

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

THE CREATION JOSEPH HAYDN



Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society with Orchestra
Conducted by Robyn Sevastos

**Soloists: Stefanie Kemball-Read
Greg Tassell, Peter Grevatt & Jessica Walters**

Royal Tunbridge Wells
**CHORAL
SOCIETY**

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RTWCS is a Registered Charity, number 273310



Programme £2.50

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

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**Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society
116th season**

**Programme for
Sunday 10th November 2019 at 3pm**

The Creation Joseph Haydn

Interval 20 minutes

RTWCS with

Stefanie Kemball-Read (soprano)

Greg Tassell (tenor)

Peter Grevatt (bass)

Jessica Walters (mezzo)

RTWCS Orchestra — leader Andy Laing

Conducted by Robyn Sevastos

Rehearsal Accompanist — Craig Hudson

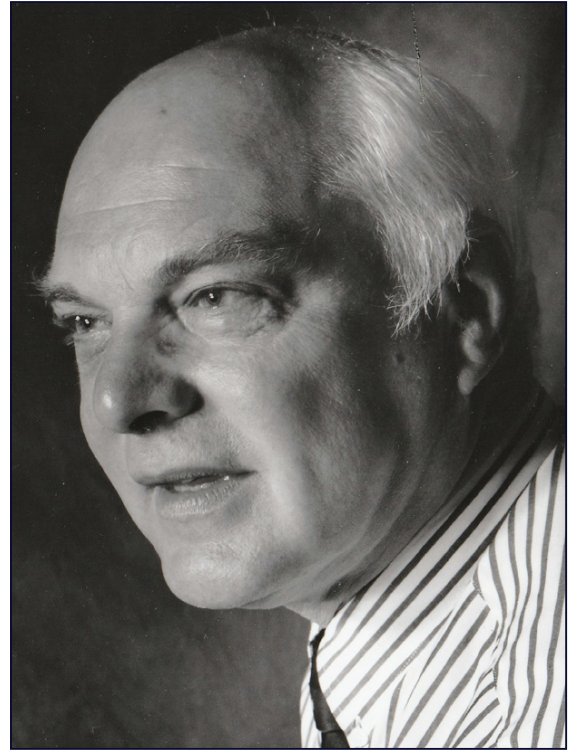
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This concert is dedicated to the memory of Derek Watmough MBE

Derek was born in Halifax, Yorkshire on Twelfth Night (Jan 6th) in 1937. He showed exceptional musical talent from an early age, excelling at the piano and the violin. He was an early member of the National Youth Orchestra. He had perfect pitch – in many ways a very useful quality for a musician, though often painful when in company with players or singers with less than perfect intonation.

He read classics at Durham University which showed through in the breadth and depth of his background knowledge and understanding. After teaching in High Wycombe he came to Tunbridge Wells as Head of Music at the Skinners' School. From there he moved to Beacon School, Crowborough, where he was a popular and inspirational teacher, much loved by both pupils and staff.



Derek's connection with the Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society began around 1970: singing, accompanying, taking rehearsals and, for a short time, alternating as conductor with Myer Fredman who was then working at Glyndebourne.

From 1973 Derek became our sole Musical Director and Conductor. He led us through the whole range of great choral music, most of the performances being given here in this Assembly Hall. In addition we sang both here and in Germany with the Bach Choir of the Lutherkirche, Wiesbaden. This collaboration was very dear to Derek's heart, as were the more intimate annual concerts of carols and Christmas music we gave in local churches.

Derek was a musical powerhouse in Kent, Sussex and further afield. He took a very active part in all sorts of musical enterprises: orchestras large and small, especially the RTWSO, singing groups, chamber music, impromptu entertainments and some legendary musical appreciation classes.

His energy was enormous and he expended it freely and generously. He was open-minded and constantly curious and he shared his knowledge with enthusiasm. He was awarded the MBE for services to music in 1992. He retired as our Musical Director after the Society's 100th birthday concert in 2004, but he maintained an active interest in our affairs, singing with the tenors whenever he could. He became our Vice-President and remained so until his death on July 30th this year.



