

The Chiltern Choir

The Chiltern Choir is based in Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, and has around 70 members from Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, Watford, and the wider Chilterns area.

We perform 3-4 concerts a year in well-known local venues: typically, one is a large-scale work with orchestra, with the others on a smaller scale. From time to time major concerts are performed in larger venues, such as St Albans Abbey, and we have participated directly in services in Norwich Cathedral and St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. We have enjoyed a number of UK and overseas trips, notably to Tewkesbury Abbey, Vienna & Slovakia, Dardilly, Honfleur, Amsterdam and Copenhagen.

Our music comes from a wide spectrum of the choral repertoire, from mainstream traditional music to less familiar contemporary works. As well as the traditional favourites by Bach, Mozart and Haydn, we have performed music such as Karl Jenkins' *Requiem* and Will Todd's *Mass in Blue*. We also enjoy performing music from other genres, including jazz and film music.



based in Chorleywood, Hertfordshire
Conductor: Michael Cayton
Accompanist: Anthony Pinel

Concert at St Chad's



22 July 2023

www.chilternchoir.org.uk

The Chiltern Choir is a Registered Charity, Reg. No. 284064



Welcome

A very warm welcome to you all. It's a great pleasure to be singing in St Chad's. We bring a variety of music to share with you, ranging from Anton Bruckner's atmospheric *Locus Iste* to Bob Chilcott's exciting *The Making of the Drum*.

We are pleased to be performing a movement from our conductor's own work, *Missa Beatae Virginis Mariae*, which he wrote for us. We gave its premiere performance in 2017.

John Rutter is perhaps best known for his Christmas music, but he is a prolific composer and arranger of choral music of all genres. *Panis Angelicus*, *Locus Iste* and *Cantique de Jean Racine* are from *European Sacred Music*, a hugely valuable collection of choral music edited by him and published in 1996. We are grateful to the late Tim Goodwin, whose legacy to the choir funded a set of books. We are also performing Rutter's *The Sprig of Thyme*.

If you enjoy our performance, we invite you contribute to our retiring collection.

Programme

Magnificat in C

Charles Villiers Stanford

This setting of the Magnificat by the Irish composer C V Stanford is a staple of many church choirs.

Panis Angelicus

César Franck arr John Rutter

Panis Angelicus is another work familiar to many church choirs and choral societies.

*Panis angelicus, fit panis hominum; Dat panis coelicus figuris terminum:
O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum, pauper, servus et humilis.*

Thus Angels' Bread is made the Bread of man today: the Living Bread from heaven with figures dost away:
O wondrous gift indeed! the poor and lowly may upon their Lord and Master feed.

Locus Iste

Anton Bruckner

Locus Iste is one of a set of motets by Anton Brucker.

Locus iste a Deo factus est, Inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est

This place was made by God, a priceless sacrament. It is irreproachable.

Cantique de Jean Racine

Gabriel Fauré

This is a religious text by the French playwright Jean Racine.

*Verbe égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance, Jour éternel de la terre et des cieux,
De la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence: Divin Sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux.*

*Répands sur nous le feu de ta grâce puissante; Que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix;
Dissipe le sommeil d'une âme languissante Qui la conduit à l'oubli de tes lois!*

*Ô Christ! sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle, Pour te bénir maintenant rassemblé;
Reçois les chants qu'il offre à ta gloire immortelle, Et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé.*

Word of the Highest, our only hope, Eternal day of earth and the heavens,
We break the silence of the peaceful night; Saviour Divine, cast your eyes upon us!

Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace, That all hell may flee at the sound of your voice;
Banish the slumber of a weary soul, That brings forgetfulness of your laws!

O Christ, look with favour upon your faithful people Now gathered here to praise you;
Receive their hymns offered to your immortal glory; May they go forth filled with your gifts.

Gloria from Missa Beatae Virginis Mariae Michael Cayton

Michael's "Missa" was commissioned by the choir's president, Patricia Parkes, and was performed in full for the first time by the Chiltern Choir in 2017.

The Making of the Drum

Bob Chilcott

This work is a setting of 5 poems by Edward Kamau Brathwaite, and takes us through the creation of a drum from obtaining the raw materials through to it speaking for the first time.

Steal Away

Traditional arr John Barnard

This spiritual has been arranged by many different composers. Our chamber choir, The Chiltern Singers, performed this version on our 2019 tour to Vienna and Slovakia.

The Sprig of Thyme

John Rutter

The Sprig of Thyme is a collection of 11 traditional songs from England, Scotland and Ireland.

Hallelujah

Leonard Cohen arr Roger Emerson

Leonard Cohen reputedly wrote over 100 verses for Hallelujah. This arrangement thankfully has only 3!