CBSO

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Choral Christmas with Anna Lapwood Symphony Hall Tue 19 & Wed 20 December, 2023 7:30pm



CHORAL CHORAL CHRISTIAS WITH ANNA LAPWOOD

Concert programme £4

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INTRODUCTION

I've been looking forward to returning to the CBSO family for months, and it feels particularly special to be here at Christmas, a time of year when music-making seems to have that extra little bit of sparkle.

Today's programme contains so many old favourites - I can't help but grin whenever I hear 'Sleigh Ride' - but also some new discoveries by Roxanna Panufnik, Will Todd, and the Forbes L'estranges.

I so enjoyed working with the Orchestra and Youth Chorus a couple of years ago, and I can't wait to enjoy their music-making once more, as well as sharing a couple of my Christmas favourites on the organ.

Jonathan Scott's 'Christmas Fantasy' brings together five carols in a medley that encapsulates so many of the emotions we feel at Christmas, from excited anticipation through to hyperactive joy, via heart-rending nostalgia. Kristina Arakelyan's 'Star Fantasy', meanwhile, paints a vivid picture of the Magi's journey to visit the baby Jesus.

I have to say I'm particularly excited about narrating 'The Night before Christmas', which is a bit of a bucket-list item for me. But I think what I'm most looking forward to is hearing the full might of the combined choirs, orchestra and audience singing 'O Come all Ye Faithful' at full pelt. There's nothing quite like the feeling of being part of music-making on that scale, something which I think we're all appreciating even more in the aftermath of Covid. It's pure magic when you feel the energy of more than two thousand people all pouring into the same moment, the same music and the same sound - it just seems to radiate joy, and I can't wait to be a part of it.

Vaughan Williams. This Truth is sent from above 4mins Stuart Nicholson orch. John Rutter, Ding Dong Merrily on High 3mins Roxanna Panufnik. Ave Maria 5mins Handel. For unto us a child is born (from Messiah) 4mins Bob Chilcott, While Shepherds Watched 4mins Will Todd. We Three Kinas 5mins Darius Battiwalla, In dulci jubilo 4mins Kristina Arakelyan, Star Fantasy 4mins John Rutter, Gloria Patri (from Magnificat) 6mins Mendelssohn arr. Wilcocks. Hark the Herald 4mins Interval Leroy Anderson, Sleigh Ride 3mins Philip Lane, The Night Before Christmas 6mins J. Forbes l'Estrange & A. L'Estrange, Presence 3mins Sklyar & Beck, Sparklejollytwinklejingly 3mins Jonas Brothers, arr. Mac Huff, Like it's Christmas 4mins Jonathan Scott. Christmas Celebration 7mins John Rutter. What Sweeter Music 5mins Arr. Willcocks, God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen 4mins Arr. Ledger, O Come All Ye Faithful 5mins Arr. Chilcott, We Wish You A Merry Christmas 4mins

Michael Seal, Conductor Anna Lapwood, Presenter & Organ CBSO Chorus CBSO Youth Chorus CBSO Children's Chorus CBSO SO Vocal

We are very happy for you to take photographs and short video clips at our concerts, but please refrain from recording the whole performance. We'd love you to share them with us @TheCBSO.

We do ask that you are mindful of disturbing other audience members and therefore ask that you dim the brightness on your phone, take pictures during applause breaks and do not use your flash. Lucy Hollins, SO Vocal Conductor Simon Halsey, Chorus Director Julian Wilkins, Conductor of CBSO Youth and Children's Choruses, and Associate Chorus Director

We also regularly take photographs for promotional use, so you may see a professional photographer at our concerts. Please ask a member of the front of house team if you have any questions about this.

To ensure that everyone is able to enjoy the performance, please make sure your mobile phone is set to silent.

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INSPIRE CHILDREN TO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF LIVE MUSIC!



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This February, we want to welcome 13,000 young people into the concert hall, some for the very first time, to experience the CBSO perform live. Our Schools' Concerts are here to make that moment special!