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Robyn Sevastos – Musical Director



Robyn Sevastos graduated from Melbourne University with a BMus, with First Class Honours in Performance. She subsequently moved to England to continue her studies, obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music

and Drama, and a Performance Diploma (ARCM) from the Royal College of Music. She went on to perform extensively as a piano soloist and to coach and accompany a wide range of singers and instrumentalists both in the UK and abroad.

In addition to Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society Robyn is currently music director of London Opera Productions, Kentish Opera, the Llantilio Crossenny Festival, Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society, Bromley Philharmonic Choir and is a professor at the Blackheath Conservatoire of Music and the Arts.

Robyn has conducted a large and diverse selection of choral and operatic works. Her extensive operatic repertoire includes operas by Bizet, Donizetti, Humperdinck, Mozart, Puccini, Rossini, Strauss, Sullivan and Verdi. She has also conducted many of the major choral works and countless other smaller gems. Some highlights include performances of Verdi's Requiem, Carmina Burana at the Fairfield Halls and Bach's St Matthew Passion at St Clement Danes church on The Strand in London. Robyn's orchestral programmes have featured internationally renowned artists and she has performed at many of the leading London concert venues including the Royal Albert Hall, the Barbican and the O2 Arena. She has also performed at Kensington Palace and at Sandringham for HRH The Prince of Wales.

Stefanie Kemball-Read – Soprano

Dramatic coloratura soprano Stefanie trained at Trinity College of Music, London graduating with distinction from their postgraduate diploma programme.

Stefanie is a regular soloist on the oratorio platform having recently performed as the soloist in Haydn's Creation, Handel's Messiah, Orff's Carmina Burana and Brahms' Requiem. She has also performed extensively throughout Europe and the UK with a variety of opera companies and has appeared in more than 20 leading operatic soprano roles, most recently Nedda in I Pagliacci, Violetta in La Traviata, Königin der Nacht, Die Zauberflöte, Donna Anna in Don Giovanni and Adina, L'elisir d'amore. She has given many solo recitals at London's most celebrated performance venues including St Martin-in-the-Fields, St John's Smith Square and St James' Piccadilly.



Stefanie was the inaugural Musical Director for the Portsmouth Military Wives Choir and conducted them to chart topping success after recording a track for their number one album 'In my Dreams' from Decca Records. Stefanie is currently the Artistic Director for the Asociación Arturo Darch, directing, producing and performing in a series of productions in Spain, and will produce and perform in Carmen as part of their next Opera Gala in Summer 2020. Stefanie reprises one of her signature roles as Queen of the Night in Mozart's The Magic Flute at St James' Piccadilly in November 2019, and will perform as soloist for Mozart's Requiem at Portsmouth Cathedral in March 2020.

She is very much looking forward to performing with the Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society in one of her favourite oratorios!

Greg Tassell – Tenor



Greg Tassell (tenor) was brought up on a hop farm in Kent and was a chorister at Durham Cathedral. He read music at the University of Exeter where he was also a choral scholar at Exeter Cathedral. He went on to study as a postgraduate at the Royal Academy of Music under Ryland Davies. After three years on tour with English Touring Opera Greg became an oratorio and recital singer and is now much in demand. He recently gave performances

of Bach's St John Passion arias in St Albans Cathedral, Britten's St Nicolas & Mendelssohn's Elijah in Coventry Cathedral and an English song programme at the Holst Museum for Broadwood & Son Pianos anniversary concert. Future engagements include Bach's St John Passion in Brussels, Carmina Burana at Cadogan Hall and Handel's Messiah in Brighton and Cirencester. He is a founder member of the Chamber Choir 'Sonoro' with Neil Ferris and the vocal quartet 'Twilight Ensemble' who recently performed at King Charles the Martyr in Tunbridge Wells. Greg and his son Rufus are keen cricketers and his family have just moved from London to Broadstairs. Greg is also a big Elvis fan and can be found singing as part of a tribute act around golf and tennis clubs in Kent & Sussex. He teaches singing at Eltham College and Invicta School for Girls Maidstone.

