



# ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2000 at 7.30 p.m.



# CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



## Esterházy Chamber Choir

Conducted by Russell Burton



## London City Brass Quintet

Andrew Knowles, Organ

Nigel McNestrie, Cello

Jozef Koc, Baritone



## PROGRAMME

*Matin Responsory* - Palestrina

*Advent Prose (Rorate coeli)* - Plainsong

**BRASS : Canzona Prima a 5** - Giovanni Gabrieli

*Magnificat* - G. Gabrieli

*Hymn to the Mother of God* - Tavener

**BRASS : Rondeau** - Mouret

*I sing of a Maiden* - Hadley

*A spotless rose* - Howells

**Baritone Solo : To the Queen of Heaven** - Thomas Dunhill

*Magnificat (Collegium Regale)* - Tavener

## INTERVAL (20 minutes)

**Organ Solo : Le Monde dans l'attente du Sauveur (Symphonie-Passion Op. 23)** - Marcel Dupré

*Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* - Praetorius

*In Dulci Jubilo* - Scheidt

**BRASS : Galliard Battaglia** - Scheidt

*The Lamb* - Tavener

*The child of light* - Saxton

**BRASS : Christmas Medley** - Iveson

*Fantasia on Christmas Carols* - Vaughan Williams

## RUSSELL BURTON - CONDUCTOR

Russell Burton was born in the Lake District and was educated at The Queen Katherine School, Kendal and Birmingham Conservatoire where he studied the Organ, Piano and Conducting.

His first appointment was as the Organist and Choirmaster at Taunton School; a post which he combined with a deputy Lay Clerkship at Wells Cathedral. In 1989 he became Director of Chapel Music at Charterhouse and was responsible for all the singing there. Russell has been the Director of Music at Hurstpierpoint since 1996 but leaves in January to become the Director of Music at Bradfield College, Reading.

Russell Burton is an international examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and leads a busy life as a freelance singer and adjudicator.

## ANDREW KNOWLES - ORGAN

Andrew Knowles was born in Bolton in 1974 and was educated at Chetham's School of Music, Manchester. In 1994 he went up to Oxford University as organ scholar of Lady Margaret Hall, where he read for an honours degree in music. In 1999 he was awarded the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists. In February 2000 his first String Quartet 'Scherzo and Fugue' was given its premier at the Oriel College Festival of New Music. Until August 2000 he was the assistant organist at the Oratory Church of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Oxford.

Andrew is now the resident Titular Organist of St. Michael's Abbey, Farnborough where he enjoys playing liturgical music on the historic Cavaillé-Coll instrument.

## NIGEL MCNESTRIE - CELLO

Nigel McNestrie studied at Chichester College of Technology before being accepted on the Graduate Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he studied cello with Leonard Stehn and piano with John York. After leaving the Guildhall School he returned to West Sussex to develop a career in both performing and teaching. He is now in demand as a freelance cellist, with a diverse range of performing experience including chamber music, opera and recorded light music. Nigel is a member of the Lancing Trio, a piano trio named after the College, which performs in many music clubs in London and the South East. He also performs in the orchestra of English Festival Opera which appears at Holland Park, London each summer. More recently Nigel has been a guest cellist of the Monrovia State Opera in their tour of Great Britain.

Nigel has other interests which include playing the viola da gamba with the Boxgrove Consort, growing fruit and vegetables on his allotments and driving fast in his 1959 MGA sports car!

## LONDON CITY BRASS QUINTET

PLAYERS: MARK LAW & DANIEL NEWELL (TRUMPETS), RACHEL McLOUGHLIN (HORN), MARK TEMPLETON (TROMBONE), MATTHEW SMITH (TUBA)

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 Tillet Trust who have assisted them in various projects. The group were '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 is also important to the group, working 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 Croydon and the South Bank.

## JOZEF KOC - BARITONE

Jozef Koc read music at the University of York before winning a scholarship for postgraduate study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Jozef has created roles in many new operas and music theatre pieces. For the Royal Opera House (Garden Venture) he sang the leading roles in *Heroes Don't Dance* by Julian Grant and *Blood and the Moon* by Richard Chew. At English National Opera he has sung in several productions, including most recently the Corporal in the world premiere of *The Silver Tassie* by Mark Anthony Turnage. For Glyndebourne Touring Opera he has performed Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, the Guide *Death in Venice* and for Glyndebourne Education, Inspector Grayling/Eric Cantona in *Misper* by John Lunn. Jozef has also sung leading opera roles with Opera Factory, Garsington Festival Opera and Pimlico Opera. His European Opera engagements include Traveller *Curlew River* in Paris, Tarquinius *Rape of Lucretia* in Antwerp and the leading role in Simon Holt's opera *The Nightingale's to Blame* in Vienna.

