



P R O G R A M M E



*SAINT JOHN SUB CASTRO, LEWES*  
*SAINT WILFRID, HAYWARDS HEATH*

*Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 1999*



# **YULETIDE THROUGH THE AGES**

**500 Years of Christmas Music and Readings**



*Esterházy Chamber Choir*

*London City Brass Quintet*

*John Bernays - Baritone*  
*Elizabeth Counsell - Reader*  
*David Adkins - Organist*



*Conductor* **Michael Fulcher**



*SAINT JOHN SUB CASTRO, LEWES*  
*SAINT WILFRID, HAYWARDS HEATH*

*Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 1999*



# **YULETIDE THROUGH THE AGES**

**500 Years of Christmas Music and Readings**



*Esterházy Chamber Choir*

*London City Brass Quintet*

*John Bernays - Baritone*  
*Elizabeth Counsell - Reader*  
*David Adkins - Organist*



*Conductor* **Michael Fulcher**



Foundation  
for sport  
and the arts



Lewes District Council

# Programme

## 16<sup>th</sup> Century

Choir *Coventry Carol (orig. version 1591)* Anon.

Choir *Videte miraculum* Tallis

### Audience & Choir

*While shepherds watched their flocks* Anon.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Century

Choir *In dulci jubilo* Praetorius

Choir *Es ist Ros' entsprungen* Praetorius

Readings by Elisabeth Counsell

Brass *Sonata for two trumpets* Purcell

## 18<sup>th</sup> Century

Choir *O Jesulein süß (O little one sweet)* J.S. Bach

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century

### Audience & Choir

*Once in royal David's city* Gauntlett

☆

Interval of fifteen minutes

☆

Choir *The shepherds' farewell* Berlioz

Choir *The Crown of roses* Tchaikovsky

Solo/Choir *The three kings* Cornelius

Choir *Frohlocket, ihr Völker auf Erden* Mendelssohn

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Readings by Elisabeth Counsell

Brass *Christmas Medley*

Choir *O magnum mysterium* Poulenc

Choir	<i>Hodie Christus natus est</i>	Poulenc
Solo	<i>The oxen</i>	V. Williams
Choir	<i>Torches</i>	Joubert
Children's Choir [Haywards Heath only]		
	<i>The Holly and the Ivy</i>	Rutter
Solo/Choir	<i>A spotless rose</i>	Howells
Choir	<i>A babe is born</i>	Mathias
Audience & Choir		
	<i>O come, all ye faithful</i>	Anon.



## Words for CAROLS

### *While shepherds watched their flocks*

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
 All seated on the ground,  
 The angel of the Lord came down,  
 And glory shone around.

'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
 Had seized their troubled mind);  
 'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
 To you and all mankind.

'To you in David's town this day  
 Is born of David's line  
 A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
 And this shall be the sign:

'The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
And in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,  
And on the earth be peace;  
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease'.



*Once in royal David's city*

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.



*O come, all ye faithful*

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, 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, etc.*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest:

*O come, etc.*



## John Bernays

John Bernays was born and educated in Queensland, Australia, before winning a post-graduate research scholarship to New College, Oxford in 1986. He completed a M. Phil. degree and sang for four years in New College Choir.

Recent concert engagements include *Carmina Burana* and Fauré's *Requiem* (Barbican), *St. John Passion* (Tour with Australian Chamber Orchestra), Bach's *Magnificat* (English Chamber Choir), *St. Matthew Passion* (T.V. recording and European Tour), Britten's *War Requiem* (St. Albans' Abbey), the *Creation* (Lichfield Cathedral and Harrow), *The Pilgrim's Progress* (with Richard Hickox).

Opera rôles include: The Count (*Marriage of Figaro*), Marcello (*Rigoletto*) with English Touring Opera, Don Alfonso (*Così fan tutte*) with Garden Opera and New Chamber Opera, Papageno (*The Magic Flute*) with Surrey Opera. John has also toured with Kent Opera and Scottish Go Round.

Recently, John sang the rôle of Adonis in John Blow's Opera *Venus and Adonis* at the Globe Theatre, and performed in Rameau's *Les Boréades* at the Salzburg Festival under Sir Simon Rattle.