Peter Grevatt – Baritone



Peter was born in Hastings and studied theology and philosophy at King's College, London. He studied voice with Jean Austin Dobson, Derek Hammond-Stroud of the Royal Academy of Music and went on to train with Michael Maurel. His professional debut in a major role was as Mozart's Figaro for London Opera Players, to which he quickly added Malatesta (Don Pasquale) at Holland Park, Dandini (La Cenerentola), Onegin and a number of other, largely lyric, baritone roles. Twenty-five years later he has performed over eighty operatic roles, trod the boards with Pavarotti and Zancanaro at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, sung for The Opera Project, Nationale Reisopera, British Youth Opera, Festival dei Due Mondi, Opéra Nationale de Bordeaux, Kentish Opera, Opera à la Carte, the D'Oyly Carte and many others.

He is in constant demand on the concert platform and has an extraordinarily wide and eclectic repertoire ranging from the Baroque to Flanders and Swann. He regularly performs the popular oratorio canon and other sacred works.

2011 saw the start of an extremely successful, ongoing, association with Saga Holidays. Since then, as a Music Host, Peter has written and presented hundreds of illustrated talks & recitals whilst hosting, for Saga,

nine Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra seasons; the Festival Internacional de Música de Canarias, the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival holidays, seven seasons of the Arena di Verona Opera Festival along with many trips to Vienna, Cologne and Budapest.

Andrew Laing – Orchestra Leader

Andrew (Andy) Laing was born in Aberdeen. He started learning the violin when



he was five years old and by the age of sixteen was appointed leader of the National String Orchestra of Scotland. He then gained a place at the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied violin with David Martin and later with Frederick Grinke. Andy won numerous prizes and scholarships at the RAM. While still a student he was appointed leader of the Morley College

Symphony Orchestra, also regularly leading the Ealing Symphony Orchestra, the Hatfield Philharmonic and the Forest Philharmonic.

At the RAM Andy formed and led the Locrian String Quartet under the guidance of Sidney Griller. The Quartet won many prizes and scholarships, was appointed 'Quartet in Residence' at the University of Hertfordshire, broadcast on BBC radio and TV and gave numerous first performances of works by composers such as Nyman, Crosse and Panufnik.

After leaving the Locrian Quartet, Andy was appointed sub-leader of the BBC Radio Orchestra, then Leader of the London City Ballet Orchestra. In the 90s, Andy spent much time on stage at the Royal Shakespeare Company, where he met his wife, Rachel (also a professional violinist, and daughter of violinist Jurgen Hess.) They now have two teenage sons, Peter and Calum, both of whom play violin. They have both represented Kent County in athletics. Andy is a keen amateur astronomer and if music had not been his first love, it is entirely possible that a career involving the stars may have followed!

The Choir

Sopranos

Elaine Abbs	Charlotte Eliades	Evelien Hurst-Buist	Ann Spillman
Jane Bardo	Nina Filby	Elena Lewis Grey	Christine Swindlehurst
Diana Blower	Rosemary Frost	Helen MacNab	Jessica Walters
Felicity Brown	Patricia Fuller	Anne Metherell	Catherine Whitlock
Sylvia Byers	Elena Gente	Daphne Neethling	Anne Willatt
Heather Champion	Maggie Hall	Louise Packham	
Val Crichton	Tricia Hardingham	Michele Palmer	
Jill Dunstall	Rosemary Hughes	Eileen Phillips	

