THE ASSEMBLY HALL

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

Chorus Master: DEREK WATMOUGH

CAROLS

for

CHOIR & AUDIENCE

Sunday, 14th December, 1969

at 3 p.m.

The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, gives support towards the cost of these concerts with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain. Support is also given by the Corporation of Royal Tunbridge Wells

Programme and Words 1/-

MARJORIE VINALL and DEREK WATMOUGH

Two Pianos

ORCHESTRA

Led by: Nina Bentley

Introduced and Conducted by

TREVOR HARVEY

PROGRAMME

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Anon, 18th Cent.

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,
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, let us adore Him, &c. Sing, choirs of Angels, Sing with exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of Heav'n above: "Glory to God In the highest"; O come, let us adore Him &c.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesu, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Come, let us adore Him,
Come, let us adore Him,

CHOIR:

A great and mighty Wonder!

M. Praetorius (1571-1621)

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "Once in Royal David's City"

ONCE in Royal David's City, Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid here 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.

CHOIR:

The Shepherds' Farewell

For he is our childhood's pattern
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless
Tears and smiles like us he knew
And he feeleth for our sadness
And he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord is heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

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.

Hector Berlioz

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "It came upon the Midnight clear"

Trad: English tune

IT came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled; And still their heavenly music floats O'er all the weary world; Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hovering wing; And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet-bards foretold
When, with the ever-circling years,
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

CHOIR:

Lute Book Lullaby

W. Ballet, 17th Century

Coventry Carol

16th Century

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: Hark the Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn

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 angelic host proclaim. Christ is born in Bethlehem. Hark the herald angels sing.

Christ by highest heaven 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 the herald angels sing, (etc.)

Hail the heaven 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.

Hark the herald angels sing, (etc.)

CHOIR:

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Glory to the new-born King,

Rocking

Polish Carol arranged by David Willcocks Czech Carol arranged by David Willcocks

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: The First Nowell

HE first Nowell the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay In fields where they lay, keeping their On a cold winter's night that was so

deep: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Isreal!

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: 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:

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: Then entered in those Wise Men three. Full reverently upon their knee, And offered there in his presence Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord, That hath made heaven and earth of naught.

And with his blood mankind hath bought: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,

Born is the King of Israell

INTERVAL

THE CARNIVAL OF ANIMALS

Saint Saëns

Marjorie Vinall and Derek Watmough

Nina Bentley, Margaret Syme, Mary Findlay and Alan Doone-(Violins) Nan Ferguson, James Trezies — (Violas)

Roger Smith and Chloe Allman-Ward — (Cellos) David Coles — (Double Bass) Ian Audsley — (Flute)

Charles Hine — (Clarinet)

Reginald Barker — (Xylophone and Glockenspiel)

CHOIR: Gloucestershire Wassail

English Carol arranged by R. Vaughan Williams.

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "Good King Wenceslas"

GOOD King Wenceslas look'd out On the Feast of Stephen When the snow lay round about, Deep, and crisp and even; Brightly shone the moon that night, Though the frost was cruel. When a poor man came in sight, Gath'ring winter fuel.

"Hither, page, and stand by me, If you know'st it telling, Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?" "Sire, he lives a good league hence, Underneath the mountain, Right against the forest fence, By St. Anges fountain."

"Bring me flesh and bring me wine,
Bring me pine logs hither;
Thou and I will see him dine,
When we bear them thither."
Page and monarch forth they went,
Forth they went together;
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.

And the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how,
I can go no longer."
"Mark my footsteps good, my page,
Tread thou in them boldly;
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly."

" Sire, the night is darker now,

In his master's steps he trod,
Where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod
Which the saint had printed,
Therefore, Christian men, be sure
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor,
Shall yourselves find blessing.

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay, Remember Christ our Saviour Was born on Christmas Day, To save us all from Satan's power When we were gone astray: O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

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:
O tidings, &c.

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,
The Son of God to find.

O tidings, &c.

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:

O tidings, &c.

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.
O tidings, &c.

CHOIR: We wish you a Merry Christmas

Arthur Warrell

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

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The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society has about 125 members and at the present time there are no vacancies for sopranos or altos, although a waiting list has been formed. Tenors and basses are still very welcome and interested singers should please apply to:—

The Secretary, Mr. Cyril Wood, 45 High Street, Tunbridge Wells. (Telephone: 23264) for further details.

Subscription is £2 2s. 0d. per annum and rehearsals are held at Christ Church Hall, High Street, Tunbridge Wells on Mondays from 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. Entrance is by private audition.

The Society is greatly indebted to its Patrons and Vice-Presidents for their support, which helps to bridge the serious gap between income and expenditure which nearly always arises in giving choral concerts. It is hoped that all those interested in the performance of choral music will become Vice-Presidents by contributing two guineas a year.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

SUNDAY, 15th MARCH, 1970 at 3 p.m.

ST. JOHN PASSION

(Bach)

MARION MILFORD

Paul Esswood

PETER BAMBER

MICHAEL GOLDTHORPE

THOMAS ALLEN

CHRISTOPHER FIELD

FULL ORCHESTRA

Conductor: TREVOR HARVER

SUNDAY, 1st FEBRUARY, 1970 at 3 p.m. ASSEMBLY HALL

Suite from the Dramatick Music Purcell arr. Barbirolli Irish Tune from County Derry Grainger Mock Morris Grainger Piano Concerto No. 20 In D Minor K.467 Masques et Bergamasques Fauré Symphony No. 104 in D, the London Haydn

Piano: Nerine Barrett Conductor: John Lanchbery

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