



colston hall



BRISTOL  
CHORAL SOCIETY

# CONCERT SEASON 2012–13

**BRAHMS: REQUIEM**  
**HANDEL: MESSIAH**  
**VERDI: FOUR SACRED  
PIECES, ROSSINI:**  
**STABAT MATER**  
**VIVALDI:**  
**KYRIE, GLORIA,  
DIXIT DOMINUS**





**Saturday 24 November 2012**

7.30pm, Colston Hall

## **BRAHMS: EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM**

## **BRAHMS: TRAGIC OVERTURE**

### **New Bristol Sinfonia**

Adrian Partington – Conductor

Hye-Youn Lee – Soprano

Njabulo Madlala – Baritone

The opening words of the *Requiem* Brahms finally completed in the wake of his mother's death could almost serve as its motto: 'Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted'. Rather than a Latin 'Mass for the Dead' it's a meditation on death for the living, suffused with almost unbearable longing compounded by hope and despair, sweetness and grief, intimacy and grandeur. Schumann's widow Clara described it as 'an immense work that takes hold of a person's whole being like very little else'. Joining the choir are the young Korean soprano Hye-Youn Lee fresh from *Parsifal* in Paris and Puccini in Finland, and Njabulo Madlala, winner of the 2010 Kathleen Ferrier Competition – where *The Times* savoured 'the rich velvety plush of his fearless voice, its inner warmth and its flexibility'.

£23, £19, £15, £12, £10. Under 25s £5.

Concessions available



**Saturday 22 December 2012**

7.30pm, Colston Hall

## **HANDEL: MESSIAH**

### **Music for Awhile (leader Margaret Faultless)**

Warwick Cole - Harpsichord

Adrian Partington - Conductor

Mary Nelson – Soprano

James Neville – Countertenor

Daniel Auchincloss – Tenor

Joshua Copeland – Baritone

It's almost 120 years to the day since Bristol Choral Society first gave *Messiah* in the Colston Hall. How things have changed... Our forebears wouldn't have performed the piece entirely from memory, a 'prequel' family-friendly *Messiah*-in-miniature would have met with raised eyebrows, and they'd have been intrigued by the period instruments and playing style of Music for Awhile!

Our *Messiah* has long signalled the start of Bristol's countdown to Christmas – with a distinguished line-up of soloists and 120 years' know-how, *Messiah* 2012 bids 'Hallelujah'!

£23, £19, £15, £12, £10. Under 25s £5.

Concessions available

### **Plus at 4.30pm:**

## **MINI MESSIAH FAMILY CONCERT**

This bite-sized introduction to *Messiah* takes in some of the favourite highlights in under an hour – the perfect way to introduce children to Handel's masterpiece.

Adults £5, accompanied children under 18 FREE



**Saturday 23 March 2013**

7.30pm, Colston Hall

## **VERDI: QUATTRO PEZZI SACRI (FOUR SACRED PIECES) ROSSINI: STABAT MATER**

**English Symphony Orchestra**

Adrian Partington – Conductor

Camilla Roberts – Soprano

Clare Presland – Mezzo-soprano

Adrian Dwyer – Tenor

Robert Poulton – Bass

Viva Italia – and in this his bicentenary year, Viva Verdi! Tonight we spotlight two works completed after their composers' retirement from the musical theatre – happily, our outstanding quartet of young soloists pools a wealth of experience honed with the leading opera companies in the UK and beyond. Verdi's wonderfully contrasted *Quattro Pezzi Sacri* range from a prayerful unaccompanied *Ave Maria* to the vividly-conceived, double-chorus-and-orchestra *Te Deum*; while the deeply-felt *Stabat Mater* affords comparisons with Rossini's decade-in-the-making large scale opus – its famously ardent *Cujus animam* and the solemn ecclesiastical pomp and circumstance of the closing double fugue, unforgettable.

£23, £19, £15, £12, £10. Under 25s £5.

Concessions available



**Saturday 15 June 2013**

7.30pm, Bristol Cathedral

## **VIVA VIVALDI! KYRIE GLORIA DIXIT DOMINUS 'SUMMER' FROM THE FOUR SEASONS**

**Bristol Ensemble**

Roger Huckle - Violin

Warwick Cole - Harpsichord

Adrian Partington – Conductor

Llio Evans – Soprano

Eleanor Stowe – Soprano

Olivia Gomez – Alto

Peter Harris – Tenor

Alex Jones – Bass

If Venice was a must-see destination on the 18th century Grand Tour, then its orphanage of the Pietà was the must-hear jewel in the city's musical crown. One contemporary observed that the young ladies there sang 'like angels and play violins, flutes, oboes, organ, cello and bassoon: there is no instrument so large that it could frighten them'. Nor were they frightened by the demands of the music specially composed for them by Antonio Vivaldi. For our last concert of the season we set the Venetian vitality of the *Gloria* (RV589) in the context of other works written for the Pietà including the glorious double-choir and double-orchestra *Dixit Dominus* (RV594).

£22, £17 (reserved), £14, £10 (unreserved).