Delivering these tailored concerts costs over £160,000. Income from ticket sales and generous support from Services for Education covers just over half of this, but we are left with around £90,000 to fundraise through trust and foundations and philanthropic individuals like you. We hope every child in the West Midlands leaves school with a passion for music. By supporting our 2024 Schools' Concerts Appeal you help build crucial connections between the CBSO and schools across the region.

With generous support from anonymous donors, we have £23,000 of match-funding available! If you can, please help us continue to deliver inspirational music to children across the West Midlands by donating online today, doubling your donation and impact!

DONATE TODAY

To donate please visit cbso.co.uk/stories/appeal

The CBSO is a registered charity in England (No. 506276). Address: CBSO Centre, Berkley Street, Birmingham, B1 2LF

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

- 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".
- 3. "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 heav'nly Babe you there shall find To human view displayed, All meanly wrapped in swathing bands, And in a manger laid."
- 5. 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 to earth be peace; Good will henceforth from heaven to men Begin and never cease."

HARK THE HERALD

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

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest Heav'n 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

3. Hail the heav'n 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

GOD REST YOU MERRY GENTLEMEN

 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

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy

2. From God our Heavenly 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

Refrain

 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

Refrain

 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

Refrain

5. 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

Refrain

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

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

 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God In the highest

Refrain

 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born on Christmas morning, Jesu, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing Conductor

MICHAEL SEAL



© ERIC RICHMOND

Michael Seal is the Associate Conductor of the CBSO, a unique appointment which recognises his work as Assistant Conductor, and the special relationship he has built with the orchestra. Seal has worked with many of the UK's finest orchestras, frequently being invited as guest conductor with the BBC orchestras and RLPO, as well as the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra and Ulster Orchestra. Internationally, he has conducted the Brussels Philharmonic, Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, KBS Symphony Orchestra, Norwegian Radio Orchestra, Odense Symphony Orchestra, Joensuu City Orchestra, Orguesta Académica del Instituto Superior de Arte del Teatro Colón, Orguesta Filarmónica de Buenos Aires, Trondheim Symphony Orchestra and both RTÉ Concert and National Symphony Orchestras. Seal has a special bond with the CBSO Youth Orchestra, conducting them on numerous occasions, and being involved with them since their foundation

CONDUCTOR CHANGE

Unfortunately, Simon Halsey is unwell and unable to join us for this concert. We are grateful to Michael Seal for stepping in.

ANNA LAPWOOD

Anna Lapwood is an associate artist of the Roval Albert Hall and holds the position of Director of Music at Pembroke College (Cambridge). She was awarded an Associateship of the Royal Academy of Music and the prestigious Gamechanger Award from the Royal Philharmonic Society in 2023. Anna regularly performs concertos with leading symphony orchestras and is heard playing recitals in concert halls and churches across Europe and the United States; she will make her debut appearance at Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles in 2024. Anna has also performed with Alison Balsom, Bonobo and Benedict Cumberbatch. As a broadcaster, she made her TV presenting debut on BBC Young Musician (also serving as Chair of the Jury in 2022), has hosted a televised Prom and is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 3 and 4. Anna also reaches a large online audience with over 1 million social media followers. She was the first female in Magdalen College Oxford's 560-year history to be awarded the Organ Scholarship and became Ambassador of the Cathedral Music Trust in 2022, Following four successful albums on Signum Classics, Anna signed to SONY Classical in 2023 releasing the EP 'Midnight Sessions at the Royal Albert Hall'l in April with a new album to follow in the autumn.



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PROUD TO BE BIRMINGHAM'S ORCHESTRA

We are Birmingham's orchestra – loud and proud. An internationally celebrated symphony orchestra that makes music that matters to the people of Birmingham, the West Midlands and beyond.

A family of 90 incredible musicians, we exist to create exciting musical experiences for all. From brightening up the morning commute, to inspiring audiences and musicians of the future – we make epic, powerful, meaningful music that fills concert halls, communities, streets, schools and lives with passion, excitement, inspiration, hope and joy. We've come from all over the world, but we're at home right here in Birmingham. See us at Symphony Hall playing some of the greatest symphonic music of all time, at pop-up performances around the city, at the CBSO Centre performing intimate smallscale gigs or in schools, community centres, libraries and even the occasional pub!