Altos

Margaret Butcher	Kasia Fox	Miranda Mortimer	Maggie Slater
Beth Breen	Celia Grew	Margie O'Neil	Yvonne Spencer
Diana Churchill	Becky Harris	Catherine Palmer	Ruth Stokke
Pauline Coxshall	Pat Jay	Helen Patten	Muriel Thatcher
Lydia de Montfort	Sheila Jones	Catherine Rigby	Jane Walters
Pippa Doran	Ailsa Kelleher	Ros Robertson	Moirra Webber
Catherine Dorman	Jane Lewis	Jane Selley	
Joanna Finlay	Ailsa McMahon	Jenny Selway	

Tenors

Peter Elliott	David Miller	Olivia Seaman	Sue Taylor
Richard Hardingham	Janet Noble	Alan Spencer	Nick Vaisey
Sharon Harrison	Stephen Pollard	Martin Swindlehurst	

Basses

Brian Akery	Gavin Grant	Nicholas Humphrey	Michael Selway
Gerald Chew	Glen Goodall	Bob Jay	John T Spary
Patrick Connelly	Antony Gordon	John Kemp	Clive M Steward
Mike Dowden	Graham Hall	David Lyall	Martin Williams
Robert Fenn	David Ham	Eric Scott	David Wright

The Orchestra

Leader: Andrew Laing

Violins

Andrew Laing

Andrew Condon

Phil McKerracher

Clare Wibberley

Monika Molnar

Rosie Cousins

Mark Cousins

Susan Skone James

Robert Skone James

Violas

Jenny Carter

Vanessa Townsend

Richard Longman

Emily Colyer

Cellos

Helen McDonald

Helen Griffiths

Jan Penny

Double Bass

Rob Ferguson

Flute

Ian McLauchlan

Oboe

Nancy Sargeant

Clarinet

David Floyd

Bassoon

Suzie Palmer

Bassoon/Contra

Olwen Griffin

Horn

Becky Bainbridge

Trumpet

Derek Cozens

Timpani

David Coronel

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The Creation

(Die Schöpfung)

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

The term oratorio has over the centuries strayed a great deal from its original meaning of an extended musical setting of a religious libretto, and has encompassed non-religious dramas for the concert hall (as opposed to stage works). Initially very popular in Italy and thereafter in Germany and France, it reached its zenith in England as a result of Handel's numerous great works in the genre, including of course *Messiah*. It is from this latter stable that Haydn's great achievement in the form, *The Creation*, comes.

When Haydn visited London in 1794–95, the impresario J.P. Salomon gave him a libretto which had originally been intended for Handel (by an unknown librettist described by Haydn as "Lidley"). This was for an oratorio to be entitled *The Creation* and was based on three sources, the creation story in Genesis, Milton's *Paradise Lost* and sections from the Psalms.

From the start Haydn envisaged it as a bilingual work, and asked his friend and patron, the Austrian diplomat Baron Gottfried van Swieten, to translate and produce a German libretto while also revising the English libretto to make it fit the musical setting. Inevitably in the process van Swieten (not an English speaker) produced some rather clumsy syllabic emphases and some strange syntax. Latterly, some English performers have adopted the procedure of giving the work in German or revising van Swieten's English to make it less stilted.

Haydn's *The Creation*, which was first performed in Vienna on 30 April 1798, was part of an Indian summer of choral pieces that graced his old age. Apart from the six masses he completed for the name day of Princess Maria Hermengild, wife of his employer Prince Nikolaus Esterházy the younger, he also composed the devoutly religious *Seven Last Words from the Cross*, a choral reconstruction of an earlier instrumental work, and a secular oratorio *The Seasons*.

But it is *The Creation* that rises above these other achievements. It stands as

one of the true pinnacles of the oratorio repertoire, of equal rank alongside Handel's Messiah and Elgar's The Dream of Gerontius. It is the work of Haydn at his greatest – a man in his mid-sixties, with a wealth of experience, known throughout the musical world.

