

FORTISMERE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Fortismere Community Choir started in 2009 and is an unauditioned choir. We welcome those with and without musical experience, who have a desire to sing with like-minded people. The choir meets at Fortismere School every Saturday in the music block in north wing, from 10.30am to 1.00pm during school terms.

At present, we perform shorter pieces at Christmas, a more substantial work with orchestra around Easter, and light repertoire in the summer. There are also several other performance opportunities over the year, including carol singing and collaborations with other instrumental groups.

Our repertoire in recent years has included Gabrieli's *Hodie Christus Natus Est* for choir and brass, Tallis' *O Nata Lux* and *Archbishop Parker Psalter No. 3*, a selection of Bruckner *Motets*, John Rutter's *The Sprig of Thyme*, and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, Faure's *Requiem*, and Mozart's *Coronation Mass* with the Fortismere Community Orchestra.

The choir has a steering committee and an active social network. Relaxed but supportive home-based sectionals, picnics, parties and tours have all helped to create a friendly atmosphere at rehearsals and events. We are proud to be part of the community that is Fortismere Music Centre, which brings neighbours, teachers and pupils together to create high-calibre music.

If you are interested in joining us (even if you are unsure which voice you are) you are welcome to attend one or two rehearsals without obligation. As a regular member, we would ask you to pay a small subscription per term (£55 per adult or £38 per student) in order to cover costs. Please email us at the address below for more information.

FORTISMERE MUSIC CENTRE

For information:

email fmcinfo@fortismere.org.uk

www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk

With thanks to Fr Bruce Batstone and St Mary with St George Church

FORTISMERE COMMUNITY CHOIR

COME AND SING-
CAROLS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
AND

Maurice Duruflé
REQUIEM

Saturday 12th December, 2015 7.30pm

Paul Ayres **organ**
Manuela Schütte **mezzo-soprano**
Ryan Webber **baritone**
Marvin L. Perrott **musical director**

Tickets: £8 £5concs

Saint Mary with Saint George Church
Cranley Gardens London N10 3AH

REQUIEM ~ Part 1 ~ Maurice Duruflé

I ~ Introit

*Requiem æternam dona eis Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus Deus in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum
in Jerusalem.
Exaudi orationem meam,
ad te omnis caro veniet.*

Eternal rest give to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Sion,
and a vow shall be paid to Thee
in Jerusalem.
O Lord hear my prayer,
all flesh shall come to Thee.

II ~ Kyrie

*Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.*

Lord have mercy on us,
Christ have mercy on us,
Lord have mercy on us.

III ~ Domine Jesu Christe

*Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriæ,
libera animas omnium fidelium
defunctorum de pœnis inferni,
et de profundo lacu,
libera eas de ore leonis,
ne absorbeat eas tartarus,
ne cadant in obscurum.
Sed signifer sanctus Michael
repræsentet eas
in lucem sanctam,
quam olim Abrahæ promisisti,
et semini ejus.
Hostias et preces tibi Domine
laudis offerimus,
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
quarum hodie memoriam facimus;
fac eas, Domine,
de morte transire ad vitam
quam olim Abrahæ promisisti,
et semini ejus.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
deliver the souls of all the faithful
departed from the pains of hell
and from the deep pit,
Deliver them from the lion's mouth
that hell engulf them not,
nor they fall into darkness.
But that Michael,
the holy standard-bearer,
bring them into the holy light,
which Thou once didst promise
to Abraham and his seed.
We offer Thee, O Lord,
sacrifices and prayers of praise;
do Thou accept them for those souls
whom we this day commemorate;
grant them, O Lord,
to pass from death to the life
which Thou once didst promise
to Abraham and his seed.

