

DARTFORD CHORAL SOCIETY



Plus: Zadok the Priest, Handel
 Cantique de Jean Racine, Fauré

Soprano Soloist:	Michaela Hughes
Tenor Soloist:	Edward Hughes
Organ accompaniment:	Raymond Lewis
Conducted by:	Michael Bell

Saturday 23rd November 2024
at 7.30pm

St Michael's Church
Wilmington
DA2 7EH

Tickets: £15



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PROGRAMME

Zadok the Priest..... *Handel*

Requiem *Fauré*

INTERVAL

Duet: **Brindisi** (from La Traviata)..... *Verdi*

Cantique de Jean Racine..... *Fauré*

Organ solo: **'Jig' Fugue** *J S Bach*

Gloria.....*Vivaldi*

PROGRAMME NOTES

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) composed four so-called Coronation Anthems. **Zadok the Priest** was first sung at the coronation of George II and Queen Caroline at Westminster Abbey in 1727. On that occasion the choir was accompanied by an orchestra said to number 160. The anthem has featured at every Coronation since. Tonight's accompaniment is provided by just one player, but the build-up to the first notes of the chorus remains as stirring as ever. The biblical text is from the first Book of Kings (verse 1)

Gabriel Urbain Fauré (1845-1924) composed the **Requiem op.48** in 1886/7, partly perhaps in memory of his father. Its first performance was at the Madeleine in Paris where Fauré was organist. It was not performed in England until 1936, but has subsequently become a well-established 'favourite'. The text is predominantly the same as the Mass (without Gloria or Credo), but with the addition of thoughts of death and the last things – serene and restrained in comparison with the Requiem Mass settings by Mozart, Brahms and Verdi.

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901) *La Traviata*, or *The Fallen Woman*, was first performed in Madrid in its revised format in 1855. It includes a 'Drinking Song', or **Brindisi** which is sung by Alfredo and Violetta.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Fugue in G major BWV 577 (aka. *Fuga alla Giga* etc., or simply 'Jig' Fugue). Not that it is so simple! The jig bit is just a nickname, inevitably deriving from the jaunty energy of the piece and its 12/8 time. It is probably Bach's brightest and unashamedly liveliest fugue. But is it by Bach? Controversy persists, helped by the fact that no autographed

manuscript exists, the earliest surviving manuscript copy from 1765 being written in the hand of Bach's son-in-law. Then, who else would have been capable of composing such a piece? Answers on a postcard...Does it matter?

Fauré - Cantique de Jean Raçine op.11... this is the other one of Fauré's few settings of religious texts. At the Ecole Niedermeyer in Paris he had entered the school's first composition competition in 1864, but was not successful until the following year with this Cantique. The gentle accompaniment, originally for string quintet and harp, was later arranged for piano or organ. Jean Raçine's text is a paraphrase of the medieval hymn for Tuesday Matins Consors paterni luminis, attributed to St Ambrose - performed tonight in the English translation by John Rutter.

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) composed his **Gloria RV589** between 1713 and 1717 for the female singers of the Ospedale della Pietà in Venice. Its memorable melodies and general optimism have made it one of the most popular choral pieces in the repertoire. It has certainly been the most frequently performed work at Dartford Choral Society concerts since the 1980s. Michaela Davies will be joined in this by our chorus member Rachel Miles, who has sung countless solos for us over that period (alongside and undaunted by the requirements of the rest of the works in the programme!).

This concert marks Michael Bell's 40th anniversary as Music Director of the Society and his retirement. The choir is augmented with past members and guests to celebrate Michael's 40 years of service.

Zadok the Priest - Handel

Zadok the Priest
and Nathan the prophet
anointed Solomon King

And all the people rejoiced and said

God save the King
Long live the King
May the King live forever
Amen, Alleluia, Amen

Requiem - Fauré

i. Introit et Kyrie

Requiem aeternam dona eis,
Domine, et lux perpetua luceat
eis.

*Rest eternal grant them, Lord,
And may light perpetual shine
on them,*

Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in
Jerusalem

*A hymn becomes you, God, in
Zion and to you may be paid in
a vow in Jerusalem*

Exaudi orationem meam,
ad te omnis caro veniet
Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison

*Hear my prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.
Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy*

ii. Offertoire

O Domine Jesu Christe,
Rex gloriae,
libera animas defunctorum

de poenis inferni
et de profundo lacu,
de ore leonis,
ne absorbeat tartarus
ne cadant in obscurum.