The influence of his young friend Mozart (who had died in 1791) is there, but his own strong personality and his devout, yet simple nature shines through in some of the most moving music ever penned. Among its most remarkable elements we may consider the shifting, rootless orchestral harmonies depicting chaos at the very outset of the work and the sheer simplicity of the blaze of C major, which accompanies the word 'Light' in 'let there be Light'. Such an effect never fails to impress and excite, and the naive onomatopoeia which accompanies such sections as God created great whales is also unfailingly delightful. So too is the duet O Graceful Consort for Adam and Eve, surely one of the glories of the piece. The work abounds in solo arias of the finest quality and most delightful charm. The heroic nature of the tenor aria In native worth contrasts with the tenderness of the soprano aria In verdure clad, both classics of their kind. Similarly, the sheer strength of such choruses as Awake the Harp, The Heavens are Telling and Achieved is the Glorious Work marks them out among the finest choral movements ever written.

Programme note supplied by:



Donald Goskirk

RTWCS is affiliated to Making Music (previously the National Federation of Music Societies) – an organisation jointly founded in 1935 by the composer Sir George Dyson, a past president of RTWCS

Libretto

The biblical and other texts used in The Creation are sung by three Archangels: Raphael (Baritone), Uriel (Tenor) and Gabriel (soprano) and chorus.

The parts of Adam and Eve are sung by the Baritone and Soprano respectively.

Part the First

Introduction: Representation of Chaos

RAPHAEL

In the beginning God created the

heaven and the earth; and the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.

CHORUS

And the Spirit of God moved on the face of the waters; and God said: Let there be light, and there was light!

URIEL

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Now vanish before the holy beams the gloomy shades of ancient night; the first of days appears. Now chaos ends, and order fair prevails. Affrighted fly hell's spirits, black in throngs: down they sink in the deep abyss to endless night.

CHORUS

Despairing cursing rage attends their rapid fall. A new-created world springs up at God's command.

RAPHAEL

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. Now furious storms tempestuous rage, like chaff, by the winds impelled are the clouds. By sudden fire the sky is inflamed, and awful thunders are rolling on high. Now from the floods in steam ascend reviving showers of rain, the dreary wasteful hail, the light and flaky snow.

GABRIEL

The marv'llous work behold amaz'd
The glorious hierarchy of heaven;
And to th'ethereal vaults resound.
The praise of God, and of the
second day.

CHORUS

And to th'ethereal vaults resound
The praise of God, and of the
second day.

RAPHAEL

And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together to

one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of waters called he seas: and God saw that it was good.

Rolling in foaming billows,
Uplifted, roars the boisterous sea.
Mountains and rocks now emerge,
Their tops among the clouds ascend.
Through th'open plains, outstretching wide,
In serpent error rivers flow.
Softly purling, glides on
Through silent vales the limpid brook.

GABRIEL

And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit-tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

With verdure clad the fields appear,
Delightful to the ravish'd sense;
By flowers sweet and gay
Enhanced is the charming sight.
Here fragrant herbs their odours shed;
Here shoots the healing plant.
With copious fruit the expanded boughs
are hung;
In leafy arches twine the shady groves;
O'er lofty hills majestic forests wave.

URIEL

And the heavenly host proclaimed the third day, praising God, and saying:

CHORUS

Awake the harp, the lyre awake,
And let your joyful song resound.
Rejoice in the Lord, the mighty God;
For he both heaven and earth
Has clothed in stately dress.

URIEL

And God said, Let there be lights in
the firmament of heaven, to divide the
day from the night, and to give the light
upon the earth; and let them be for
signs, and for seasons,
and for days, and for years. He made
the stars also.

In splendour bright is rising now the
sun,

And darts his rays; a joyful happy
spouse,

A giant proud and glad

To run his measur'd course.

With softer beams, and milder light,

Steps on the silver moon through
silent night.

The space immense of th'azure sky

A countless host of radiant orbs adorns.

And the sons of God announced the
fourth day, In song divine, proclaiming
thus his power:

CHORUS

The heavens are telling the glory of
God, The wonder of his work displays
the firmament.

TRIO

To day that is coming speaks it the day,
The night that is gone to following night.

