Concordia *voices*

Make we Merry

Festive Music for Choir and Audience with Surrey Brass

Conductor: Jack Apperley
Accompanist: Paul Ayres

Saturday 2nd December, 2017 at 7.30pm

St John the Divine, Kew Road, Richmond, TW9 2NA

Make we Merry

Magnificat in G   Charles Villiers Stanford
Jesus Christ the Apple Tree   Elizabeth Poston

The First Nowell   English trad. arr. Willcocks

All
The First Nowell the Angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

Choir
They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night:
Nowell, Nowell…

All
And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went:
Nowell, Nowell…

All
This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell…

Choir
Then enter'd in those wise men three,

Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offer'd there in his presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, Nowell

All
Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind has bought:
Nowell, Nowell…

Surrey Brass

Jingle Bells / Deck the Halls	Arr. Iveson
A Carol Fantasy	Arr. Iveson
Come Landlord Fill the Flowing Bowl	Arr. Roberts
The Shepherds' Farewell	Hector Berlioz
The Shepherds' carol	Bob Chilcot
Sing Lullaby	Herbert Howells

God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen   English trad. arr. Willcocks

All
God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Choir
From God our heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,

How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy.

All
The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Choir
But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereat this infant lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy.

All
Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
The holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Twelve Days of Christmas   Rutter arr. Roberts

Interval

O Thou the Central Orb	Charles Wood
Here is the Little Door	Herbert Howells

O Come all ye Faithful

18th c. anon arr. Willcocks

All

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore Him ……

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, In the highest:
O come, let us adore Him…..

Yea, Lord we great thee, born that happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore Him…..

Surrey Brass

Let it snow	Cahn / Styne arr. D Gale
Jolly old St. Nicholas	Trad. arr. J Gale
Stardust	Carmichael / Parrish arr. J Gale
We wish you a Merry Christmas	Arr. Iveson

I sing of a Maiden	Patrick Hadley
A Spotless Rose	Herbert Howells
Crown of Roses	Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Make we merry – Choir and Audience	Paul Ayres

"Make we merry" was commissioned in 2007 by Harrow Choral Society. The anonymous early sixteenth century words cheekily invert the sentiment of most carols. Rather than inviting all to the Christmas feast (whether rich or poor, high or low, etc) we are told that we're all welcome, as long as we're sufficiently entertaining and jolly enough company. If not, perhaps we'll be pelted with mince pies instead. Ho ho ho!

Make we merry, both more and less,
For now is the time of Christmas.

Let no man come into this hall,
Nor groom, nor page, nor yet marshall,
But that some sport he bring withal.

If that he say he cannot sing,
Some other sport then let him bring,
That it may please at this feasting.

If that he say he naught can do,
Then, for my love, tell him no
But to the stocks then let him go.

Make we merry, both more and less,
For now is the time of Christmas.

Anon

Jack Apperley

Jack is currently studying for a Masters in Choral Conducting at the Royal Academy of Music under Patrick Russill after graduating from the University of Birmingham where he was mentored by Simon Halsey CBE.

In addition to his studies at the Royal Academy of Music, Jack is an assistant to Simon Halsey and the London Symphony Chorus. This culminated in Jack standing in as Chorus Master for a performance of John Adam's oratorio El Niňo in Paris with the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by the composer.

Whilst at Birmingham, Jack was the Conductor of the University of Birmingham Music Society Chamber Choir between 2014 -2016, performing repertoire from Thomas Tallis to Jonathan Harvey. The group now has a strong reputation within the University and perform more regular concerts at prestigious events. As part of the University of Birmingham Summer Festival of Music, Jack conducted the Summer Festival Voices in a performance of Purcell's The Tempest. He was also the conductor of Summer Festival Sinfonia and was appointed Assistant Conductor of the Summer Festival Opera, Britten's Albert Herring.