Hostias et preces tibi, Domine,
laudis offerimus:
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
quaram hodie memoriam
facimus.
Fac eas, Domine,
de morte transire ad vitam,
quam olim Abrahae promisisti
et semini ejus.
Amen

iii. Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra
Gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*O Lord Jesus Christ,
King of glory,
deliver the souls of the
departed
from the punishment of hell
and from the deep pit,
from the mouth of the lion,
nor may they be absorbed by
hell, nor may they fall into
darkness*

*Sacrifice and prayer to you,
Lord, in praise we offer:
receive for those souls
whom today we
commemorate.
Allow them, Lord,
to pass from death to life,
which once to Abraham you
promised and to his seed.
Amen*

*Holy, Holy, Holy
Lord God of hosts.
Full are the heavens and the
earth of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest*

iv. Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine,
dona eis requiem;
dona eis sempiternam requiem

*Blessed Lord Jesus
grant them rest;
grant them everlasting rest.*

v. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi, dona
eis requiem sempiternam
requiem,

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the
world, grant them everlasting
rest.*

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,
cum sanctis tuis in aeternam,
quia pius es.

*Light eternal – may it shine on
them, Lord, with your saints in
eternity, you who are merciful.*

Requiem aeternam dona eis,
Domine, et lux perpetua luceat
eis.

*Rest eternal grant them, Lord,
And light perpetual – may it
shine on them.*

vi. Libera Me

Libera me, Domine, de morte
aeterna in die illa tremenda
quando coeli movendi sunt
et terra,
dum veneris judicare saeculum
per ignem.

*Deliver me, Lord, from death
eternal in that terrible day
when the heavens shall be
moved and the earth,
when you shall come to judge
the world by fire.*

Tremens factus sum ego et
timeo, dum discusso venerit,
atque ventura ira.

*With trembling I am seized
with fear, until the trial shall
come, also the coming wrath.*

Dies illa, dies irae,
calamitatis et miseriae,
dies illa, dies magna
et amara valde.
Requiem aeternam dona eis,
Domine, et lux perpetua luceat
eis.

*That day, day of wrath,
calamity and misery,
that day, great day
and exceedingly bitter.
Rest eternal grant them, Lord,
and light perpetual - may it
shine on them.*

vii. In Paradisum

In paradisum deducant angeli;
in tuo adventu
suscipiant te martyres
et perducant te in civitatem
sanctam Jerusalem.
Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro, quondam
paupere
aeternam habeas requiem.

*To paradise may angels lead
you; at your coming
may the martyrs receive you
and bring you to the holy city,
Jerusalem.
May the angel chorus receive
you and with Lazarus, once a
pauper, eternally may you
have rest.*

At this celebratory time we remember those who cannot be with us. Among them is **Rosemary Peel**, a much respected and invaluable member of our choir who recently passed away. Rosemary's formidable organisational skills helped ensure the smooth running of our concerts, often working tirelessly behind the scenes. Her diligence and ready smile are deeply missed and we remember her with gratitude and affection.

I N T E R V A L

*Wine and orange juice for the interval has been generously donated
by choir member and patron, Tunde Dipita-Williams*

Brindisi - Verdi

ALFREDO

Libiamo, ne' lieti calici
che la bellezza infiora,
e la fuggevol ora
s'inebrii a voluttà.

Libiam ne' dolci fremiti
che suscita l'amore,
poiché quell'occhio al core
onnipotente va.
Libiamo amore, amor fra i calici
più caldi baci avrà.

~

VIOLETTA

Tra voi saprò dividere
il tempo mio giocondo;
tutto è follia nel mondo
ciò che non è piacer.
Godiam, fugace e rapido
è il gaudio dell'amore,

è un fior che nasce e muore,
né più si può goder.

Godiam, c'invita un fervido
accento lusinghier.

~

ALFREDO

*Drink from the joyful glass,
resplendent with beauty,
drink to the spirit of pleasure
which enchants the fleeting
moment.*

*Drink to the thrilling sweetness
brought to us by love, for
these fair eyes, irresistibly,
pierce us to the heart.
Drink - for wine
will warm the kisses of love.*

~

VIOLETTA

*I shall divide my gaiety
among you all;
Everything in life is folly,
except for pleasure.
Let us be joyful, for love
is a fleeting and short-lived
joy.
A flower which blossoms and
fades, whose beauty is soon
lost forever.
Be joyful - a caressing voice
invites us warmly to joy.*

~

VIOLETTA
La vita è nel tripudio.

ALFREDO
Quando non s'ami ancora.