BIOGRAPHIES

Marvin L. Perrott – musical director

Marvin studied Early Music at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and has extensive experience both as a singer and conductor. He has performed in numerous roles both in the United Kingdom and abroad including First Witch and Spirit in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, 3rd Parche in Luigi Rossi's *Orfeo*, Endimione in Cavalli's *La Calisto*. Equally at home in the concert hall Marvin has performed as a soloist at the Tenerife Music Festival, Handel's *Athalia* at the British Museum, *Messiah*, Monteverdi's *1610 Vespers* and Bach's *H-moll Messe* at the Aldeburgh Music Festival. In 2004 Marvin formed the Clemens non Papa Consort, a group whose aim is to perform lesser known works of the Baroque, Renaissance and Classical periods to a high artistic standard. Marvin is also the guest conductor of the Lavenham Singers.



Paul Ayres – organ

Paul Ayres studied music at Oxford University, and now works freelance as a composer & arranger, choral conductor & musical director, and organist & accompanist. His compositions usually involve words – solo songs, choral pieces, incidental music – and he works with many choirs and theatre groups. Please visit www.paulayres.co.uk to find out more.



Manuela Schütte – soprano

Manuela studied Singing at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London and continued her studies at Goldsmiths College, University of London, where she graduated with a Masters in Music. She performs in a wide range of genres, including church music, concert and opera. She is also lead vocalist with the classical-folk group 'Mishaped Pearls', with whom she has appeared at the Cambridge Folk Festival, the BBC6 Music Festival and London Southbank Centre.



Ryan Webber – baritone

Originally from South Wales, Ryan graduated from Goldsmiths College, University of London in 2008. Roles include Papageno, Count Almavira, Ned Keene in *Peter Grimes* (OperaGold), Dancaire in *Carmen* (OperaGold and Meantime Opera) and Vater in *Hansel and Gretel*. He has also recently been involved in productions for Clemens non Papa Consort singing Tircis and Silvandre in Lully's *Les Fêtes de l'Amour et de Bacchus* as well as Commus in Charpentier's *Les Plaisirs de Versailles*. Ryan lives in south London and works as a music teacher in Islington.



Maurice Duruflé (1902 - 1986)

Like his mentor, Dukas, Duruflé was incredibly self-effacing, and spent considerable time re-working his compositions until they achieved what he felt was the correct level of perfection; in fact, there are only 14 published Opus numbers to his name. Duruflé's early musical training was at the cathedral in Rouen, where there was a famous school of Gregorian chant. This repertory of liturgical song had become something of a French speciality in the 19th century, and among the scholars working on the chants were a group of Benedictines at the French monastery of Solesmes, who developed a theory of chant rhythm as a free succession of notes of mostly equal value in groups of two and three.

The Solesmes school of chant restoration and performance achieved widespread acceptance in the Catholic church and even some Protestant congregations. After a thorough steeping in this tradition, Duruflé came to Paris and studied at the Conservatoire, where he confronted the tradition of Fauré, Debussy, and Ravel. When he came to write his Requiem in 1947, like the earliest composers of polyphonic Requiems, Duruflé took the Gregorian plainchant Mass for the Dead as his raw material. His declared intention was *'to reconcile, as far as possible, Gregorian rhythm...with the exigencies of modern meter.'* That is, he did not transcribe literally the original melodies with their irregular alternation of twos and threes; he adjusted the rhythms subtly so that larger metric patterns emerge, but still he allowed the meter to shift frequently so that a sense of spontaneity is preserved. At the same time, he clothed the sometimes archaic-sounding melodies in sophisticated harmonies of the early modern school. Although he came from a different liturgical tradition, Duruflé used similar texts to those used by Fauré in his requiem.

The piece is in the true tendresse style, leaving out the chilling full *Dies Irae* and accentuating the aspect of forgiveness through the inclusion of a separate *Pie Jesu* and through constant repetition of the phrase *'Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine'*. Duruflé published the Requiem in three versions: for organ alone; for full orchestra and for organ and string quintet with harp, trumpets and timpani ad libitum.

Notes courtesy of Barry Creasy, Chairman, Collegium Musicum of London

REQUIEM ~ Maurice Duruflé

IV ~ Sanctus

*Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, Lord God of Hosts.
The heavens and the earth
are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He Who cometh in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

V ~ Pie Jesu

*Pie Jesu Domine,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Gentle Lord Jesus,
grant them eternal rest.

