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THE WAVERLEY SINGERS

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

Organ - Richard Pearce

Conductor - Malcolm Hicks

Saturday 15th December 2001 at 7.30pm

*at St Andrew's Garrison Church of Scotland,
Queen's Avenue, Aldershot*

Programme £7.50



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Richard Pearce was Organ Scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, where as organist and conductor he toured and recorded extensively with the chapel choir, broadcasting for radio and television. Richard graduated in 1990 with first class honours in music. Since leaving university he spent two years as a postgraduate at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Richard has performed throughout Britain including recitals at the Purcell Room and the Wigmore Hall, as well as broadcasting for BBC television and radio, S4C and Classic FM. He appeared in the final of the 1997 Cardiff Singer of the World Competition, re-released in 1999 as a CD with the BBC Music Magazine.

Richard works regularly with many choirs in London: he conducted the Whitehall Choir in their performance of *Israel in Egypt* in St. John's Smith Square in March, and in a programme of English and German music in St. James' Piccadilly in July. Richard works regularly with the BBC Singers, the Royal Choral Society and the Corydon Singers as well as the Waverley Singers.

Malcolm Hicks graduated in Music at the University of Birmingham where he was also Assistant Master of the Music at the Cathedral, and organist and Assistant Conductor with major choirs and orchestras. After further studies in piano, cello, singing and conducting at the Guildhall School of Music, he has since pursued a full-time career as a keyboard player and conductor. He plays with all the major London orchestras in South Bank concerts, Proms, many broadcasts for radio and TV, films, recordings and on tour abroad, many times in Europe, and as far afield as Japan, Korea, North and South America and the former USSR. He was Associate Conductor of the London Philharmonic Choir and Deputy Conductor of the Royal Choral Society for many years, and continues to work regularly with them as choirmaster and with other principal choirs in London, including the London Symphony Chorus, the BBC Symphony Chorus and the BBC Singers amongst others. He was appointed Musical Director of the Waverley Singers in May 1982.

Mass in E Flat Op 109
Josef Gabriel Rheinberger (1839-1901)

Rheinberger was born in the Principality of Liechtenstein in 1839, to a member of the Prince's household. He entered the conservatory at Munich at the age of 12 and made such good progress in his studies that by the age of 14 he was an organist at several Munich churches. By the time he was 20 he had been appointed as an instructor at the conservatory. He worked as a teacher and later as Court Kapellmeister in Munich for the rest of his life. He was a direct contemporary of Anton Bruckner.

Whilst Rheinberger wrote a variety of works for stage and concert hall, it is for his organ sonatas and his sacred choral works that he is best known. The *Eb Mass* for 8 voices in double choir was composed in January 1878. The style is reminiscent of the works of the Venetian composer Giovanni Gabrieli (1555-1612) in the use of the double choir's alternating entries. Gabrieli had also influenced the music of the German composer, Schütz (1585-1672) and there was a revival of interest in his music in Germany in the 19th century. Though the style of the *Mass* is archaic the harmonies are late Romantic with some beautiful melodic lines. Rheinberger dedicated this *Mass* to the reigning Pope Leo XIII and was rewarded by being made a knight of the Order of St Gregory.

The King shall Rejoice
Coronation Anthem No 2
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

In February of 1727 Handel became an English citizen. He had achieved a great deal of success with his operas in the previous decade and was secure financially. In the summer of 1727 George I died and Handel was commissioned to compose music for the coronation of George II and Queen Caroline at Westminster Abbey. He composed four anthems, of which the best known, *Zadok the Priest*, is the first. *The King shall Rejoice* is a setting of verses from Psalm 21. It was performed at the crowning part of the ceremony.

Handel was famous in his own lifetime and revered by later composers such as Mozart and Beethoven. Here is a quote from *The Task VI*, by William Cowper, (1785):

Remember Handel? Who, that was not born
Deaf as the dead to harmony, forgets
Or can, the more than Homer of his age?

Te Deum in C
Jubilate Deo

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

The two Britten pieces are both in C major and for similar forces, 4 part choir and organ. The *Te Deum* was written for St Mark's, Audley Street, London in 1934 when Britten was 21. The *Jubilate* was written for St George's Chapel, Windsor in 1961 when Britten was 58. The text of both pieces calls for lively, bright, joyful music. The *Te Deum* is based thematically on the C major chord, C E G C and the interest is rhythmic rather than melodic. The contrasting middle section has a tuneful treble solo before returning to the opening theme. The organ sets the mood of the *Jubilate* with its lively running theme, which twists back on itself. Again the voices have more rhythmic impact than melodic; the C major chord featuring strongly in the vocal themes.

STOP PRESS!