Jack has participated in several masterclasses, including a workshop with the BBC Singers and their Principal Guest Conductor, Paul Brough. Last autumn he took part in a workshop with the Clarion Choir, a professional ensemble from New York focusing on the music of Rachmaninov and Steinberg. Last summer, Jack participated in the Sarteano Choral Conducting Workshop in Tuscany, Italy with Simon Carrington. He has also received tuition from several visiting professors at the Royal Academy of Music including, David Hill, Paul Spicer and Amy Bebbington. In 2015 Jack was awarded a Sing for Pleasure Young Conductor's Scholarship. This entitled him to a year of tuition from Manvinder Rattan, participating in weekend courses and summer schools.

Paul Ayres

Paul was born in London, studied music at Oxford University, and now works freelance as a composer & arranger, choral conductor & musical director, and organist & accompanist. He has received over one hundred commissions, and his works have been awarded composition prizes in Canada, Croatia, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, the UK and the USA. Paul particularly enjoys

"re-composing" classical works (Purcell, Bach, Handel, Fauré) and "classicizing" pop music (jazz and show tunes, The Beatles, Happy Hardcore).

Paul conducts City Chorus and London College of Music Chorus (at the University of West London), accompanies Concordia Voices, and is associate accompanist of Crouch End Festival Chorus. He has led many music education workshops for children, and played piano for improvised comedy shows and musical theatre.

Please visit www.paulayres.co.uk to find out more.

Surrey Brass

Surrey Brass, the innovative and entertaining brass ensemble is a well-established group with a reputation that exceeds its 15 years. Inspired by the line-up and style of the famous Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, the group programmes exciting and eclectic arrangements from the Baroque to Jazz, with a line-up of professional and semi-professional performers.

Tonight's performance is by the Surrey Brass Quintet.

John Goodwin, Lindsay Marns (Trumpets), Tim Costen (Horn), Michael Straker (Trombone), Adrian Warren (Tuba)

Concordia Voices

Concordia Voices is a well-established chamber choir of about 30 mixed voices and is currently directed by Jack Apperley. Our regular accompanist is the composer and arranger Paul Ayres.
The choir performs regularly in south-west London where it is based. We have also toured abroad and to other locations in the UK as well as taking part in local musical events. Concordia Voices enjoy performing music from a wide repertoire ranging over 4 centuries and the choir has a keen interest in performing the work of contemporary composers, including Jonathan Dove, James MacMillan, Morten Lauridsen, John Tavener and Naji Hakim.

Concordia Voices rehearse on Sunday evenings from 7pm to 9pm in Hampton Hill. We are a small, friendly choir and new singers are warmly welcome. If you are

interested in joining us please contact our secretary for more information at, secretary@concordiavoices.org or visit our web site for information on how to join the choir.   www.concordiavoices.org

Soprano	*Alto*	*Tenor*	*Bass*
Jackie Allen	Lyndsey Baldwin	Colin Flood	Alan Baldwin
Lynda Beament	Rebecca Bevan	Clive Hall	Adam Brown
Dorothy Ford	Julie Hall	Paddi Sutton-Coulson	Philip Congdon
Anne Gooding	Ramani Leathard		Chris Edwards
Anusha Hesketh	Jane Newman		Christian Fellner
Julia Lavery	Barbara Orr		Martin Hinckley
Margaret Lord	Jane Purser		Christopher Johnson
Rosie Oxborrow	Anne Rowett		Tim Rice
Ruth Parker	Janet Taylor		Tim Rowett
Heloise Plumley	Shelagh Testar		
Fiona Rowett			
Helen Sugiyama			

Future Concerts

Saturday, March 10th 2018, St Mary's, Twickenham

Parry - I was Glad
Petter - St Magnus Mass
Tippet - Five Spirituals from a Child of Our Time
Poulenc – Gloria

Saturday, 30th June 2018, St John the Divine, Richmond

Bach – Jesu Meine Freude
Bernstein – Chichester Psalms

Saturday, 24th November 2018, St John the Divine, Richmond