



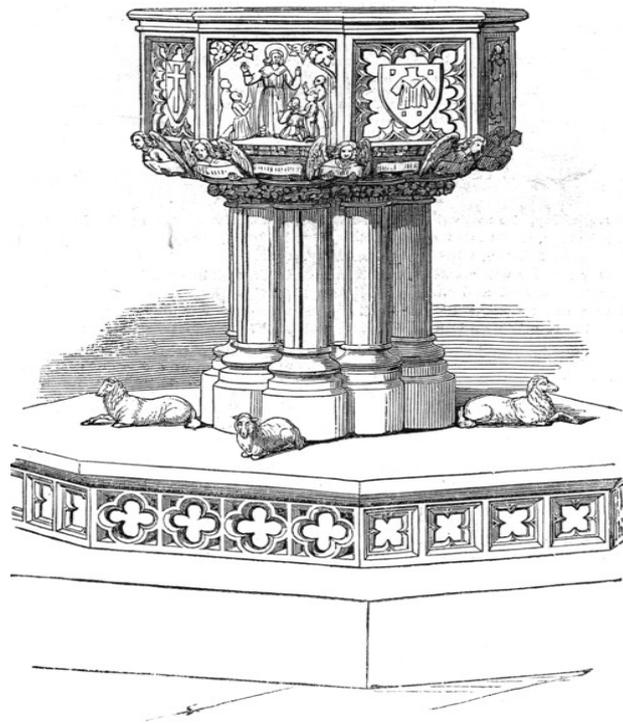
WHITEHALL CHOIR



Conductor: Paul Spicer Organist: Paul Plummer

Tuesday, 12 December 2006, 7.30 pm

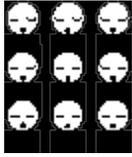
A Concert of Christmas Music and Readings



THE FONT

Entry by Programme: £8

ST STEPHEN'S, ROCHESTER ROW, LONDON SW1



WHITEHALL CHOIR



Choir: Adam lay ybounden
I saw three ships
Peter Warlock
Arr. David Willcocks

Reading/intro

Audience Unto us is born a son

Choir: The Virgin Mary had a baby boy
O little one sweet
Arr. Malcolm Sargent
J. S. Bach

Reading

Audience O little town of Bethlehem

Choir: Nativity Carol
A maiden most gentle
John Rutter
Arr. Andrew Carter

Organ solo *Paul Plummer*
March on 'Lift up your heads
Guilmant

Choir: The Infant King
Whence is the goodly fragrance flowing?
Arr. David Willcocks
Arr. David Willcocks

Audience God rest you merry

Choir: Star Carol
Silent night
John Rutter
Traditional

Reading:

Choir: The Crown of Roses
Quem pastores
Tchaikovsky
German Traditional

Organ Solo *Paul Plummer*
Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist
J.S. Bach

Audience O come all ye faithful

Choir: The twelve days of Christmas
Arr. John Rutter

Reading *Paul Spicer*

Choir: We wish you a merry Christmas

Choir: Adam lay ybounden (*Peter Warlock 1894 - 1930. Words 15th Century*)

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond:
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.

Blessed be the time
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
Abeen heavene queen

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen:
Deo gracias!

Choir: I saw three ships *Trad. Arr. David Willcocks*

I saw three ships come sailing in
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
I saw three ships come sailing in
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three?
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
And what was in those ships all three?
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

Our Saviour Christ and his lady
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
Our Saviour Christ and his lady
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray whither sailed those ships all three?
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
Pray whither sailed those ships all three?
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

O they sailed to Bethlehem
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
O they sailed to Bethlehem
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
And all the bells on earth shall ring
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice a-main
On a Christmas Day, On a Christmas Day
Then let us all rejoice a-main
On a Christmas Day in the morning.

Reading

Audience: Unto us is born a son

**Unto us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal,
See on earth his life begun,
Of lord the Lord eternal.**

**This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer.**

**Christ, from heaven descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger,
Ox and ass their wonder know,
Becradled in a manger.**

**Of His love and mercy mild,
This the Christmas story,
And O that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory.**

**O and A, and O and A,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
*Benedicamus Domino.***

Choir: The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy: *West Indian Spiritual - Arr. Malcolm Sargent*

De Virgin Mary had a baby boy (x3),
And dey say dat his name was Jesus.
 He come from de glory,
 He come from de glorious kingdom,
 Oh yes! Believer,
 He come from de glorious kingdom.

De angels sang when de baby born (x3),
An' proclaim him de Saviour Jesus.
 He come from de glory, etc.

De wise men saw where de baby born (x3),
An' dey say dat his name was Jesus.
 He come from de glory, etc.

Choir: O Little One Sweet Arr. J.S. Bach

O little one sweet, O little one mild,
Thy Father's purpose thou has fulfilled;
Thou cam'st from heav'n to overtaken,
Equal to be with us poor men,
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,
With joy thou has the whole world filled;
Thou camest here from heav'n's domain,
To bring men comfort in their pain
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,
In thee love's beauties are all distilled;
The light in us thy love's bright flame,
That we may give thee back the same,
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

Reading

**Audience: O Little Town of Bethlehem Trad. English Arr. R. Vaughan Williams (1872
– 1958) and Thomas Armstrong (1898- 199 4)**

**O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.**

**How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

Choir: Nativity Carol *John Rutter*

Born in a stable so bare
Born so long ago;
Born 'neath light star
He who loved us so.
*For away silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas day.*

Cradled by mother so fair,
Tender her lullaby;
Over her son so dear,
Angel hosts fill the sky.
For away silent he lay etc.

Wise men from distant far land,
Shepherds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare,
Hearts with his warmth he fills.
For away silent he lay etc

Love in that stable was born
In our hearts to flow;
Innocent dreaming babe,
Make me thy love to know.
For away silent he lay etc

Choir: A maiden most gentle *Trad. Arr. Andrew Carter*

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.

*Ave, ave, ave Maria
Ave, ave, ave Maria.*

How bless'd is the birth of her heavenly child,
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.

*Ave, ave, ave Maria
Ave, ave, ave Maria.*

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of creation, and Saviour of all.

Ave, ave, ave Maria
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,
And marvelled in awe at the babe in her care.

Ave, ave, ave Maria
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;
Sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave'.

Ave, ave, ave Maria
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

Organ Piece: *Paul Plummer* March on 'Lift up your heads *Guilmant*

Choir: *The Infant King* Arr. *David Willcocks*

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby,
Now reclining,
Sing lullaby!

Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Angels are watching, stars are shining
Over the place where he is lying:
Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby,
Now a-sleeping,
Sing lullaby!
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping:
Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby baby,
Now a-dozing,
Sing lullaby!

Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Some comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
Then in the grave at last reposing:
Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!
Lullaby!
Is the babe awaking?
Sing lullaby!

Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
Dreaming of Easter, glad some morning,
Conquering Death, its bondage breaking:
Sing lullaby!

Choir: Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing? *Trad. Arr. David Willcocks*

Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing,
Stealing our senses all away?
Never the like did come ablowing,
Shepherds, in flow'ry fields in May,
Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing,
Stealing our senses all away?

What is that light so brilliant, breaking
Here in the night across our eyes?
Never so bright, the day star waking,
Started to climb the morning skies!
What is that light so brilliant, breaking
Here in the night across our eyes?
Bethlehem! There in manger lying,
Find you Redeemer, haste away,
Run ye with eager footsteps hieing!
Worship the Saviour born today.
Bethlehem! There in manger lying,
Find you Redeemer, haste away.

Praise to the Lord of all creation,
Glory to God the fount of grace;
May peace abide in ev'ry nation,
Goodwill in men of ev'ry race.
Praise to the Lord of all creation,
Glory to God the fount of grace.

Audience: God rest you merry, Gentlemen *Trad. English; Arr. David Willcocks*

**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.*

**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 etc.***

**The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced 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 etc.***

**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 etc..***

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

Choir: Star Carol *John Rutter*

Sing this night, for a boy is born in Bethlehem,
Christ our Lord in a lowly manger lies;
Bring your gifts, come worship at his cradle,
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!

*See his star shining bright
In the sky this Christmas Night!
Follow me joyfully
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!*

Angels bright, come from heaven's glory,
Bear the news with its message of good cheer:
'Sing, rejoice, for a King is come to save us,
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!'

*See his star shining bright
In the sky this Christmas Night!
Follow me joyfully
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!*

See, he lies in his mother's tender keeping;
Jesus Christ in her loving arms asleep.
Shepherd poor, come to worship and adore him,
Offer their humble gifts before the son of Mary.

*See his star shining bright
In the sky this Christmas Night!
Follow me joyfully
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!*

Let us pay our homage at the manger,
Sung his praise on this joyful Christmas Night;
Christ is come, bringing promise of salvation;
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!

*See his star shining bright
In the sky this Christmas Night!
Follow me joyfully
Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!*

Choir: Silent Night *Traditional.*

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright;
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds first saw the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia:
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiance beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Reading

Choir: The Crown of Roses *Tchaikovsky*

When Jesus was yet a child
He had a garden small and wild,
Where he cherished roses fair,
And wove them into garlands there.

Now once, as summertime drew nigh,
There came a troop of children by,
And seeing roses on the tree,
With shouts they plucked them merrily.

'Do you bind roses in your hair?'
They cried, in scorn, to Jesus there.
The boy said humbly 'Take, I pray,
All but the naked thorns away.'

Then of the thorns they made a crown,
And with rough fingers pressed it down,
Till on his forehead fair and young
Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

Choir: Quem Pastores Laudavere (German 14th Century)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Quem pastores laudavere,
Quibus angeli dixere:
'Absit vobis iam timere:
Natus est Rex gloriae!' | 2. Ad quem magi ambulabant,
Aurum, thus, myrrham portabant;
Haec sincere immolabant
Nato Regi gloriae. |
| 3. Exsultamus cum Maria
In coelesti hierarchia;
Natum promat voce pia
Aula cum melodia. | 4. Christo Regi, Deo nato,
Per Mariam nobis dato,
Merito resonet vere
'Laus, honor, et gloria!' |

Organ: Paul Plummer Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist J.S. Bach

Audience: *O come, all ye faithful* J. F. Wade (1711 - 1786) Arr. David Willcocks

**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, etc

**See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks,
Draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:**
O come let us adore him, etc

**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, etc.

Choir: The Twelve Days of Christmas Arr. John Rutter

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
A partridge in a pear tree.

On the second day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
Two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the third day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
Three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the fourth day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
Five gold rings, four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves,
And a partridge in a pear tree.

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
Six geese a-laying, five gold rings, four calling birds, three French hens,
Two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
Seven swans a swimming, six geese a-laying, five gold rings, four calling birds,
Three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the eighth day of Christmas my true love sent to me, eight maids a-milking,
Seven swans a swimming, six geese a-laying, five gold rings, four calling birds,
Three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the ninth day of Christmas my true love sent to me, nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking, seven swans a swimming, six geese a-laying, five gold rings,
Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the tenth day of Christmas my true love sent to me ten lords a-leaping, nine ladies dancing,
Eight maids a-milking, seven swans a swimming, six geese a-laying, five gold rings,
Four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree.

On the eleventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me 'leven pipers piping,
Ten lords a-leaping, nine ladies dancing, eight maids a-milking, seven swans a swimming,
Six geese a-laying, five gold rings, four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and
a partridge in a pear tree.

On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me, twelve drummers drumming,
'Leven pipers piping, ten lords a-leaping, nine ladies dancing, eight maids a-milking, seven
swans a swimming, six geese a-laying, five gold rings, four calling birds, three French hens,
two turtle doves And a partridge in a pear tree.

Reading

Choir: We wish you a Merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
We wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Now bring us some figgy pudding, and bring some out here.
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
We wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For we all like figgy pudding, And we won't go till we've got some,
So bring some out here.
Glad tidings we bring to you and your kin,
We wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

There are mince pies, wine and soft drinks at available at the back of the church at the end of the concert – please do join us. The Whitehall Choir wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Whitehall Choir

After its wartime origins in 1941 as a lunchtime madrigal group in the Board of Trade, the Whitehall Choir grew to become a permanent and thriving choir, performing regularly at major London venues, and more widely in the UK. Its repertoire ranges from the Renaissance to the 21st century, and includes challenging, unaccompanied pieces as well as larger choral works, performed alongside professional soloists and orchestral musicians. Memorable concerts of recent years have included Claudio Monteverdi's *1610 Vespers* at St James's, Piccadilly, Verdi's *Requiem* at Queen Elizabeth Hall, Bach's *Mass in B minor* at St John's, Smith Square, and visits to France for performances in the 16th-century church of St Rémy in Dieppe. In 2001 Paul Spicer was appointed as Conductor and Musical Director, and he has continued to enhance the Choir's regular contribution to the London music scene. In 2002-03 the Choir celebrated its Diamond Jubilee, which was marked by a tour to Riga, Latvia, followed by a gala concert of works by Elgar, Holst and Vaughan Williams at the Royal College of Music in London. More recently our programme has included Handel's *Samson* at St John's, Smith Square, the Rachmaninov *Vespers* at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, and Dvořák's *Stabat Mater* at the Cadogan Hall. In April 2006 the Choir sang to a large and enthusiastic audience at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. The concert included Fauré's *Requiem* and *Cantique de Jean Racine*, performed alongside The Brandenburg Sinfonia. Only the week before the Choir had performed the successful London premiere of Paul Spicer's *The Deciduous Cross* at St John's, Smith Square.

If you would like to sing with the Whitehall Choir please contact Catherine Bakhshi on 020 7215 3875 (daytime only) for details. Membership is subject to places being available in the Choir and a short audition. Please visit us at: whitehallchoir.org.uk. Registered Charity no. 280478.



THE WHITEHALL CHOIR

President: Sir Brian Bender, KCB

Conductor: Paul Spicer

Accompanist: Paul Plummer

Sopranos

Kate Ashbridge
Joanna Bradley
Gill Carruthers
Hilary Davies
Imogen Davies
Anne Dickinson
Ruth Eastman
Jacky Erwtaman
Kate Goulden*
Fiona Graph
Claire Johnston
Nicola Kirkup
Margaret Lauder
Simone Nauerth
Jean Quinn
Katy Robinson
Rachel Salisbury
Christina Scharff
Yvette Street
Vicky Sweetman
Ruth Tidball
Sue Vincent

Altos

Liz Anastasi
Helen Audaer
Rose Chandler
Tamsin Cousins
Monica Darnbrough
Miranda Douce
Samantha Foley
Rachael Gibson
Katherine Howes
Penny James
Kate Mole
Jean Orr
Marion Paul
Caroline Price
Penny Prior
Moira Purkiss*
Jean Robinson
Sarah Smith
Liz Walton
Lis Warren

Tenors

James Davidson
Ken Holmes
Philip Pratley
Danny Tomkins
Jonathan Williams

Basses

James Chute
Chris Gotto
Laurence Grace
Richard Grafen
Michael Growcott
Martin Humphreys
Andrew Hyde
Michel Kallipetis
Simon Lawson
Keith Long
William Longland
Brendan O'Keefe
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*The Choir is very grateful for the support that it continues to receive from the
Department of Trade and Industry.*

WHITEHALL CHOIR – FUTURE PROGRAMME

J. S. BACH: ST. MARK PASSION

Friday, 30 March 2007, 7.30pm
St. John's, Smith Square
Box Office: 020 7222 1061

MOZART: MASS IN C MINOR K427

(Robert Levin completion)
Saturday, 7 July 2007, 7.30pm
St. John's, Smith Square
Box Office: 020 7222 1061

And, in January 2007, the Whitehall Choir will be recording a CD, featuring the first recorded performance of Paul Spicer's *The Deciduous Cross*, and also including Bruckner's *Mass in E Minor*. The CD will be on sale through our website www.whitehallchoir.org.uk. If you would like to be kept informed of this and other Whitehall Choir initiatives, events etc, then please sign up for our "e-alerts" via the website.

Support the Whitehall Choir at Christmas! If you are intending to shop on Amazon, please access the Amazon site via the Choir's website – www.whitehallchoir.org.uk – and the Choir will automatically receive a small percentage on all purchases you make. Simply click on the Amazon link on the Home Page of the Choir's website!