

# Magnificat!

Rutter:  
*Magnificat*

McDowall:  
*Ave Maris Stella*  
*Magnificat*

Saturday,  
November 18  
St Andrew's, Chorleywood



*The Chiltern Choir*

Patricia Parkes, President

Conductor: Michael Cayton

## Welcome from the Chair

It is lovely to welcome you to this, the first concert of the new season, at a new venue for the Chiltern Choir - we hope you enjoy the music and find it a convenient and accessible location.

During August, a group of singers enjoyed a weekend in Shrewsbury, singing a varied repertoire in concert at St Chad's. It was a pleasure to sing in St Chad's - a beautiful Grade I listed building with a distinctive round shape, making it a landmark on the edge of the town centre. The weather was dreadful on the day of the concert; it poured with rain, but our spirits were not dampened.

We are looking forward to the season ahead and hope you will join us for as many concerts as possible - please see the back of the programme or our website for all the dates. We also have an Open Workshop in February and are planning a collaborative workshop with Chorleywood Orchestra in April with a short concert afterwards.

Thank you, as ever, for joining us this evening.

Lyndsay Ward  
*Chair*

# Programme

Cecilia McDowall  
Cecilia McDowall

*Magnificat*  
*Ave Maris Stella*

*Interval*

John Rutter

*Magnificat*

## Programme Notes

**Cecilia MacDowall**      *Magnificat*

The Magnificat was commissioned by the Finchley Choral Society in 2003 to celebrate their centenary. It was premiered by them on 15 November 2003 at St Jude-on-the-Hill, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London. It is a vibrant and colourful work that showcases McDowall's skill in creating contrasting moods and textures.

***Text***

**Chorus**

Magnificat ánima mea Dóminum.

*My soul doth magnify the Lord.*

Et exultávit spíritus meus: in Deo salutári meo.

*And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior*

Quia respéxit humilitátem ancíllae suae:

*Because He hath regarded the humility of His slave:*

**Soprano Solo**

Ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent omnes generatiónes.

*For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed*

## **Chorus**

Quia fécit mihi mágna qui pótens est: et sánctum nómen eius.

*Because He that is mighty hath done great things to me; and holy is His name.*

## **Soprano Solo**

Et misericórdia eius in progénies et progénies timéntibus eum.

*And His mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear Him.*

## **Soloists Duet** (with Sarah Moreton)

Fécit poténtiam in bráchio suo: dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui.

*He hath shewed might in His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.*

## **Chorus**

Depósuit poténtes de sede: et exaltávit húmiles.

*He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble.*

Esuriéntes implévit bonis: et dívites dimísit inánes.

*He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away.*

Suscépit Ísrael púerum suum: recordátus misericórdiae suae.

*He hath received Israel His servant, being mindful of His mercy:  
Sicut locútus est ad patres nostros: Ábraham, et sémini eius in saecula.  
As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.*

Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto,

*Glory be the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculórum.  
Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever,  
Amen.*

Ave Maris Stella (Hail, Star of the Sea) is a choral work for soprano solo, mixed chorus and string orchestra, composed by Cecilia McDowall in 2001. It was commissioned by the Portsmouth Grammar School and premiered by the Portsmouth Camber Choir on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2001. The text of the work combines the ancient Latin hymn Ave Maris Stella, which praises the Virgin Mary as the star of the sea and the mother of God, with verses from Psalms 26 and 106, which express trust in God and describe the perils of those who go down to the sea in ships. The choice of text reflects the naval heritage of Portsmouth and the significance of Armistice Day, when the work was first performed.

***Text***

**Chorus**

Ave maris stella,

Dei Mater alma,

Atque semper Virgo,

Felix caeli porta.

*Hail, Star of the sea,*

*nourishing mother of God,*

*and ever a virgin,*

*auspicious gate of heaven.*

Solve vincla reis,

Profer lumen caecis

Mala nostra pelle,

Bona cuncta posce.

*Release the chains of the guilty,*

*bring light to the blind,  
take away our sins,  
For all blessings pray.*

### **Solo Recit**

Dominus illuminatio mea et salutare meum.

Dominus fortitudo vitae meae quem formidabo?

*The Lord is my light, and my salvation.*

*The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be  
afraid?*

### **Chorus**

Qui descendunt in mare navibus facientes opus in aquis multis

Ipsi viderunt opera Domini et mirabilia eius in profundo

Dixit et surrexit ventus tempestatis

Ascendunt in caelum et descendunt in abyssos

Clamabunt autem ad Dominum in tribulatione sua et de angustia  
educet eos

Statuet turbinem in tranquillitatem.