CHORUS

The heavens are telling the glory of
God, The wonder of his work displays
the firmament.

TRIO

In all the lands resounds the word.
Never unperceived, ever understood.

CHORUS

The heavens are telling the glory of
God,
The wonder of his work displays the
firmament.

Part the Second

GABRIEL

And God said, Let the waters bring forth
abundantly the moving creature that
hath life, and fowl that may fly above
the earth in the open firmament of
heaven.

On mighty pens uplifted soars

The eagle aloft, and cleaves the air,

In swiftest flight, to the blazing sun.

His welcome bids to morn the merry
lark, And cooing calls the tender dove
his mate.

From ev'ry bush and grove resound

The nightingale's delightful notes;

No grief affected yet her breast,

Nor to a mournful tale were tun'd

Her soft enchanting lays.

RAPHAEL

And God created great whales, and
every living creature that moveth;
and God blessed them, saying, Be
fruitful all, and multiply.

Ye winged tribes, be multiplied,

And sing on every tree; multiply,

Ye finny tribes, and fill each wat'ry
deep;

Be fruitful, grow, and multiply,

And in your God and Lord rejoice.

And the angels struck their immortal
harps,

And the wonders of the fifth day sung.

GABRIEL

Most beautiful appear, with verdure
young adorn'd,
The gently sloping hills; their narrow
sinuous veins
Distil, in crystal drops, the fountain fresh
and bright.

URIEL

In lofty circles play, and hover in the air,
The cheerful host of birds; and as they
flying whirl
Their glittering plumes are dy'd as
rainbows by the sun.

RAPHAEL

See flashing through the deep in
thronging swarms
The fish a thousand ways around.
Upheaved from the deep, th'immense
Leviathan
Sports on the foaming wave.

GABRIEL, URIEL, AND RAPHAEL

How many are thy works, God!
Who may their number tell?

TRIO AND CHORUS

The Lord is great, and great his might,
His glory lasts for ever and for
evermore.

Interval

RAPHAEL

And God said, Let the earth bring forth
the living creature after his kind, cattle,
and creeping thing, and beast of the
earth, after his kind.
Straight opening her fertile womb,
The earth obey'd the word,

And teem'd creatures numberless,
In perfect forms, and fully grown.
Cheerful, roaring, stands the tawny
lion.

With sudden leap the flexible tiger
appears.

The nimble stag bears up his
branching head.

With flying mane and fiery look,
impatient neighs the noble steed,
The cattle, in herds, already seek their
food

On fields and meadows green,
And o'er the ground, as plants, are
spread

The fleecy, meek, and bleating flocks,
Unnumber'd as the sands,
in swarms arose the hosts of insects.
In long dimension creeps,
with sinuous trace, the worm.

--

Now heaven in fullest glory shone;
Earth smil'd in all her rich attire;
The room of air with fowl is filled;
The water swell'd by shoals of fish;
By heavy beasts the ground is trod:
But all the work was not complete;
There wanted yet that wondrous
being,
That, grateful, should God's power
admire,
With heart and voice his goodness
praise.

URIEL

And God created Man in his own
image, in the image of God created he
him. Male and female created he
them. He breathed into his nostrils
the breath of life, and man became a
living soul.
In native worth and honour clad,

With beauty, courage, strength,
adorn'd,
Erect, with front serene, he stands
A man, the lord and king of nature all.
His large and arched brow sublime
Of wisdom deep declares the seat!
And in his eyes with brightness shines
The soul, the breath and image of his
God.
With fondness leans upon his breast
The partner for him form'd,
A woman, fair and graceful spouse,
Her softly-smiling virgin looks,
Of flow'ry spring the mirror,
Bespeak him love, and joy, and bliss.

RAPHAEL

And God saw every thing that he had
made, and behold, it was very
good. And the heavenly choir, in song
divine, thus closed the sixth day.