We're musicians, but we're also parents, teachers, runners, gardeners, writers, sports fans, foodies and so much more. We're part of your city, and we couldn't be happier to be here to play, share, write, sing, live and breathe music with you!

PERFORMERS

VIOLIN I

Simon Blendis Lowri Porter Jack Greed Jane Wright[#] Bethan Allmand* Robert Bilson Nathan Bomans* Katherine Gittings Wendy Quirk Adam Hill Jessica Coleman Amanda Woods

VIOLIN II

Emily Davis Moritz Pfister* Catherine Arlidge*# Amy Jones*# Heather Bradshaw# Bryony Morrison* Gabriel Dyker*# Timothy Birchall* Ric Thomas Tam Mott

VIOLA

Chris Yates* Catherine Bower*# Michael Jenkinson*# David BaMaung* Daichi Yoshimura Jessica Tickle* Amy Thomas Henrietta Ridegon Sagnick Mukherjee

CELLO

Eduardo Vassallo** Arthur Boutillier* David Powell* Jacqueline Tyler** Catherine Ardagh-Walter** Helen Edgar** Haydn Wynn

DOUBLE BASS

Anthony Alcock* Julian Atkinson*# Sally Morgan*# Julian Walters*# Joana Moura

FLUTE

Marie-Christine Zupancic*[#] Jimena de Vicente Alvarez

PICCOLO Helen Benson*

OBOE

Catriona McKinnon Emmet Byrne*

COR ANGLAIS Rachael Pankhurst*

CLARINETS Oliver Janes* Joanna Patton*#

BASS CLARINET Mark O'Brien*

BASSOON Nikolaj Henriques* Margaret Cookhorn*

HORN

Elspeth Dutch*[#] Jack Sewter Jeremy Bushell* Martin Wright[#]

TRUMPET

Jason Lewis* Juliette Murphy Catherine Knight Jonathan Quirk*[#]

TROMBONE

Richard Watkin* Anthony Howe*#

BASS TROMBONE David Vines*#

TUBA James Tavares

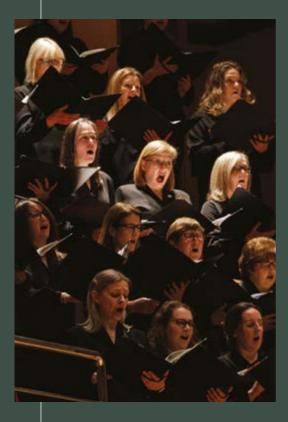
TIMPANI Matthew Hardy*

PERCUSSION Adrian Spillett*# Andrew Herbert Toby Kearney* Mark Norman

HARP Katherine Thomas*

ORGAN Julian Wilkins

CBSO CHORUS



The CBSO Chorus is one of the world's great choirs - 180 people from all walks of life who come together to sing symphonic choral music. Trained for 40 years by Simon Halsey CBE, and supported by a professional staff team, the chorus is a hard-working group of singers who give up their own time to perform the most challenging works in the choral repertoire to the highest international standard. Founded in 1973, its main role is to perform with the CBSO - everything from Bach to Henze, as well as operas, Mahler symphonies and the CBSO's famous annual carol concerts. But it has also toured to Europe, Asia, Australia and North America, and sung with some of the greatest orchestras in the world, including the Vienna Philharmonic and Berlin Philharmonic. With over 50 recordings to its credit, the CBSO Chorus has won four Gramophone awards. All this has been achieved by singers from Birmingham and the Midlands, 18 years and above, whose day-jobs range from students to nurses, teachers and pilots.

JOIN US!