*They that go down to the sea in ships: and occupy their  
business in great waters;*

*These men see the works of the Lord: and his wonders in the deep.*

*For at his word the stormy wind ariseth.*

*They are carried up to the heaven, and down again to the deep.*

*So when they cry out unto the Lord in their trouble: he delivereth  
them out of their distress.*

*For he maketh the storm to cease.*

### **Solo Recit**

Dominus illuminatio mea et salutare meum

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

### **Chorus**

Vitam praesta puram,

Iter para tutum:

Ut videntes Jesum,

Semper collaetemur.

*Display a pure life,*

*prepare your way*

*till we find Jesus,*

*Joy for evermore.*

Sit laus Deo Patri,

Summo Christo decus,

Spiritui Sancto,

Tribus honor unus.

*Praise to God the Father,*

*glory to Christ the great,*

*the Holy Spirit,*

*One honour in three*



## John Rutter

## *Magnificat*

John Rutter (b. 1945) is one of the most popular and prolific composers of choral music in the contemporary world.

The Magnificat consists of seven movements, with three additional texts inserted between the verses of the Latin canticle. These are: Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, a 15th-century English poem that uses the rose as a symbol of Mary and Christ; Sanctus, from the Mass Ordinary; and Sancta Maria, a Marian antiphon that asks for her intercession. It is a work that celebrates the joy and faith of Mary, as well as the beauty and diversity of the musical traditions that honour her.

### ***Text***

#### **Chorus**

Magnificat ánima mea Dóminum.

*My soul doth magnify the Lord.*

Et exultávit spíritus meus: in Deo salutári meo.

*And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior*

Quia respéxit humilitátem ancillae suae:

*Because He hath regarded the humility of His slave:*

Ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent omnes generatiónes.

*For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.*

#### **Chorus**

Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, of a Rose is all my song.

hearken to me, both old and young,

how this Rose began to spring;

a fairer rose to mine liking

in all this world ne know I none.

Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, of a Rose is all my song.

Five branches of that rose there been,

The which be both fair and Sheen;

the rose is called Mary, heaven's queen.

Out of her bosom a blossom sprang.



The first branch was of great honour:  
that blessed Mary should bear the flower;  
There came an Angel from heaven's tower  
to break the devil's bond.

The second branch was great of might,  
That sprang upon Christmas night;  
The star shot over Bethlehem bright,  
That man should see it both day and night.

Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, of a Rose is all my song.  
The third branch did spring and spread;  
Three kings then from branch gan led  
Unto Our Lady in her child bed;  
In Bethlehem that branch sprang right.

The fourth branch it sprang to hell,  
The devil's power for to fell:  
That no soul therein should dwell,  
The branch so blessed fully sprang.

The fifth branch it was so sweet,  
It sprang to heaven both crop and root,  
Therein to dwell and be our bote:  
So blessedly it sprang.

Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, of a Rose is all my song.  
Pray we to her with great honour,  
She that bare the blessed flower,  
To be our help and our succour, and shield us from the fiendes bond.

### **Chorus**

Quia fécit mihi mágna qui pótens est: et sánctum nómen eius. Sanctus,  
sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt Caeli et terra

gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Because He that is mighty hath done great things to me; and holy is His name. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

### **Soprano Solo**

Et misericórdia eius in progénies et progénies tíméntibus eum.

*And His mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear Him.*

### **Chorus**

Fécit poténtiam in bráchio suo: dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui.

*He hath shewed might in His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.*

Depósuit poténtes de sede: et exaltávit húmiles.

*He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble.*

### **Chorus**

Esuriéntes implévit bonis: et dívites dimísit inánes.

*He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away.*

Suscépit Ísrael púerum suum: recordátus misericórdiae suae.

*He hath received Israel His servant, being mindful of His mercy:*

Sicut locútus est ad patres nostros: Ábraham, et sémini eius in saecula.

*As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.*

Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto,

*Glory be the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,*

Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculórum.

Amen.

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever, Amen.*



A small group of singers from the Chiltern Choir, *The Chiltern Singers*, is available to sing at events:

Weddings, funerals, Club functions etc.

Contact John Haslam by email (preferred)

[chilternsingers@chilternchoir.org.uk](mailto:chilternsingers@chilternchoir.org.uk)

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WEDDINGS | EVENTS | OCCASIONS

## Performing Today

**Michael Cayton**

***Conductor***

The Chiltern Choir is one of Hertfordshire's finest choruses and last season Michael celebrated his 20<sup>th</sup> year as musical director. Under his baton the choir have performed a wide range of repertoire from Monteverdi's Vespers to the Mass in Blue by Will Todd, and everything in between. He was appointed Director of Music of Watford Philharmonic Society in September 2014. Michael brings a wealth of choral conducting, arranging and recording experience to his position. Following his debut in a thrilling performance of Britten's War Requiem he has prepared the society for numerous performances, including Carl Orff's Carmina Burana, Bach's Mass in B minor, Handel's Messiah and more recently Rossini's Petite Messe Solonelle.. As well as his duties to the WPS and CC, Michael holds the position of Director of Music at St. John's Wood Church where he directs the critically acclaimed professional choir.