CHORUS

Achieved is the glorious work;
The Lord beholds it, and is pleas'd.
In lofty strains let us rejoice,
Our song let be the praise of God.

GABRIEL AND URIEL

On thee each living soul awaits;
From thee, O Lord, all seek their food;
Thou openest thy hand,
And fillest all with good.

RAPHAEL

But when thy face, O Lord, is hid,
With sudden terror they are struck;
Thou tak'st their breath away,
They vanish into dust.

GABRIEL, URIEL AND RAPHAEL

Thou sendest forth thy breath again,

And life with vigour fresh returns;
Revived earth unfolds new strength
And new delights.

CHORUS

Achieved is the glorious work;
Our song let be the praise of God
Glory to his Name for ever.
He sole on high exalted reigns.
Hallelujah!

Part the Third

Introduction – Morning

URIEL

In rosy mantle appears, by music
sweet awak'd,
The morning, young and fair,
From heaven's angelic choir
Pure harmony descends on ravish'd
earth.
Behold the blissful pair.
Where hand in hand they go: their
glowing looks
Express the thanks that swell their
grateful hearts.
A louder praise of God their lips
Shall utter soon; then let our voices
ring,
United with their song.

ADAM AND EVE

By thee with bliss, O bounteous Lord,
Both heaven and earth are stor'd.
This world so great, so wonderful.
Thy mighty hand has fram'd.

CHORUS

For ever blessed be his power,

His name be ever magnified.

ADAM

Of stars the fairest, pledge of day,
That crown'st the smiling morn;
And thou, bright sun, that cheer'st the
world,
Thou eye and soul of all;

CHORUS

Proclaim in your extended course
th'almighty power and praise of God.

EVE

And thou that rul'st the silent night
And all ye starry hosts,
Ev'rywhere spread wide his praise
In choral songs about.

ADAM

Ye mighty elements, by his power
Your ceaseless changes make;
Ye dusky mists, and dewy streams,
That rise and fall thro' th' air;

CHORUS

Resound the praise of God our Lord.
Great his name, and great his might.

EVE

Ye purling fountains, tune his praise;
And wave your tops, ye pines.
Ye plants, exhale, ye flowers, breathe
To him your balmy scent.

ADAM

Ye that on mountains stately tread,
And ye that lowly creep;
Ye birds that sing at heaven's gate,
And ye that swim the stream;

EVE AND ADAM

Ye creatures all, extol the Lord;

CHORUS

Ye creatures all, extol the Lord;
Him celebrate, him magnify.

EVE AND ADAM

Ye valleys, hills, and shady woods,
Made vocal by our song,
From morn till eve you shall repeat
Our grateful hymns of praise.

CHORUS

Hail! Bounteous Lord! Almighty, hail!
Thy word call'd forth this wondrous
frame,
The heavens and earth thy power
adore;
We praise thee now and evermore.

ADAM

Our duty we have now perform'd,
In offering up to God our thanks.
Now follow me, dear partner of my
life,
Thy guide I'll be; and every step
Pours new delights into our breasts,
Shows wonders everywhere.
Then mayst thou feel and know the
high degree
Of bliss the Lord allotted us,
And with devoted heart His bounties
celebrate.
Come, follow me, thy guide I'll be.

EVE

O thou for whom I am, my help, my
shield,
My all, thy will is law to me;
So God our Lord ordains; and from
obedience
Grows my pride and happiness.

ADAM

Graceful consort, at thy side

Softly fly the golden hours;
Ev'ry moment brings new rapture,
Ev'ry care is lull'd to rest.

EVE

Spouse adored, at thy side
Purest joys o'erflow the heart;
Life and all I have is thine;
My reward thy love shall be.

ADAM AND EVE

The dew-dropping morn, O how she
quickens all!
The coolness of even, O how she all
restores!
How grateful is of fruits the savour
sweet!
How pleasing is of fragrant bloom the
smell!
But, without thee, what is to me
The morning dew, the breath of even,
The sav'ry fruit, the fragrant bloom?

