

# A Christmas concert

of choral and instrumental music with audience carols

**Saturday 13th December**

**7.00pm St Barnabas' Church**

Stanley Road (off Camden Road), Tunbridge Wells TN1 2RH

Free refreshments afterwards

**Admission:**

Adults £10.00, children £2.00

Programme: £1

ROYAL  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
CHORAL  
SOCIETY

RTWCS is a Registered Charity No: 273310

[www.rtwcs.org.uk](http://www.rtwcs.org.uk)



## Programme *(Separate audience song sheet available free)*

- 1. Choir**  
*FANFARE / GLORIA*  
Music by Martin Shaw.
- 2. Audience and choir**  
*GOOD KING WENCESLAS*  
Tune from *Piae Cantiones* arranged by Reginald Jacques; words by J. M. Neale.
- 3. Choir**  
*DING DONG! MERRILY ON HIGH*  
French 16th century tune arranged by William Llewellyn; words by G. R. Woodward.  
*IN DULCI JUBILO*  
Old German melody set by R. L. Pearsall, arranged by W. J. Westbrook; words translated from the German source of 1570 by R. L. Pearsall.
- 4. Tenor solo**  
*HASTE YE SHEPHERDS*  
From *Christmas Oratorio* by J. S. Bach.
- 5. Choir**  
*NATIVITY CAROL*  
Words and music by John Rutter.  
*MASTERS IN THIS HALL*  
French traditional carol arranged by David Willcocks; words by William Morris.
- 6. Audience and choir**  
*AWAY IN A MANGER*  
Tune by W. J. Kirkpatrick (1838–1921) arranged by David Willcocks; words anon.

- 7. Choir**  
*NAVIDAD NUESTRA*  
*A folk drama of the nativity based on the rhythms and traditions of Hispanic America.*  
By Ariel Ramírez.
- 8. Organ solo**  
*SORTIE IN E FLAT*  
By Louis James Alfred Lefébure-Wély (1817–1869).
- 9. Audience and choir**  
*CHRISTMAS MEDLEY*  
Arranged by Richard Jenkinson.
- 10. Tenor solo**  
*O HOLY NIGHT*  
Music by Adolphe-Charles Adam (1803–1856); words by Placide Cappeau (1808–1877).
- 11. Choir**  
*HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS*  
Words and music by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane; arranged by Peter Gritton.  
*JUST ANOTHER STAR*  
Words and music by Karl Jenkins and Carol Barratt; arranged by Peter Gritton.  
*MARY'S BOY CHILD*  
Words and music by Jester Hairston; arranged by Peter Gritton.
- 12. Audience and choir**  
*TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS*  
Arranged by Richard Jenkinson.

**Join us for free refreshments in the church hall next door at the end of the concert!**

## About the composer Ariel Ramírez

Ariel Ramírez was born in Santa Fe, Argentina on 4th September 1921. He began his piano studies in Santa Fe, and soon became fascinated with the music of the gauchos and creoles in the mountains. He continued his studies in Córdoba where he met the great Argentinian folk singer and songwriter Atahualpa Yupanqui. Following a suggestion from Yupanqui, he visited the North East of Argentina and deepened his research into the traditional rhythms of South America. At the same time continuing his academic studies as a composer at the Conservatorio Nacional of Buenos Aires. In 1946 he made his first recording, with RCA.

Ramírez went on to study classical music in Madrid, Rome and mainly in Vienna, from 1950 to 1954. Back in Argentina, he collected over 400 folk and country songs and popular songs and founded the *Compañía de Folklore Ariel Ramírez*.

In 1964, Ramírez' composition *Misa Criolla* marked the beginning of a period of high musical productivity which also saw the composition of *Navidad Nuestra* (1964) among others, all produced in collaboration with writer Félix Luna.

Today, Ariel Ramírez is president of the Society of Authors and Composers of the Republic of Argentina.



## Navidad Nuestra: words and translation

### La Anunciación

Jinete de un rayo ro jo ne volan doel Angel Gabriel  
Con sable punta de es trella Que vuela "Plate cabacate".  
Dios te salve Maria, La mas bonita cuñatai.  
La flor esta floreciendo. Creecen la sangre tu "cuclumi".  
Soy la esclava del Señor llevando su corazón.  
Capullo que se hace flor Y se abrirá en Navidad.  
El Angel Gabriel ya vuelve pago donde se en cuenta Dios.  
Mamó parehó Angelito Que tan contento te vuelves vos.  
He visto a la reina el mundo. La mas hermosa "cuñatai".  
Los ojos son dos estrellas Su voz el canto de un yeruti.  
Soy la esclava del Señor Llevado su corazón.  
Capullo que se hace flor Y se abrirá en Navidad.