He is currently singing Dancaïre in *Carmen* with English Touring Opera.



## Elisabeth Counsell

Elisabeth Counsell was brought up in the theatre; her father John Counsell ran the Theatre Royal, Windsor.

She has played classical roles, on stage, including Lady Macbeth (opposite Michael Gambon), Shaw's St. Joan, Masha in "The Three Sisters", Rosalind in "As You Like It", Beatrice in "Much Ado About Nothing", Viola in "Twelfth Night" and Eliza in "Pygmalion". She was Sir

Michael Redgrave's leading lady in "Shakespeare's people" touring South America and Canada.

This year, she has toured the Middle and Far East for Derek Nimmo in Alan Ayckbourn's "Absurd Person Singular", played Queen Jadis and the White Witch in "The Chronicles of Narnia" for American radio with David Suchet and Paul Schofield. She has also appeared in performances of Cole Porter's musical "Jubilee" at Her Majesty's Theatre, which will be broadcast by Radio Three on Boxing Day.



## London City Brass Quintet

The London City Brass Quintet met at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in 1994. Since then, they have performed extensively in and around the City of London, and also played numerous recitals nationally. The quintet was chosen for the Young Artists Platform scheme sponsored by the Tillett Trust who have assisted them in various projects. The group are 'Recommended artists' for 1998/99 by the National Federation of Music Societies and are busy performing in many music festivals and music clubs as well as recording for both radio and television. Educational work also forms a strong part of their work, mainly with Yehudi Menuhin's "Live Music Now!" scheme and "Music Education Workshops".

The ensemble's extensive repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary music and also includes several newly commissioned works. The quintet enjoy the challenge of new music for brass as well as relishing the opportunity to play 'show stopping' arrangements of pieces from the well known classics. The quintet's debut CD 'Performance' (released in 1998) demonstrates the full versatility of the LCBQ's repertoire and has proved very popular. London City Brass Quintet have taken their fresh and original approach to brass playing to such venues as St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the Barbican, Fairfield Halls Croydon and the South Bank.



## The Esterházy Chamber Choir

The Lewes-based Esterházy Chamber Choir was founded in 1993 and comprises some forty experienced singers selected by their founding Music Director David Angus. Following David's appointment as Resident Conductor of the Flanders Symphony Orchestra the choir appointed Michael Fulcher as their new Director from November 1999. The name Esterházy was inspired by its links with Haydn who has a special place in the choir's repertoire. Count Esterházy was Haydn's patron and most of Haydn's works were first performed at the Esterháza palace in the former Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The choir aims to perform at a professional standard whilst remaining firmly rooted in the fine English tradition of amateur music making. It also aims to make music more accessible to the young by offering free admission to accompanied children under 16 for all its own promotions.

The choir is a warm and friendly group which welcomes approaches for audition from experienced musicians who have similar aspirations. The singers are also pleased to offer their talents in support of charitable events. Every year the choir performs a charity Christmas concert of popular favourites with families in mind.

An extensive repertoire spans five centuries of sacred and secular music by composers such as Tallis, Purcell, Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Howells, Britten, Tavener and Michael Rose. As well as being noted for its *a cappella* work, the choir has performed recently with the London Mozart Players, London Philharmonic Brass, the Irish Chamber Orchestra, London City Brass and its own Esterházy Chamber Orchestra led by Andrew Bernardi.

Outstanding among the choir's recent concerts have been what was described as 'The definitive *Messiah*: 'an electric performance' with the London Mozart Players in Brighton; a highly successful concert of choral and organ music in Brighton which included Fauré's *Requiem*; performances of Haydn's *Creation* during the Brighton Festival; a performance of Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* with Osian Ellis; and two charity gala performances of Handel's *Messiah* at Glyndebourne which together raised over £80,000.

The choir was recently awarded a substantial grant by The Foundation for Sport and the Arts which has enabled ambitious concert plans for the year 2000. Performances will include Bach's *St John Passion* and Handel's *Messiah* in the Spring; Mozart's *Requiem* and *Solemn Vespers* in the Autumn followed by Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* in December.