VI ~ Agnus Dei

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Lamb of God, Who takest away
the sins of the world,
grant them eternal rest.

VII ~ Lux aeterna

*Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,
quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

May light eternal shine upon them,
O Lord, with Thy saints forever,
for Thou art kind.
Eternal rest give to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

VIII ~ Libera me

*Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna,
in die illa tremenda, quando caeli
movendi sunt et terra,
dum veneris judicare
saeculum per ignem.
Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,
dum discussio venerit,
atque ventura ira,
quando caeli movendi sunt
et terra.*

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death
on that dreadful day when the heavens
and the earth shall be moved,
and Thou shalt come to judge
the world by fire.
I quake with fear, and I tremble,
awaiting the day of account,
and the wrath to come,
when the heavens
and the earth shall be moved.

REQUIEM ~ Maurice Duruflé

*Dies illa, dies iræ,
calamitatis et miseræ,
dies magna et amara valde.*

*Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

*Libera me, Domine, de morte æterna,
in die illa tremenda,*

quando cæli movendi sunt

et terra,

dum veneris judicare

sæculum per ignem.

Day of mourning, day of wrath,
of calamity, of misery,
the great day, and most bitter.
Eternal rest give to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death,
on that dreadful day
when the heavens
and the earth shall be moved,
and Thou shalt come
to judge the world by fire.

IX ~ In Paradisum

*In Paradisum deducant te Angeli,
in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres,
et perducant te
in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.*

*Chorus Angelorum
te suscipiat,*

*et cum Lazaro quondam paupere
æternam habeas requiem.*

May the angels receive them in Paradise,
at thy coming may the martyrs
receive thee and bring thee
into the holy city Jerusalem.
There may the chorus of angels
receive thee,
and with Lazarus, once a beggar,
may thou have eternal rest.

INTERVAL

The bar is open before the performance, and during the interval following the first part.

This evening's readings are brought to you by members of the Fortismere Community Choir.

NINE CAROLS WITH READINGS

Carol 8 (Choir only)

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Reading 8 – Christmas Sparrow (*Billy Collins*) - read by Nick Thomas

Carol 9 (Audience & choir)

Hark the Herald

(All) 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.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

(All) 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 the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark...

(All) Hail the Heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n 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.
Hark...

NINE CAROLS WITH READINGS

Reading 6 – Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening (*Robert Frost*)

– read by Caroline Elliot

Carol 7 (Audience & choir) O Come, All Ye Faithful

(All) 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.*

(All) God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten not created:
O come...

(All) See how the shepherds,
Summoned to their cradle,
Leaving their flocks draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
O come...

(All) Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of Heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the Highest:
O come...

Reading 7 – A Politically Correct Christmas (*Anon*) – read by Linda Hooper

Part 2 NINE CAROLS WITH READINGS

Carol 1 (Audience & choir) Once in Royal David City

(Solo) 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.

(All) 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.

(All) 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.

(All) 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;
When like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Reading 1 - Christmas Eve (*Carol Ann Duffy*) – read by Bernard Battley

Carol 2 (Choir only) God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Reading 2 – Christmas Eve (*Lachlan Mackinnon*) – read by Jo Maude

NINE CAROLS WITH READINGS

Carol 3 (Audience & choir) **Away in a Manger**

(All) Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

(All) The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

(All) Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for Heaven, to live with Thee there.

Reading 3 – Christmas in Auschwitz (*Primo Levi*) - read by Laura Worsley

Carol 4 (Choir only) **Infant Holy**

Reading 4 – Trio (*Edwin Morgan*) – read by Philip Dunn

Carol 5 (Audience & choir) **The First Nowell**

(All) 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:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

NINE CAROLS WITH READINGS

(All) 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:
Nowell, Nowell...

(Audience only) 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:
Nowell, Nowell...

(Choir only) This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell...

(All) They enter'd in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offer'd there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense:
Nowell, Nowell...

(All) Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our Heav'nly Lord,
That hath made Heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell...

Reading 5 – London Snow (*Robert Bridges*) – read by Angela Head

Carol 6 (Choir only) **O Little Town of Bethlehem**