### El Nacimiento – The Nativity (sung in English)

Night long awaited, Night of love's pow'r, Jesus is born of petals and flow'rs.  
All is in silence, Calm is his birth, Christmas is with us, Peace upon earth.  
Low in the manger, Lord from above, Brings us the news of peace and of love.  
When He is smiling, Radiance glows, And in His arms a tiny cross grows.  
Angels are singing over the door, Christmas is with us, Jesus is born.  
This is the night God promised of old, His gift to all men, see it unfold.  
This is the night when sleep is foregone, God is among us, Jesus is born.

### Los Pastores – The Shepherds (sung in English)

Come in the morning, good shepherds, from field and from sheep-fold when sun lights the sky.  
Come in the morning to Beth'lem, where Mother and Child in the manger do lie.  
Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you.  
Shepherds are coming from Pinchas and Chuque, Aminga, San Pedro, Poman.  
See the bright flowers they bring Him, the candles they light for the sweet Son of God.  
Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you.

Julio Romero will come on his horse, and will play for us on his guitar.  
Julio Romero will sing us a song, when he comes on his horse from afar.  
Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you.  
See how we celebrate Christmas, with songs and rejoicing, for this little Boy.  
Bring Him your candles, your arms filled with flowers, and bring Him your hearts filled with joy.  
Rosemary and thyme, sweet lavender, too, and garlands of flowers from me and from you.

### La Huída

Vamos! Vamos! Burrito a purá! Vara!  
Si no te apuras los van a pillar largo el camino largo el saltral.  
Ya tocan a degollar, ya está sangrando el puñal si no te apuras los van a pillar.

Vamos! Vamos! Burrito a purá! Vará!  
Niño bonito no lloris mi amor ya llegaremos a tierramejor.  
Duérmete ya no lloris, ouna en mis brazos te haré.  
Bombos legüeros en mi corazón.

Vamos! Vamos! Burrito a purá! Vamos!

### The Annunciation

The angel he comes to see her, comes to her from the heav'ns afar.  
He shows her a star, how brightly it shines so high above Bethlehem.  
He brings her news from the heav'n above.  
He tells of God's love, how sweetly it grows, it's blooming for me, for you.  
O holy is the hour the beautiful Child is born.  
O wonderful is the flow'r that blooms for us on Christmas Morn.  
Now she smiles the lovely Mary and heav'n grows bright with a radiant glow.  
Her voice is a song, her eyes like the stars that shine above Bethlehem.  
In heaven there is rejoicing. And angels sing in a heaven'ly choir.  
How beautiful is the Mother, how beautiful will be the Child.  
O holy is the hour the beautiful Child is born.  
Oh, wonderful is the flow'r that blooms for us on Christmas Morn.

### The Flight

Move on! Move on! Little donkey, move on!  
Herod is here with a sword at his side, where is a place for the Baby to hide?  
Hush, little One, do not cry, safe in my arms you will lie, Herod is here with a sword at his side.  
Move on! Move on! Little donkey, move on!  
Hard is the road and a long way to go, lovely the land where we take you, I know.  
Hush little one, do not cry, we will be there by and by.  
Hard is the road and a long way to go.  
Move on! Move on! Little donkey, move on!

## The Performers

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is one of the leading choirs in Southern England. Major concerts are given regularly with a chorus of a hundred or more voices, joined by professional orchestras and soloists. Recent performances have included Mozart's *Requiem*, Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, and Verdi's hugely powerful *Requiem*, all given to large, enthusiastic audiences and great critical acclaim.

Their professional Musical Director, Richard Jenkinson, now in his fifth Season with RTWCS, is enjoying leading the choir "from strength to strength!". The other soloists and performers are:

Tenor: Philip Borge  
Keyboard: Anthony Zerpa-Falcon  
Guitar: Jane Clifford

Baritone and Bass Guitar: George Clifford  
Percussion: Brian Wilshere

## Forthcoming concerts to be given by the choir

### Spring Concert 2009

Sunday 29th March 2009, 3.00pm  
The Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells  
Bach: *St John Passion*

### Summer Sing 2009

Saturday 4th July 2009  
Venue & programme t.b.c.  
Come and sing! A series of informal rehearsals for novices or old hands, culminating in a public concert.  
Contact Hilary Weston on 01622 871884

### Autumn Concert 2009

Sunday 8th November 2009, Tunbridge Wells  
Venue t.b.c.

Jenkins: *The Armed Man*  
Britten: *Hymn to St Cecilia*  
Chilcott: *Little Jazz Mass*



### If you enjoy singing...

... why not come and join us for our next concerts. Rehearsals are held on Mondays at 7.30pm, normally at St John's Church, Tunbridge Wells. We welcome singers of all levels of experience. Prospective members are not required to audition and can come to several rehearsals before committing to joining.

To find out more contact Celia Sumner on 01892 534814 or Hilary Weston on 01622 871884; or visit our website at [www.rtwcs.org.uk](http://www.rtwcs.org.uk).



For further information about the Society visit our website:  
[www.rtwcs.org.uk](http://www.rtwcs.org.uk)

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is a member of NFMS ("Making Music") and is a Registered Charity No 273310.

