



# SONGS & SONNETS

**SHEARING, MATHIAS,  
DIEMER & RUTTER**

**WHITEHALL CHOIR**

**CONDUCTOR - JOANNA TOMLINSON**

**THURSDAY 27 JUNE 7.30PM  
ST PETER'S EATON SQUARE**

**Tickets: £20, £15, £10**

**[whitehallchoir.org](http://whitehallchoir.org)**

**Whitehall Choir is a registered charity 280478**



# CONCERT PROGRAMME

Whitehall Choir will perform settings by George Shearing, William Mathias, Emma Lou Diemer and John Rutter of texts by Shakespeare and his contemporaries. All have a light, jazzy feel, ensuring a fun and lively concert, followed by a relaxed drinks reception on the portico of St Peter's – a popular summer tradition for the choir!

Shearing wrote his well-loved *Songs and Sonnets* – his second set of Shakespeare songs – in 1999. Whitehall Choir performed the first set, *Music to Hear*, under Paul Spicer in July 2013. John Rutter, a fan of George Shearing, wrote his settings, *Birthday Madrigals*, in 1995 as a 75th birthday tribute to the composer. Both sets will be accompanied by piano and double bass.

The other two works, by Welsh composer William Mathias and American Emma Lou Diemer, are less overtly jazz in style but still have jazz influences with energetic rhythms and slow, atmospheric movements.

**Whitehall Choir**, under its dynamic Music Director Joanna Tomlinson, is one of London's leading amateur choirs. The choir is always looking for talented singers. Details at [whitehallchoir.org](http://whitehallchoir.org).

**Joanna Tomlinson**, Music Director of Whitehall Choir, is also Music Director of the internationally renowned Farnham Youth Choirs, and of Constanza Chorus. Recent engagements include conducting Bach's Mass in B minor at Cadogan Hall with Constanza Chorus and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, and chorus-mastering Howard Skempton's *Eye to Eye*, a large community project for Glyndebourne/Brighton Festival at the Dome, Brighton.

**Ian Tindale**, accompanist of Whitehall Choir, was awarded the Pianist's Prize at the Wigmore Hall/Kohn Foundation Song Competition in 2017. Recent engagements include song recitals across Europe and the UK, including performances at the Leeds Lieder and Ryedale Festivals, and frequent appearances as a member of the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Malcolm Creese**, double bass player, combines jazz and classical performances at the highest level with extensive film, television and recording work. He studied cello at the Guildhall, but his love of jazz resulted in a switch in his mid-twenties to double bass. Malcolm toured the world with Cleo Laine and John Dankworth from 1991 to 2001, and played with Stan Tracey for six years. Today he is widely recognised as one of Europe's most admired double bass players.

## FUTURE WHITEHALL CHOIR CONCERTS

**Come & Sing Handel's Messiah** Saturday 7 September, Church of the Holy Spirit, Narbonne Avenue, Clapham SW4 9JU

**Handel's Messiah** Thursday 28 November 2019, St John's Smith Square, SW1P 3HA

**Carol concert** Tuesday 17 December 2019, St Peter's Eaton Square, SW1W 9AL

**Rachmaninov Vespers** Thursday 26 March 2020, St Alban's Church Holborn, 18 Brooke Street, EC1N 7RD