To find out more about joining the CBSO Chorus (or any of our other choirs) visit **cbso.co.uk/sing**

PERFORMERS

SOPRANOS

Catherine Mason** Sally Bateman* Priti Bansel-Branch* Beth Taylor Catherine Lander* Isabel Clarke Ros Mortimore **Elizabeth Yeats** Alexandra Lewis* Elizabeth Haines Sarah Rees Marion Bird Jennifer Scholes*** Yasmin Byng Wendy Spinner** Robyn Jennings*** Tilly Halford Lisa Bradburn Rebecca Gill Jessica Duckworth Jievi Li Harriet Smith Teala Dearden **Emily Williams** Allison Tavlor* Catherine Foster*** Claire Spencer Jo Edwards Melissa Morris Prue Hawthorne*** Gillian Machin** Kate Dodds Nicole Plowman Eluned Mansell* Lucy Samuels Melanie Lucas Emma Hudson Di Charles*** Rachael Bavlis*

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ALTOS

Joan Lilburn Sarah Ennis**** Josephine Mesa Bandrés** Alison York*** Catherine Duke*** Caitlin Duff Anna Parker* Sylvia Fox**** Natalie Page Gill Fletcher* Helen Chamberlain** Lydia Danks Sarah Trinder** Jan Sterling Toni Wright*** Belinda Wadsworth Emily Watson-Breeze Hazel Hughes**** Judy Frodsham*** Hannah Watson*

TENORS

Robin Lewis** Ed Sykes Hugh Thomson** Luke Swatman Richard Cook*** Derrick Jones Matthew Allison Charles Barwell* David Lewis Paul Glossop*** David Gregory Rahul Chotai Howard Marriott* Tony Yip Harpreet Sandhu* David Young** Allen Roberts* David Fletcher* Harry Lubkowski Chris Brvan Benedict Coleman Michael Stahl Matt Friend Steven Bache

BASSES

Neavan Lobban Miles Swinden Isaac Boothman Leo Jaffrey Chris O'Grady** Ian Howarth Andrew Halstead* Tony Whitehouse* Phil Rawle**** John Keast*** Oskar Cizej Gordon Thornett*** Phil Uttley Andrew Mein Daniel Pannell Andrew Parker* Phillip Matty Charles Potts Damon Huber Neil Parker Tom Hazell Peter Leppard*** Phil Beynon** Alan White** Will Roberts Steve Gibbs*** Tom Considine* Richard Prew*** Dominic Danks Matthew Pandaya Mike Hartley* Andrew Packer**** Stuart Pauly Hugh Houghton** Alexander Deri Ferguson James Bate Lawrence Bacon***

CBSO YOUTH Chorus



The CBSO Youth Chorus is an auditioned choir for upper voices in school years 9 - 13. Under the guidance of CBSO Assistant Chorus Director Julian Wilkins, the chorus rehearse each Monday evening, during term time, from 7–9:15pm. As well as creating a professional sound and making lifelong friends, through their rehearsals, members of the CBSO Youth Chorus grow in confidence, learn from world renowned musicians, and develop their musical skills.

Available to all as part of their membership, singers will learn how to use their voice and understand vocal techniques through one-toone vocal coaching sessions. Members also have the opportunity to take part in various outof-town concerts in venues such as London's Royal Albert Hall, as well as join their peers for a summer residential and international tours.

APPLY NOW

Our final auditions for this academic year will be held on **Sunday 14th January.**

We will also be auditioning over the summer for the 24/25 Season so keep your eyes peeled for more information.

Please contact Louise on Imadden@cbso.co.uk or 0121 616 6508.

Find out more and apply at cbso.co.uk/youngpeople

Leah Abraham Hawi Asfaw Pauline Baiasu **Bella Bailev** Cadence Ball Esmee Behar Zoe Bendall Annabelle Carmicheal Lizzie Chadwick Ruby Cooper Ruth Cooray Florence Cuckston Fenn Phoebe Dickson Anuva Doger Olive Ejechi Kam Eruchalu Renia Ganguly Holly Garside Chardonnay Ghattaura Belle Godwin Coral Hemsoll Maya Hey Sofija Kostusevica Aapti Krovvidi Venkata