Jozef Koc has sung at all the main London concert halls with the BBC Symphony, London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic and English Chamber Orchestras. He has broadcast for the BBC, WDR and Spanish Radio. His CD recordings include baroque anthems with the Parley of Instruments, and *The Geisha* and a disc of American music with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, which was nominated for a Grammy award.

Future engagements include concerts with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, the title role in *Don Giovanni* in Switzerland and France and further work at Glyndebourne.



## THE ESTERHÁZY CHAMBER CHOIR

The Lewes-based Esterházy Chamber Choir was founded in 1993 and comprises some thirty experienced singers originally brought together by their founding Music Director David Angus. During the present season (see below) the choir has been widening its experience by working with a number of different directors on a project basis. These have included Michael Fulcher, Nicholas Houghton and Peter Leech. The name Esterházy was chosen because of its strong musical associations. Count Esterházy was Haydn's patron and most of the composer'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. As a charity it also aims to make music more accessible to the young by offering free admission to accompanied children under 16 to its annual Christmas Concert.

The choir is a warm and friendly group which welcomes approaches for audition from experienced musicians (especially tenors) who have similar aspirations. The choir is somewhat unusual in that it usually now performs in 'quartets' rather than the traditional blocks of singers in parts. The choir is also pleased to offer its talents in support of charitable events.

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

Outstanding among the choir's concerts have been what was described as 'The definitive *Messiah*: an electric performance' with the London Mozart Players in Brighton; a performance of Haydn's *Creation* during the Brighton Festival; Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* with Osian Ellis; and two gala performances of Handel's *Messiah* at Glyndebourne which together raised over £80,000 for charity. This year, the choir has performed Bach's *St. John Passion* in Eastbourne; Handel's *Messiah* in Seaford; a programme of Sacred Choral Classics in Ringmer; and, most recently, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Solemn Vespers* in Lewes Town Hall. All the choir's concerts this year have enjoyed the support of The Foundation for Sport and the Arts which last year made a substantial award to the choir. Plans for 2001 include: a programme of Coronation Anthems and concerti grossi by Handel in Lewes on 10<sup>th</sup> March; an appearance with Emma Kirkby in the Lewes Festival production of *Dido & Aeneas* on 2<sup>nd</sup> May; a concert of choral music with Venetian connections in the Brighton Festival on 13<sup>th</sup> May, to include Stravinsky's *Mass* and motets by Schütz, Gabrieli and Monteverdi; and a Summer concert of madrigals and part-songs on 7<sup>th</sup> July.

If you want to check concert details you can visit our website on: [www.esterhazy.org.uk](http://www.esterhazy.org.uk)

### THE CHOIR

#### Sopranos

Sue Barber  
Sarah Bridgland  
Catherine Burton  
Frances du Corbier  
Prue Heathcote  
Michelle Lefevre  
Lucy Morgan-Jones  
Tess Powderham  
Françoise Towler

#### Altos

Maria Birch  
Meryll Goodwin  
Joan Hester  
Sarah Jarvis  
Denise Jones  
Robin Page  
Karen Zeff

#### Tenors

David Sutcliffe  
Roger Elias  
Robert Fielding

#### Baritones

Chris Dixon  
David Goodwin  
Matthew Spencer  
Philip Towler

#### Basses

John Astbury  
Peter Claridge  
Derek Froud  
John Hayllar

#### Rehearsal

**Pianist:**  
Sarah Jarvis

## THE FRIENDS OF ESTERHÁZY

We 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 & Mrs David Botibol  
Mr Alexander Bruce  
Karen & John Coley  
Mr Hedley Cornwell  
Mr Mark Evans  
Mr C.B. d'A. Fearn

Mrs M.E. Freeman  
Mr Derek Froud  
Mr & Mrs P. Gillham  
Mrs J.R. Gumpert  
Dr Joan Hester  
Mr Nick Hollington  
Mrs P. Johnstone

Mr David Millington  
Dr M.A. Norman  
Ms Deborah M. Peat  
Dr Derrick J. Platt OBE  
Rev. D.W.A. Stride  
Mr R.L. Vigars  
Prof. Adrian Wood

## 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) and an acknowledgement in every concert programme booklet.

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

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

#### **Benefactor** (payment 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)