## Michael Fulcher

Michael Fulcher, who was born in Australia, graduated as a Bachelor of Music (with High Distinction in Organ Performance) in 1986 from the University of Queensland, Brisbane. He went on to a Master's Degree and Graduate Diploma in Music (Conducting and Repetiteur) completing his formal studies in 1993. Work followed with a variety of orchestras, choirs and choral societies in Australia until, in 1994, he became Director of Music for the choir of Trinity College at the University of Melbourne. At the same time he was establishing himself in the world of opera with Opera Queensland and Opera Australia. A sabbatical during 1997 at Winchester Cathedral opened the way for him to become known in the United Kingdom and led to his appointment as Music Director for New Sussex Opera. Works including *Danton's Death* and *The Sorcerer's Daughter* were performed at the Brighton Festival under his guidance.

# The Choir

## Sopranos

Catherine Burton  
Frances du Corbier  
Becky Clifford  
Sharon Flower  
Pru Heathcote  
Michelle Lefevre  
Tess Powderham  
Tricia Roussel  
Françoise Towler  
Sue Uglow

## Altos

Meryll Goodwin  
Joan Hester  
Sarah Jarvis  
Denise Jones  
Robin Page  
Joyce Phillips  
Sue Richards  
Nancy Turner  
Karen Zeff

## Tenors

David Gillham  
Wayne Jones  
Richard Pulham  
David Spear  
David Sutcliffe  
Philip Uglow  
Richard Ware  
Julius Weeks

## Basses

John Astbury  
Peter Claridge  
Brian Derbyshire  
Chris Dixon  
Derek Froud  
David Goodwin  
John Hayllar  
Matthew Spencer  
Michael Tearle  
Philip Towler

Rehearsal Pianist: **Sarah Jarvis**

Organist: **David Adkins**

## The Friends of Esterházy

**W**e would like to pay especial thanks to the members of our 'Friends' Association who have given generous financial support. Promoting and producing concerts, with or without orchestras, is very expensive and the choir would not be able to continue without this additional help.

Mrs. C.R.K. Baden-Powell  
Mr. Alexander Bruce  
Mr Hedley Cornwell  
Mr. C.B. d' A. Fearn  
Mr. & Mrs. P. Gillham  
Dr. M.A. Norman  
Dr. Derrick J. Platt OBE  
Mr. R.L. Vigers  
Prof. Adrian Wood

Mr. David Botibol  
Karen & John Coley  
Mr. Mark Evans  
Mr. Derek Froud  
Mrs. J.R. Gumpert  
Ms Deborah M. Peat  
Rev. D.W.A. Stride  
Mrs Sylvia Williams

If you are interested in being a 'Friend' or going on our mailing list, please ask one of our front of house staff for a *Freepost* registration postcard.

## ESTERHÁZY CHAMBER CHOIR

### *Friends Association*

The Esterházy Chamber Choir has an active and supportive network of "Friends" who give generous financial support and receive the following benefits:

**Associate** (annual amount: anything from £5 upwards)

Associate Friends will receive advance details of all ECC concerts, priority booking (made through the ECC Friends Co-ordinator), invitations to occasional social events, and an acknowledgement in every concert programme booklet.

**Patron** (annual amount: from £25 upwards)

In addition to the above benefits, Patrons receive invitations to special concert receptions and are entitled to a reduction of 20% when purchasing two or more tickets through the ECC Friends Co-ordinator.

**Benefactor** (payments of £250+ made through *Gift Aid*)

Benefactors enjoy all the benefits of Patrons and Associate Friends, for life!

The scheme is run by Philip Towler at the following address:

Esterházy Chamber Choir  
Freepost SEA 2702  
Brighton BN1 5ZZ  
01273 507965

The choir is managed by David Goodwin at the following address:

1 Dorset Road  
Lewes  
BN7 1TH  
01273 471089 (phone/fax)

~ OUR NEXT CONCERT ~

Theatre Royal, Brighton  
Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2000 at 2.45 pm

**New Year Viennese Concert**

*Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra*  
*Esterházy Chamber Choir*

Tickets £10.00, £12.00, £14.00 & £16.00

available from:  
Theatre Royal Box Office 01273 328488

The choir will also be performing

**Bach: *St John Passion***

**Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2000**

St Saviour's church, Eastbourne





Supported by  
The Foundation for Sport and the Arts  
and  
Lewes District Council