Maggie Liang Livia Mano Mariam Metreveli Freva Nath Michelle Odukomaiya Izzy Pankhurst Nikki Pillai Lexi Quinn Abinaya Rajasekaran Safaa Riaz Gemma Rogers Alex Rupeika Amina Saidova Saffy Sangra Charlie Serban Lily Stanford Aisha Thomas Aimee Walsh Emily Wise Alexis Wong Theresa Zygmunt

CBSO CHILDREN'S Chorus



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The CBSO Children's Chorus is a teaching choir for children aged 7–13 in the West Midlands. Under the guidance of CBSO Assistant Chorus Director Julian Wilkins, the chorus rehearse each Monday evening, during term time, from 5:30–6:45pm. Through their rehearsals, members of the CBSO Children's Chorus grow in confidence, develop as musicians and singers, and learn important performance skills, all while making life-long, like-minded friends!

Available to all as part of their membership, singers will learn how to use their voice and understand vocal techniques through one-toone vocal coaching sessions as well as take part in weekly music theory classes where they can develop their music reading and aural skills. Members also have the opportunity to take part in various out-of-town concerts, including London's Royal Albert Hall!

APPLY NOW

Our final vocal checks for this academic year will be held on **Sunday 14th January.**

We will also be doing vocal checks over the summer for the 24/25 Season so keep your eyes peeled for more information.

Please contact Louise on **Imadden@cbso.co.uk** or **0121 616 6508.**

Find out more and apply at cbso.co.uk/youngpeople

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CBSO So Vocal



© ANDREW FOX

Made up of 200 Birmingham-based singers, CBSO SO Vocal is our unauditioned community choir open to anyone who lives locally and loves to sing.

CBSO SO Vocal rehearses weekly during term times at the Hub in Kings Heath from 7.30-9.00pm, and performs up to three times a year in venues such as Symphony Hall and Town Hall. In 2019 the choir toured to Poland, and celebrated their 10 year anniversary in 2022.

CBSO SO Vocal is conducted by Lucy Hollins and recent performances have featured songs by Dolly Parton and Abba alongside traditional Zulu music and selections from Mozart, Faure, and Verdi.

JOIN US!

There is no audition to join SO Vocal, but there is currently a waiting list. To add your name to the list or find out more about the choir please contact us at **information@csbo.co.uk**

PERFORMERS

SOPRANOS

Sang Ambegaokar Anne Ankcorn Cathy Baines Sue Barnfield Rachel Broomfield Cas Buchanan Shelagh Bull Heather Butler Sandra Caddick Amanda Carter Katy Charles Colleen Cheung Christine Clark Regina Darcy Judith Dearden Diane Geater Claire Gilliam Anne-Marie Glover Barbara Hallam Margaret Harley Gemma Hawkesford Kate Hazlewood Jennifer Johnson Mary Jolley lane lones Katie Khan Jane Kirby Noula Knight Clare Liggins Sue Lucas Ally Middleton **Ruth Phillips-Patel** Maria Podsiadly Louise Prangle Betty Pyle Judy Reece Elizabeth Robinson Julia Rowe

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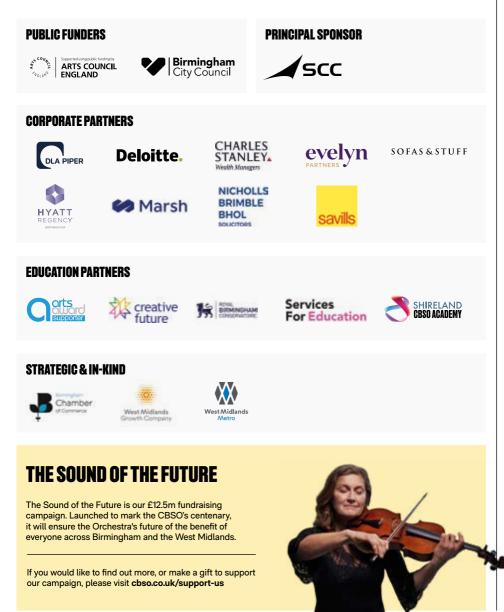
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