VIOLETTA
Noi dite a chi l'ignora

ALFREDO
È il mio destin così

~

VIOLETTA
Life is only pleasure

ALFREDO
For those who don't know love

VIOLETTA
*Speak not of love to one who
knows not what it is*

ALFREDO
Such is my destiny

~

Cantique de Jean Racine – Fauré

O divine Word above, our hope and consolation,
Eternal light of the heavens and the earth
The peaceful night is past; Our voices greet the morning;
Look down, O Lord, and hear thy people's prayer!

Inspire us, Lord, we pray, with the pow'r of thy Spirit,
That hell may flee before thy mighty word.

From slumber waken us, our weary souls reviving,
That we may never forget thy laws!

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on thy faithful congregation
now gathered here in the sight of thy throne;
Receive the hymns they offer to thy eternal glory;
Renewed by thy gifts may they go forth in peace.

'Jig' Fugue – J S Bach

Gloria - Vivaldi

i. Gloria in excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Glory to God in the highest

ii. Et in terra pax

Et in terra pax hominibus bonae
voluntatis

*And on earth peace to men of
good will*

iii. Laudamus te

Laudamus te,
Benedicimus te,
Adoramus te,
Glorificamus te.

*We praise you,
We bless you,
We adore you,
We glorify you.*

iv. Gratias agimus tibi

Gratias agimus tibi

We give you thanks

v. Propter magnam gloriam

propter magnam gloriam tuam

for your great glory

vi. Domine Deus

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens

*Lord God, King of Heaven,
God the Father Almighty*

vii. Domine Fili Unigenite

Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe.

*Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus
Christ*

viii. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius
Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of
the Father, you who take away
the sins of the world, have
mercy on us*

ix. Qui tollis

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem
nostram.

*You who take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.*

*You who take away the sins of
the world, receive our prayer.*

x. Qui sedes ad dexteram

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

*You who sit at the right hand
of the Father, have mercy on
us.*

xi. Quoniam tu solus sanctus

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu
solus Dominus,
Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe

*For you alone are holy, you
alone are Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,*

xii. Cum Sancto Spiritu

Cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

*With the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

The members of the Choral Society would like to express their sincere gratitude to **Michael Bell** for 40 years of dedicated service as Director and, previously, accompanist. In addition to 4 concerts per year, Michael has led the society to perform at local community events such as the switching-on of Dartford Christmas lights and the opening of the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge in 1991.

The Society members wish Michael all very best for the future.

Michael Bell - Musical Director

Michael Bell has been Musical Director of Dartford Choral Society since 1984 taking over the baton from David Atkinson. A graduate of Bristol University, Michael Bell trained additionally as a music teacher at the London Institute of Education. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists.

He was Director of Music at Dartford Grammar School from 1975 to 1992 and has served as Rochester Diocesan Organ Adviser. First prize winner of the 1983 West of England Organ Festival, he has subsequently given recitals at St. Paul's, Southwark and Rochester Cathedrals, and in many churches in London and the provinces (not to mention Scotland).

A former organist of Dartford Parish Church, Michael is currently Organist and Choirmaster of St. Nicholas Church, Chislehurst, Kent.

Raymond Lewis - Organ Accompanist

Raymond Lewis has performed on London's South Bank as solo pianist, in chamber music, as continuo player, and as conductor. As pianist, his duo partners have included the violinist, Ralph Holmes, Alexander Boyarsky (sometime principal cellist of the Moscow Symphony Orchestra) and Pablo Casals protégé, Rohan de Saram. As organist he has played at most of the major cathedrals in the UK, and given solo recitals in Chichester Cathedral, the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban, Rochester Cathedral, Central Hall Westminster, and on numerous occasions at Southwark Cathedral and St David's Cathedral. As a composer his compositions have been performed at the Barbican Centre, The Royal Festival Hall, St Alban's Abbey, and Liverpool Cathedral. Raymond, together with his son, Crispin, has recently recorded a CD of the recently discovered complete songs of Herbert Murrill, a composer known mainly for his famous setting of the Evening Canticles.

Michaela Hughes

Michaela Hughes (née Parry) studied as both an undergraduate and postgraduate at the Royal Northern College of Music. Here she was a Draper's Scholar and an Opera North Mentee, winning many awards including the Elizabeth Harwood Memorial Prize, the Dame Eva Turner Award and Strauss Prize. Since graduating in 2016, Michaela has performed roles and covers with Wexford Festival Opera and Glyndebourne Festival Opera and Tour. As a recitalist she has appeared at the Bridgewater Hall, Oxford Lieder Festival and the Wigmore Hall.