With thee is every joy enhanced,
With thee delight is ever new,
With thee is life incessant bliss,
Thine, thine it all shall be.

URIEL

O happy pair! And happy still might be
If not misled by false conceit.
Ye strive at more than granted is;
And more desire to know, than know
ye should.

CHORUS

Sing the Lord, ye voices all,
Magnify his name thro' all creation,
Celebrate his power and glory,
Let his name resound on high.
Praise the Lord. Utter thanks.
Jehovah's praise for ever shall endure.

Amen.

If you liked the concert today, why not become a Friend or Patron? You receive a newsletter, a ticket to every concert, and we even reserve your favourite seat for you. You can also buy a Friend's or Patron's subscription as a gift for someone

- a perfect Christmas present! Interested?
Please e-mail patrons_secretary@rtwcs.org.uk.

Come and sing with us!

We are always happy to hear from anyone who is interested in singing with us. If you have ever thought about devoting one evening a week to making music as part of a choir, the Tunbridge Wells Choral Society could be just the thing for you. We rehearse in St John's Church Hall, Tunbridge Wells, each Monday in school term time between 7.30 and 9.30pm, and hold around four concerts a year. For details of all these, and of other events, plus an enquiry form, please visit our website: www.rtwcs.org.uk.

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Symphony Orchestra

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE



Opera Gala

2 February 2020 3.00pm

Susanna Gaspar Soprano
Catia Moreso Mezzo
Jung Soo Yun Tenor
Richard Morrison Baritone
Roderick Dunk Conductor



Martin James Bartlett

1 March 2020 3.00pm

Martin James Bartlett Piano
Roderick Dunk Conductor

Copland: Appalachian Spring
Ravel: G Major Piano Concerto
Brahms: Symphony No 4



Thomas Gould

5 April 2020 3.00pm

Thomas Gould Violin
Barry Wordsworth Conductor

Bizet: Jeux d'enfants
Barber: Violin Concerto
Massenet: Méditation (from Thaïs)
Beethoven: Symphony No 6 (Pastoral)



Mozart & Bruckner

3 May 2020 3.00pm

Roderick Dunk Conductor

Mozart: Symphony No 40
Bruckner: Symphony No 7

The RTWSO reserves the right to change advertised programmes and artists without notice. The RTWSO is a registered charity No. 295781

Tickets £27, £29, £32 & £35 includes booking fee (18 or under & students £1)

Box Office: 01892 530613 www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk

For Season Tickets contact Gale Smith call 01892 826196 or email tickets@rtwso.org



www.rtwso.org

Presented in association with the Assembly Hall Theatre

Forthcoming concerts by the Choral Society

A Ceremony of Carols

Sunday 15th December 2019 – 6.30pm

St Mary's Church, Goudhurst

Our traditional Christmas concert of carols accompanied by the Wadhurst Brass Band and featuring Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols with harpist Anna Wynne. Conducted by Robyn Sevastos.

Verdi: Requiem

Sunday 19th April 2020 – 3pm

Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells

The Choral Society return to the Assembly Hall to perform Verdi's mighty Requiem with orchestra and soloists. Conducted by Robyn Sevastos.

Modern music for a Summer's Evening

Sunday 28th June 2020 – 6.30pm

Tunbridge Wells United Reformed Church

We return to the convivial surroundings of the Tunbridge Wells URC for a summer concert of music by living composers, including the delightful *Little Jazz Mass* by Bob Chilcott. Conducted by Robyn Sevastos. Refreshments will be provided.

Other forthcoming local concerts:

Mayfield Festival Choir – Young Bach and Purcell concert,
Sunday 17th November, 7.30pm at St Dunstan's Church, Mayfield

Tonbridge Philharmonic Society - Dvorak's Stabat Mater,
Saturday 23rd November, 7.30pm at Chapel of St Augustine, Tonbridge School

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra – Opera Gala,
Sunday 2nd February, 3pm at the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells