



# Whitehall Choir



## An Evening of Carols and Songs for Christmas

Conductor : Paul Spicer  
Soprano : Katherine Crompton  
Accompanist : Ian Tindale

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**Tuesday 13 December 2016, 7.30pm**  
**St Peter's, Eaton Square, London SW1W 9AL**

Entrance by programme, £20

# Whitehall Choir

President: Sir Martin Donnelly KCB, CMG



Under our Musical Director, Paul Spicer, the Whitehall Choir, now in its 73rd season, aspires to the highest standards of performance in all our concerts. Members share a strong commitment and, besides attending weekly rehearsals on Tuesday evenings for our concerts during the academic year in central London, take part in recordings, occasional tours abroad and choral workshops. Last spring the choir went on tour to Vienna where it performed two concerts featuring English choral music.



## Paul Spicer

Paul Spicer (b.1952) is one of the UK's most widely respected choral conductors. He teaches at the Birmingham Conservatoire, where he also conducts the Chamber Choir, and at Oxford and Durham Universities. His biography of his composition teacher, Herbert Howells, was published in August 1998 and has been reprinted three times. His major biography of Sir George Dyson was published in May 2014 by Boydell & Brewer. He has recently been commissioned to write a biography of Sir Arthur Bliss.

Following the ongoing success of his guide to James MacMillan's choral music he was commissioned by the Britten-Pears Foundation and Boosey & Hawkes to write the first practical guide to all Benjamin Britten's choral music for the Britten Centenary in 2013. As a composer Paul Spicer's *Easter Oratorio* was hailed as 'the best of its kind to have appeared ... since Howells's Hymnus Paradisi'. His choral symphony, *Unfinished Remembering*, commemorating the centenary of the First World War, was premiered to considerable acclaim in Symphony Hall, Birmingham, in September 2014.

**Choir: Hodie Christus natus est  
Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)**

Hodie Christus natus est. Noe.	<i>Today Christ is born. Noel.</i>
Hodie Salvator apparuit. Alleluia.	<i>Today the Savior appears. Alleluia.</i>
Hodie in terra canunt angeli.	<i>Today the angels sing on earth.</i>
Laetantur archangeli. Noe.	<i>The Archangels rejoice. Noel.</i>
Hodie exsultant iusti, dicentes:	<i>Today the just exult, saying:</i>
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia, Noe!	<i>Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia, Noel!</i>

**Audience carol: A great and mighty wonder  
St Germanus (634-734), Tr J M Neale (1818-1866)**

A great and mighty wonder, a full and holy cure!  
The Virgin bears the Infant with virgin-honor pure.

(Refrain)  
Repeat the hymn again!  
"To God on high be glory, and peace on earth to men."

The Word becomes incarnate, and yet remains on high;  
and cherubim sing anthems to shepheds from the sky. (Refrain)

Since all he comes to ransom, by all be he adored,  
the infant born in Bethlehem, the Savior and the Lord. (Refrain)

And idol forms shall perish, and error shall decay,  
and Christ shall wield His sceptre, our Lord and God for aye. (Refrain)

**Choir: Come Thou Redeemer  
Ambrose of Milan (ca 397), Puer nobis nascitur, M Praetorius,  
harmony G R Woodward, last verse setting by Paul Spicer**

Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest Thy virgin birth: Let every age adoring fall, Such birth befits the God of all.	From God the Father He proceeds, To God the Father back He speeds; His course He runs to death and hell, Returning on God's throne to dwell.
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The virgin womb that burden gained With virgin honor all unstained; The banners there of virtue glow; God in His temple dwells below.	Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, And darkness breathe a newer light, Where endless faith shall shine serene, And twilight never intervene.
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All laud to God the Father be,  
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To God the Holy Paraclete.

**Solo song: O my deir hert, Brothers Wedderburn, fl.1548  
(after Martin Luther), Herbert Howells (1892-1993)**

**Solo song: Noel  
Victor Wilder (1835-1892), Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)**

**Choir: Here is the little door  
Frances Chesterton (1869-1938), Herbert Howells**

Here is the little door,  
lift up the latch, oh lift!  
We need not wander more,  
but enter with our gift;  
Our gift of finest gold.  
Gold that was never bought or sold;  
Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;  
Incense in clouds about His head;  
All for the child that stirs not in His sleep,  
But holy slumber hold with ass and sheep.

Bend low about His bed,  
For each He has a gift;  
See how His eyes awake,  
Lift up your hands, O lift!  
For gold, He gives a keen-edged sword.  
(Defend with it thy little Lord!)  
For incense, smoke of battle red,  
Myrrh for the honored happy dead;  
Gifts for His children, terrible and sweet;  
Touched by such tiny hands,  
and Oh such tiny feet.

**Choir: There is no rose  
Anon., 15th century, Paul Spicer**

There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bare Jesu,  
Alleluia.

By that rose we may well see  
That he is God in persons three,  
Pares forma.

For in this rose contained was  
Heaven and earth in little space,  
Res miranda.

Then leave we all this worldly mirth,  
And follow we this joyful birth,  
Transeamus.  
Alleluia

**Solo song: Mantle of blue  
Padraic Colum (1881-1972), Frank Bridge (1879-1941)**

## **Solo song: Noel des jouets**

**Words and music: Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)**

### **Audience carol: See amid the winter's snow**

**E Caswall (1814-1878), John Goss (1800-1880)**

**arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)**

See amid the winter's snow,  
born for us on earth below,  
see, the gentle Lamb appears,  
promised from eternal years.

"As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels singing 'Peace on earth'  
told us of the Savior's birth." (Refrain)

Refrain:

Hail, that ever blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Sacred Infant, all divine,  
what a tender love was thine,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this. (Refrain)

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies;  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
sits amid the cherubim. (Refrain)

Teach, O teach us, holy Child,  
by thy face so meek and mild,  
teach us to resemble thee,  
in thy sweet humility. (Refrain)

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,  
what your joyful news today.  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep?  
(Refrain)

## **Choir: Nativity Carol**

**Words and music: John Rutter (b 1945)**

Born in a stable so bare  
Born so long ago  
Born 'neath light of star  
He who loved us so

Cradled by mother so fair  
Tender her lullaby  
Over her son so dear  
Angel hosts fill the sky (Refrain)

(Refrain)

Far away, silent he lay  
Born today, your homage pay  
For Christ is born for aye  
Born on Christmas Day

Wise men from distant far land  
Shepherds from starry hills  
Worship this babe so rare  
Hearts with his warmth he fills (Refrain)

Love in that stable was born  
Into our hearts to flow  
Innocent dreaming babe  
Make me thy love to know (Refrain)

**Choir: Sans Day carol**  
**Cornish traditional, arr. John Rutter**

Now the holly bears a berry as white  
as the milk,  
And Mary bore Jesus,  
who was wrapped up in silk:

(Refrain)  
And Mary bore Jesus Christ  
our Saviour for to be,  
And the first tree in the greenwood,  
it was the holly!

Now the holly bears a berry as green  
as the grass,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died  
on the cross: (Refrain)

Now the holly bears a berry as black  
as the coal,  
And Mary bore Jesus, who died  
for us all: (Refrain)

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood  
is it red,  
Then trust we our Saviour, who rose  
from the dead: (Refrain)

**Solo song: Epiphanyas,**  
**Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)**

**Audience carol: O come all ye faithful**  
**J F Wade (c1711-1786), arr. David Willcocks, Paul Spicer**

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;

(Refrain)  
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;  
(Refrain)

See how the shepherds,  
summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks,  
draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither bend our  
joyful footsteps  
(Refrain)

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, in the highest;  
(Refrain)

## **Choir: Magnificat, Book of Common Prayer**

### **Herbert Howells**

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.  
He hath shew'd strength with his arm, he hath scattered the proud in the  
imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble  
and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent  
empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel as he promised to  
our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Audience carol: The first Nowell**

#### **Words and Melody: Traditional, arr. David Willcocks**

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.

(Refrain)  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.

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. (Refrain)

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.  
(Refrain)

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
(Refrain)

Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there, in His presence,  
Their gold and myrrh and  
frankincense. (Refrain)

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
That hath made Heaven and earth  
of naught,  
And with His blood mankind  
hath bought. (Refrain)

**Choir: Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child  
The pageant of the shearmen and tailors, Coventry,  
15th century, Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)**

Lully Lulla, thou little tiny child,  
By by lully lullay.

O sisters too how may we do,  
For to preserve this day?  
This poor youngling for whom we  
do sing,  
by by lully lullay.

Herod the king in his raging,  
Charged he hath this day,  
His men of might in his own sight,  
All young children to slay.

That woe is me poor child for thee,  
And ever morn and may,  
For thy parting, nor say nor sing,  
By by lully lullay.

**Choir: O little one sweet  
Words (tr Percy Dearmer (1867-1936) and melody  
German 1650, harmonised J S Bach (1685-1750)**

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
Thy Father's purpose thou  
hast fulfilled;  
Thou cam'st from heav'n to mortal  
ken  
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 hast the whole  
world filled;  
Thou camest here from  
heaven'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;  
Then light in us thy love's bright flame,  
That we may give thee back the same,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
Help us to do as thou hast willed.  
Lo, all we have belongs to thee!  
Ah, keep us in our fealty!  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

**Solo song: Come sing and dance, Anon., Herbert Howells**

**Audience carol: Hark the herald-angels sing**

**Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and others**

**Music: F Mendelssohn (1809-1847), arr. David Willcocks,  
last verse Paul Spicer**

Hark! The herald-angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

(Refrain)

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail th’incarnate deity;  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus. our Emmanuel. (Refrain)

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace,  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
(Refrain)

**Choir: I saw three ships**

**Words and melody: Traditional, arr. Richard Lloyd (b 1933)**

I saw three ships come sailing in  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
I saw three ships come sailing in  
On Christmas day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three,  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day?  
And what was in those ships all three,  
On Christmas day in the morning?

Our Saviour Christ and His lady,  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
Our Saviour Christ and His lady,  
On Christmas day in the morning.

Pray whither sailed those ships all three,  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day?  
Pray whither sailed those ships all three,  
On Christmas day in the morning?

O they sailed into Bethlehem,  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day,  
O they sailed into Bethlehem,  
On Christmas day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring,  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
And all the bells on earth shall ring,  
On Christmas day in the morning.

And all the angels in heav'n shall sing,  
 On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
 And all the angels in heav'n shall sing,  
 On Christmas day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice amain,  
 On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
 Then let us rejoice amain,  
 On Christmas day, on Christmas day!

And all the souls on earth shall sing,  
 On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
 And all the souls on Earth shall sing,  
 On Christmas day in the morning.

**Please join us at the end of the  
 concert for a glass of wine and a mince pie**

<b>Sopranos</b>	<b>Altos</b>	<b>Tenors</b>	<b>Basses</b>
Gill Carruthers	Helen Audaer	Patrick Haighton	Laurence Grace
Imogen Davies	Rose Chandler	Graham Hand	Richard Grafen
Ruth Eastman	Jacqueline Cheng	Ken Holmes	Mark Graver
Jacky Erwtaman	Monica Darnbrough	Philip Pratley	Martin Humphreys
Sue Forrest	Miranda Douce	Alastair Tolley	Jack Joseph
Kate Goulden	Julie Dyg	Jonathan Williams	Daniel Lambauer
Fiona Graph	Samantha Foley	Philip Worley	William Longland
Kate Hand	Jane Mackay		Malcolm Todd
Katherine Herzberg	Paula Nobes		Ian Williamson
Sara Homer	Jean Orr		
Sandy Jones	Penny Prior		
Sarah McTavish	Jean Robinson		
Lucilla Poston	Frances Scott		
Janet Winstanley	Alison Williams		

We are currently interested in finding experienced singers in all voice parts and auditions for new members are held at the start of each term.

Accompanist: Ian Tindale  
 Chairman: Jonathan Williams  
 Hon. Treasurer: Patrick Haighton

Programme: Jonathan Williams and Richard Grafen  
 Cover photograph: Jonathan Williams

Whitehall Choir is a registered charity, number 280478.



## Ian Tindale

Ian Tindale is a prize-winning piano accompanist, répétiteur, organist, harpsichordist and orchestral keyboard player. Ian was awarded the Help Musicians UK Accompanist's Prize in the Kathleen Ferrier Awards in April 2015 and the Royal Overseas League Music Competition Accompanist's Prize in June the same year. He has also performed at Cadogan Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, St John's Smith Square as well as at the Ryedale Festival, Buxton Festival and further afield in Scotland, France, Corfu and Malta.

Ian read Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge, where he was also Organ Scholar. He graduated with a double First in 2011, receiving the Tony Bland Prize for academic achievement, the Williamson Prize for performance and the Brian Runnett Prize for organ. As an orchestral keyboard player Ian has appeared with the BBC Symphony Orchestra on BBC Radio 3 and at the Royal Festival Hall with the London Philharmonic Orchestra. As an organist, Ian gained the Fellowship Diploma of the Royal College of Organists (FRCO) in 2012.



## Katherine Crompton

British Soprano Katherine Crompton studied at the National Opera Studio, having previously graduated from the Royal College of Music International Opera School. Katherine was the winner of the Harriet Cohen Memorial Prize, the McCullough Prize for Opera, the Independent Opera Scholarship and the Miriam Licette Prize. She was also the recipient of a Tutton Award and a Susan Chilcott Award.

Katherine made her professional opera debut as Chocholka, *The Cunning Little Vixen* for Garsington Opera and since then has also performed Galatea, *Acis and Galatea* for Opera Avignon, Opera Rennes, Centre-Lyrique Clermont-Ferrand and most recently at the Festival de Chaise-Dieu. On the concert platform she has appeared at the London Handel Festival, Aldeburgh Festival, St. John's Smith Square and St. Martin-in-the-fields.

## PATRONS AND FRIENDS OF WHITEHALL CHOIR

Friends and Patrons of the Choir are a vital part of our future. They help fund not only our regular concerts but also additional activities such as workshops, sing-through days and tours. For a single payment at the start of the season, Friends receive one top-price ticket for all Whitehall Choir-promoted concerts, plus a 10% discount on any further tickets they require. Also included is advance notification of all concerts/events and a free programme – perfect for regular concert attenders, who will save overall on the whole season. For further details about how to become a Patron or Friend please see the Support Us page of our website, [www.whitehallchoir.org.uk](http://www.whitehallchoir.org.uk).

### *Patrons and Friends:*

Lady Teresa Carter; Mr Michael Growcott; Ms Frances Morris-Jones; Mr John Purkiss; Captain B V Woodford CBE, RN; and others, who wish to remain anonymous

### *Friends:*

Miss Elsie Broadbent; Mrs E Gotto; Mrs Gillian Holmes; Mr John Warren; Mrs Lis Warren; and others, who wish to remain anonymous

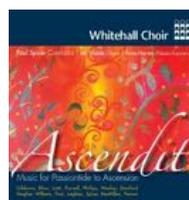
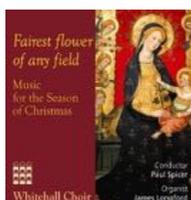
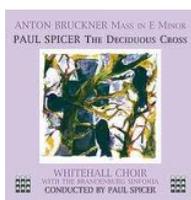
## FUTURE EVENTS

### **Bach Magnificat and Cantata 'Ich hatte viel Bekummerniss'**

Saturday 28 January 2017, St Martin-in-the-Fields, London WC2N 4JH

### **Music for Passiontide including the Duruflé Requiem**

Thursday 6 April 2017, St Margaret's, Westminster, London SW1P 3JX



In 2007 the Whitehall Choir's first CD featured the first recorded performance of Paul Spicer's *The Deciduous Cross*, together with Bruckner's *Mass in E minor*. The second CD, recorded in 2009 at St Alban's Church, Holborn, is a selection of music for the Christmas season. The pieces for Whitehall Choir's most recent CD, *Ascendit*, recorded in 2014, were chosen to trace the period of the liturgical calendar between Passiontide and Ascension.