Have you visited our new website? It is packed full of interesting information about the works the choir has performed since its formation and the soloists who have participated in those concerts. The website also shows the rehearsal schedule and gives information about other events. Please visit us at: www.waverleysingers.co.uk

PROGRAMME

O come all ye faithful 18th c. anon. arr Willcocks

Choir :
Sanctus *from* Mass in E flat Josef Rheinberger
Benedictus
Agnus Dei
with organ interludes

Good King Wenceslas arr Jacques

Choir :
The King shall Rejoice Handel

Choir :
Blessed be that Maid Marie Alyson Paterson
Childing of a Maiden Bright Alyson Paterson

The First Nowell arr Willcocks

INTERVAL

Once in royal David's city arr Willcocks

Choir :
Blessed be that Maid Mary arr Willcocks
Out of your sleep Richard Rodney Bennett

Choir :
Te Deum in C Britten
Jubilate Deo Britten
with organ interlude

Choir :
Lute book lullaby arr Geoffrey Shaw
A child is born in Bethlehem ed Willcocks

O little town of Bethlehem arr Vaughan Williams

Choir :
Hodie Christus natus est Sweelinck
Nativity Carol Rutter

Organ solo

Choir :
The Crown of Roses Tchaikovsky
Stille Nacht Grüber arr Cashmore

Hark! the herald angels sing Mendelssohn arr Willcocks

THE WAVERLEY SINGERS

Sopranos

Sue Adcock
Rhian Amery
Janet Carne
Elaine Cook
Beth Davenport
Jane Eckles
Alison Harding
Linda Harris
Rosemary Heasman
Carolyn Heathcote
Christine Hewson
Jennifer Holmes-Smith
Margaret Houston
Linda Hutton
Linda Katz
Jane Kenney
Fiona Lowden
Beverley Mellstrom
Judith Miller
Ann Pardoe
Alyson Paterson
Carolyn Patey
Janet Paul
Gillian Pickering
Vivien Rieden
Sarah Shepherd
Christine Siddall
Janis Smy
Joan Warren
Kate Wickenden
Chris Wilson
Kate Wilson
Caroline Winfield
Liz Witham

Altos

Rosemary Andrew
Rona Ayling
Alicia Barwick
Alison Bosence
Angela Carmichael
Mayonne Coldicott
Ruth Cooper
Pamela Darker
Jill Denbigh
Pippa Dice
Sheila Edwards
Merril Evans
Avery Fathers
Ann Garnett
Elizabeth Gibbs
Catherine Hadfield
Didi Hall
Anneliese Handley
Karen Hewitt
Eunice Hopkins
Cherry Howard
Margaret MacKenzie
Anne Mason
Marian Morgan
Mary Parker
Jo Reader
Anne Rendell
Tegwen Robb
Jenny Thompson
Jennette Wickes
Christine Wilmshurst
Lindy Wiltshire

Tenors

Tony Amery
Philip Critchley
Tim Farmer
Robert Gussman
Peter Haines
Jo Huddleston
John Jackson
Simon Paterson
Clive Stewart
Sam Williamson

Basses

Mike Aaronson
David Austin
Geoffrey Barwick
Mike Cabot
Malcolm Cooper
Sam Coulter
Rod Eckles
Iain Gammell
Max Hadfield
Graham Hey
Patrick Higgins
Alec Leggatt
Norman Lingard
David Morrison
Tony Parker
Trefor Roberts
Simon Rycroft
Peter Slimming
John Smyth
Neil Thompson
Andrew Thomson
David Wilson

Deputy Chorus Master: Margaret Houston
Accompanist: Richard Pearce

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Waverley Singers would like to thank their advertisers and patrons for their continuing support.

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Anyone interested in becoming a Patron of the choir is invited to contact Mrs. Catherine Hadfield, Binsted Place, Binsted, Alton, GU34 4PQ (Tel:01420 23146). All Patrons receive advance notice of concerts and priority booking forms, and are entitled to reserved seats in the position of their choice. Their names are listed in concert programmes and they are also invited to the choir's social events. Patrons donating over £50 will receive one free ticket per season. Those donating £100 plus will receive a free season ticket annually. Donations made under Gift Aid are particularly valuable to the choir.

If you would like to join the choir as a singing member would you please contact the Secretary, Miss Judith Miller, 7 Frensham Avenue, Fleet. (Tel 01252 613765).

The Waverley Singers would like to thank the Rev R N MacLeod CF and the Kirk Session for making them so welcome in their lovely church.

The Waverley Singers are affiliated to the National Federation of Music Societies.

FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Saturday 23rd March 2002

at St Andrew's Garrison Church, Aldershot

VIVALDI – GLORIA

BACH – LOBET GOTT IN SEINEN REICHEN

HANDEL – ORGAN CONCERTO

Soloists to be announced

Tilford Bach Orchestra

Richard Pearce – Organ

Sunday 16th June 2002

at St Lawrence's Church, Alton

SUMMER CONCERT

Richard Pearce – Organ

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