Over the years Michael has written a number of choral works, some of which are performed nationally by church choirs on a weekly basis. His Mass setting *Missa Beatae Virginis Mariae* has been performed by several choirs and is published by Shorterhouse publications. March 2024 will see the premier of a brand new work by Michael entitled *The Way Through The Woods*. It is a large scale piece set for the Chiltern Choir and orchestra based on poems around the four seasons.

Michael also works as a freelance organist and pianist. He can be heard regularly playing for services and concerts at St Martin in the Fields and St Stephen's Walbrook.

Michael trained as a pianist and répétiteur at the Royal College of Music where he was the recipient of a number of prizes particularly for improvisation and conducting.

## **Victoria Mulley**

## ***Soprano***

Victoria grew up in Bradford, West Yorkshire; she read Music at King's College, London, and later gained a Masters with Distinction in Vocal Performance from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. During her time at Trinity Laban she was awarded the Elliot Rosenblatt Memorial Scholarship and the Eva Malpass Scholarship, as well as winning the Paul Simm Opera Prize, the Linda Hirst Prize for Excellence in Contemporary Vocal Music, and the English Song Duo Prize (alongside pianist Francesca Lauri). Victoria was a finalist in the inaugural New Voices Singing Competition at the Northern Aldborough Festival 2023. She has sung in operatic productions for companies including Barefoot Opera, Opera Loki, About Turn Theatre and the New London Opera Group, appearing at the Tête à Tête, Grimeborn and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals, and is equally at home on the concert stage, where she has performed as soprano soloist in oratorios including Haydn's Nelson Mass, Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle, Fauré's Requiem and Handel's Messiah as well as appearing in recital across the UK. As well as her solo work, Victoria sings regularly with the choir of St John's Wood Parish Church and is one of the two founders and directors of The Lyra Singers, a chamber choir based in Knightsbridge. She is also a keen composer and improviser; she debuted her first semi-improvised song cycle, Ave Femina, in May 2022 and is currently working on a second.

## Simon Howat

## *Piano*

Simon Howat studied Music at Cambridge University, followed by post-graduate Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, with Professors Nina Serena and Paul Hamburger.

Over the last thirty years, he has been in demand as an accompanist, music examiner for ABRSM and peripatetic piano instructor. On the concert platform, Simon has appeared as a two-piano/piano-duet pianist, an accompanist for instrumental/vocal recitals, and a concerto performer with several regional orchestras. Further afield, he has appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Grimeborn Festival in London, accompanying chamber opera.

As the pianist currently for a number of choirs in the Bucks/Herts region (The Chiltern Choir since 2022), Simon has accompanied a large part of the choral canon over the years, with particular highlights being: Verdi's *Requiem*, Brahms' *German Requiem* and *Liebeslieder Waltzes*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, *Carmina Burana*, *Porgy and Bess*, *The Rio Grande*, *Belshazzar's Feast*, *Symphony of Psalms*, *The Bells*, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*; also, Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* and *Songs of Peace*, plus *The Passing of the Year* by Jonathan Dove.

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# Chiltern Choir - members singing this evening

## **Sopranos**

Caroline Bartlett  
Anni Facer  
Christine Guy  
Barbara Johnson  
Sarah Moreton  
Gill Watson

Hilary Broadbent  
Gabrielle F  
Jill Haslam  
Sue Kesteven  
Gillian Proctor

## **Altos**

Cathy Amos  
Ana de'Ath  
Philippa Goss  
Anne Keyworth  
Beryl Whittaker

Marian Davies  
Rita Fryer  
Helen Heenan  
Miriam Morgan

## **Tenors**

Gijs Crone  
Anju Sharda

Andy Etchells  
Isabel Walker

## **Basses**

Paul Davies  
Stuart Marshall

John Haslam  
Richard Watson

## **Patrons and Honorary Members**

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If you would like to show your support in this way, please contact Stuart Marshall – [info@chilternchoir.org.uk](mailto:info@chilternchoir.org.uk).

*Our current patrons are:*

### **Mrs Patricia Parkes (President)**

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*The following people have been made honorary members in recognition of their extended service to the choir:*

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Mrs S Lawman	Mr D Lloyd	Dame G Pugh
Mr D Treanor	Mr N Wax	Mr C Parkes



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## Notes

## Notes

## Forthcoming Concerts:

Saturday December 9, 2023, 17:00

*'Christmas Cheer'*

Chorleywood Memorial Hall

Saturday March 16, 2024, 19:30

Handel, *Dixit Dominus*

Cayton, *The Way Through the Woods*

Clarendon Muse Concert Hall

Saturday June 22, 2024, 18:30

*Summer Concert*

Christ Church, Chorleywood

*Further details on our website*



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[www.facebook.com/ChilternChoir](https://www.facebook.com/ChilternChoir)

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