Edward Hughes

British tenor, Edward Hughes, has been in demand for his operatic and concert performances for over a decade both in the UK and abroad. Having graduated with a Master of Engineering from Imperial College London, he was then awarded a full scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music as a postgraduate and at their prestigious Opera School. On the opera stage, Edward has been lucky enough to be employed to sing pretty much every major tenor role in the repertoire. He has worked with many of the country's top companies including the Royal Opera House, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, English National Opera and Opera North as well as abroad in France, Germany and Asia. He has been a finalist in both the Verdi and the Wagner Singing Competitions, being awarded a bursary for his performance in the latter.

As a concert performer, Edward has sung as a soloist with ensembles including the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Choral Society and Academy of Ancient Music and abroad at the Berlin Philharmonie and in the premier performance of Verdi's Requiem in Asia at the Vietnamese National Opera. He is a proud member of the Chapel Choir of the Royal Hospital Chelsea and is featured as a soloist on several of their critically acclaimed recordings.

DARTFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

Director of Music: Michael Bell

Sopranos

Radhika Ananthan
Catherine Bearfoot
Pat Everington (Chairman)
Pamela Hunt
Margaret Martin
Rachel Miles
Felicity Monteith
Jeannie Morrison
Barbara Toft

Altos

Katie Bell
Marilyn Davey
Jane Foong
Nicky Garland
Jean Hook
Ailsa Hughes
Louise Peterken
Gwen Rumble
Chris Settle
Kate Stock
Mary Webb

Tenors

Vernon Creek
Paul Grimmer (Secretary)
Peter Hook
Andrew Lewis

Basses

Owen Berkeley-Hill
Andrew Dey
Tunde Dipita-Williams
Alan Hunt
Steve Jones
Michael Sears (Treasurer)

The Dartford Choral Society rehearses on Monday evenings, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm, (except July & August) at the Mick Jagger Centre, Shepherds Lane, Dartford. New members are always welcome.

Please contact the Hon. Secretary, Paul Grimmer
01342 833911 (Daytime) 01322 227994 (Evenings).
Email: secretary@dartfordchoral.org.uk

President

The Mayor of Dartford - Councillor Andy Lloyd

Vice Presidents

Mrs Audrey Ash
Mrs Ruth M Fricker
Mr and Mrs Bill Collier
(in memory of David Collier)

Patrons

Mrs Brenda Boffin	Ms Alison Leggatt
Mr Andrew Dey	Mrs Felicity Monteith
Mr and Mrs J Dey	Mr Dennis O'Keefe
Mr Tunde Dipita-Williams	Ms Jennifer Quigley
Mrs Romaine Ford	Mrs Chris Settle
Mr Chris Hall	Mr John E White
Mr Richard Hamilton	

The Dartford Choral Society is dependent upon financial assistance to continue giving public concerts.

The Dartford Choral Society greatly appreciates the financial assistance kindly given to us by our Patrons.

Dartford Choral Society Patrons

The support and encouragement Dartford Choral Society receives from Patrons is invaluable in enabling the choir to expand its repertoire and make choral music more widely available to the people of Dartford and the surrounding areas. Over the years many members, past members, and friends of the Society have felt able to support us in this way.

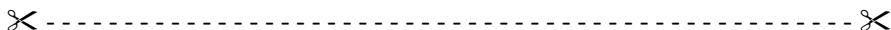
For an annual subscription of £30, or £50 per couple, Patrons receive advance notification of the concert dates and programme for the season, have their name listed in each programme, and receive a reduction of £2 on the price of admission to each concert.

If you would like to support us by becoming a Patron or give a Patrons' subscription to a friend as a Christmas present, we are able to offer a discounted rate of £25, or £40 per couple. Please complete the form on the back of this programme. Alternatively, contact the Patrons Secretary, Andrew Dey – Tel.01322 555406
Email - andrew.dey@live.co.uk.

For your diaries please note:-

NEXT CONCERT:

**CAROLS FOR ALL
WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER
7.30pm
St Anselm's RC Church,
West Hill,
Dartford**



Dartford Choral Society Patrons

To: Andrew Dey, DCS, 18 Sandringham Drive, Dartford, Kent DA2 7WB

I would like to become a Patron of DCS / purchase a subscription for a friend [*delete as appropriate*] for the remainder of the 2024-2025 Season. I enclose a cheque for £25 / £40 payable to "Dartford Choral Society" / confirm I will transfer the subscription amount to Sort code 40-52-40; A/c No. 00007000, A/c Name: Dartford Choral Society with a reference of "NP-" and my surname.

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