes: and is wonderful
among the kings of the earth.*

In the Lord put I my trust

George Frideric Handel

Words from Psalms 9, 11, 12 & 13

Solo: Stephen Cviic

Chorus

In the Lord I put my trust: how say you then to my soul she shall flee as a bird unto the hill?

Solo

God is a constant sure defence against oppressing rage,
As troubles rise, his needful aids in our behalf engage.

Chorus

Behold, The wicked bend their bow, and ready fix their dart,
Lurking in ambush to destroy the man of upright heart.

Solo

But God, who hears the suffering poor, and their oppression knows,
Will soon arise and give them rest, in spite of all their foes.

Chorus

Snares, fire and brimstone on their heads shall in one tempest show'r:
This dreadful mixture his revenge into their cup shall pour.

Solo

The righteous Lord will righteous deeds with signal favour grace,
And to the upright man disclose the brightness of his face.

Chorus

Then shall my song, with praise inspir'd, to thee my God ascend,
Who to thy servant in distress such bounty didst extend.

THE ELYSIAN SINGERS

Jessica Lichtenstein
Penny Chalmers
Jessica Buchanan-Barrow
Sally de Frates
Harriet Gritton
Charlotte Dodson
Soo-Lin Lui
Eleanor Wolfe
Alice Ruffle

Jo Dew-Jones
Anne Webster
Jessica Marais
Ruth Ilton
Francesca Trundle
Stephen Cviic
Martin Hurst
Richard Warren
John Hayward

Stephen Jones
Thomas LeBrocq
Andrew Daws
Christopher Whitehouse
Naveen Rajendran
Mark Brafield
David Benedict
Andy Chan
Mike Chambers

THE ELYSIAN PLAYERS

Flutes

Caroline Ardron
Helen Wills

Oboe

Ben Simpson

Bassoon

David Burles

Violins/violas

Ellen Gallagher
Stephen Lustig
Judith Webster

Anne Webster

Alice Ruffle

Cellos

Alison Atkinson
Laura Taylor

Double bass

Sophie Preston

Organ

Ben Driver

A former organ scholar at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he read music, **Sam Laughton** now juggles dual careers as a barrister and musician. He is musical director of The Elysian Singers, with whom he has made frequent appearances on radio and television, and made a number of acclaimed commercial recordings. He is also the Director of the Craswall Players, the Chiltern Camerata, the Trinity Camerata and the Speen Festival. He is in demand as a guest conductor, working with such orchestras as the Oxford Sinfonia, Kensington Chamber Orchestra, Kew Sinfonia, Orchestra of the City, Crendon Chamber Orchestra and Trinity Camerata. As a keyboard player he has also worked with the groups as varied as Oxford Philomusica, the Joyful Company of Singers, English National Opera and Garsington Opera.

The Elysian Singers of London is one of the UK's leading chamber choirs. Known for its adventurous programming, the choir performs in and around London and has recorded many widely acclaimed CDs. The Elysians pride themselves on combining high performance standards with a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Founded in 1986 by Matthew Greenall, the group quickly developed an interest in contemporary music, giving world premières by a number of composers including John Tavener who, from 2002 until his recent death, was the choir's Patron. Matthew was succeeded as music director by Sam Laughton in 2000. Recent world premières include a performance of Sir John Tavener's *Monument to Beethoven* at the Royal Festival Hall (2014), John Habron's *Salve Regina* (2008), and *Exile Lamentations* (2009) a commission by Paul Stanhope. The choir regularly performs Baroque, Romantic and 20th Century masterpieces at venues such as St. Martin-in-the-Fields and St. John's Smith Square, and participates in festivals across the country. In January 2012 the choir sang in the Royal Festival Hall foyer as part of the Southbank's *Festival of Death*. In 2004 the Elysians released a CD of music by James MacMillan, 'Cantos Sagrados', which received a 5-star rating from BBC Music Magazine. Reviewing 'Songs of the Isles', the choir's 2009 Bantock release, the same publication spoke of the Elysians' 'young, fresh-toned voices, brightly attentive to text'. TV and radio highlights include the first broadcast performances of Henryk Górecki's *Miserere* and *Three Lullabies* on Radio 3, appearances with Lesley Garrett, and the finals of the Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition. The choir performed live on Radio 3's 'In Tune' in 2011, introducing the première of its latest commission, *Timepieces* by Ian Stephens, and their CD, 'The Spirit of Christmas Present', released on Meridian. The Elysian Singers' latest CD 'Timepieces' was released on Meridian in 2014 and presents works that the choir has commissioned or premiered. In 2015 the upper voices of the choir made their debut performance at the BBC Proms, providing the offstage chorus for Holst's *The Planets* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. We are delighted that Sir James MacMillan has recently agreed to become the choir's patron.

Thanks to the choir's friends and benefactors, including Mr & Mrs P Mynors and Mrs C Cviic. The Elysian Singers are members of Making Music.



If you would like to join the Elysian Singers' mailing list, please write to
Richard Warren, 20 Downs Road, Beckenham BR3 5JY or email mailinglist@elysiansingers.com

www.elysiansingers.com



The Elysian Singers have been singing for 30 years, and are celebrating with a whole year of song! Through ten concerts we are showcasing the enormous variety of styles, periods and genres that we love to perform: and to link the whole programme together, have undertaken to include at least one setting from each of the 150 Psalms. After all, the Psalms are the single most comprehensive source of sung poetry in existence, and one which has been drawn on by almost every composer of the last 500 years. From Russia to America, and from Estonia to Italy; in languages from Hebrew to Hungarian and from Finnish to French; by composers from Byrd to Bernstein, and from Monteverdi to MacMillan; and from unaccompanied miniatures to symphonic masterworks: here is music to uplift, challenge, inspire and celebrate!

Choral Masterpieces of Germany and Austria

Roman River Festival

3.00 pm Sunday 25

September

Moot Hall, Colchester Town Hall, Colchester

From the 17th-century Schütz to the 19th-century Bruckner, the German-speaking lands produced some of the most impressive and enduring psalm settings in the repertoire: including such well-known pieces as Mozart's 'Laudate Dominum' but also some rarities such as a Hebrew setting by Schubert. The crowning glory is Bach's motet 'Singet dem Herrn' but he is well supported by fellow Leipzigers Heinrich Schein and Felix Mendelssohn.

From East to West

7.30pm Saturday 15 October

St James's Church, 197

Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL

We spread our wings to encompass Orthodox, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish psalm settings, on a journey from Finland to Spain, via Lithuania, Russia, Hungary, Italy and France. Highlights include movements from the 'All-Night Vigil' by Rachmaninoff and Rautavaara, Monteverdi's 'Beatus Vir' and the unique Hebrew settings by his colleague Salomone Rossi. And we are proud to give the first performances of the winning entries from our Composition Competition.

The Atlantic Connection

7.30pm Saturday 26

November

St Paul's, Knightsbridge, 32a Wilton Place, London, SW1X 8SH

We begin with some wonderful 17th- and 18th-century English settings by William Lawes, Maurice Greene and William Boyce, then trace the tradition of metrical psalms as it crossed to America. Music by Charles Ives, Ned Rorem and Eli Tamar represent the more sophisticated American repertoire, before we return to two English masterpieces by Samuel Wesley ('In exitu Israel') and Jonathan Harvey ('I love the Lord').