Under 25s £5. Concessions available

**Saturday 20 October 2012**

10.00am – 12.15pm, Tyndale Baptist Church

## COME SING BRAHMS REQUIEM



Your chance to join members of BCS and conductor Adrian Partington to sing Brahms' mighty Requiem. All are welcome for this short, fun morning of singing – open to all, experienced or not (ability to read music desirable).

**Tickets** £10 including score hire – book online at [www.bristolchoral.co.uk](http://www.bristolchoral.co.uk) or from Sarah Fernandes 0117 962 3223. **These tickets are NOT available from the Colston Hall – PART OF THE FESTIVAL OF SONG –**

**Friday 2 November 2012**

## AN EVENING WITH MARK PADMORE

Enjoy an evening with renowned tenor and BCS President Mark Padmore – not singing this time, but in conversation with Adrian Partington revealing the music he just couldn't live without if marooned on a desert island. Expect lots of insightful conversation, extracts of great music and supper.

**Please note this event is open to members, Patrons, Friends and Supporters of Bristol Choral Society only.** See overleaf for details of how to become a Friend or Supporter of Bristol Choral Society



MARCO BORGREVE

**TICKETS FROM**  
[www.bristolchoral.co.uk](http://www.bristolchoral.co.uk)  
**AND COLSTON HALL**  
**0117 922 3686**



**Saturday 16 February 2013**

10.00am – 4.00pm, Tyndale Baptist Church

## COME & SING MENDELSSOHN: ST PAUL

As we approach our 125th season (coming up next year!) we turn our attention to the work that was performed at Bristol Choral Society's first ever concert. Come and spend the day exploring Mendelssohn's *St Paul* under the inspirational baton of Adrian Partington, ready to give an informal performance in the afternoon with vocal soloists.

**Tickets** £15 (under 18s £7.50) including score hire - book online at [www.bristolchoral.co.uk](http://www.bristolchoral.co.uk) or from Sarah Fernandes 0117 962 3223

**Advance booking essential. These tickets are NOT available from the Colston Hall**

**Wednesday 8 May 2013**

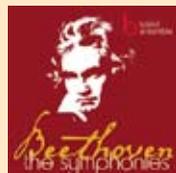
7.30pm, Colston Hall

## BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY 9 'CHORAL'

**Bristol Ensemble**  
**Jonathan James - Conductor**

We are delighted to have accepted this invitation to join the superb Bristol Ensemble for the culmination of their epic journey through Beethoven's nine symphonies – an 'Ode to Joy' indeed.

**Tickets only available from the Colston Hall**



# Apprentices

Bristol Choral Society encourages the next generation of singers and welcomes students in School Year 9 (or above) to the **Choral Apprenticeship Scheme**.

To join the scheme applicants simply need to enjoy singing, and be willing to commit to free membership of the choir for at least one year. Sight-reading and knowledge of music theory are not essential and each successful applicant will be assigned a mentor of the same voice part who will offer support at rehearsals and concerts. The scheme is entirely free of all costs.

In addition to the Apprentice Scheme for teenagers, the choir is also involved in work encouraging choral singing in some of Bristol's primary schools, and frequently joins these schools for performances.



## Patrons, Friends and Supporters

Bristol Choral Society is very grateful to the many people who show their support as Patrons, Friends and Supporters of the choir. Their generous donations help to make it possible for us to stage large and expensive events with the finest musicians, and in return they receive acknowledgement in programmes, invitations to informal concert receptions & any social events, as well as other benefits. You can become a supporter of Bristol Choral Society from just £25.

Contact **Ann Butterfield** on **0117 949 6551** for more details.

### **PATRONS**

Dr Bob Broomfield,  
Mr Steve Elliott

### **FRIENDS**

Mr and Mrs Don Butterfield,  
Mr Nigel Edwards, Mrs Jane Godfrey, Ms Jan Longden,  
Mr David Mander,  
Ms Hilary Mayne, Osborne Clarke, Dr Graham Pegg,  
Mrs Frankie Sahni,  
Mr and Mrs Chris Tagholm

### **SUPPORTERS**

Mrs Jean Bradford,  
Mr Peter Buchanan,  
Mrs Marjorie Cook,  
Mr Peter Gee, Ms Annette Hecht,  
Mr and Mrs Ray Hele,  
Mr John Hopper, Bridie and Callen McClusky, Mrs Cilla Newsom, Mr Geoff Peattie,  
Dr Stephen Pill, Mr Malcolm Pillar, Mrs Lilian Preece,  
Mrs Barbara Torrance,  
Mr Philip Unwin, Mr John Wilson

### **LIFE MEMBERS**

Miss Barbara Lewellen

TICKETS FROM COLSTON HALL **0117 922 3686**

# ABOUT US

Bristol Choral Society is a thriving mixed voice choir with 160 singing members and a wide range of ages. First established in 1889, Bristol Choral Society is conducted by Adrian Partington, one of the UK's foremost choral conductors.

The choir is very active – staging at least three concerts annually at the Colston Hall, and another at Bristol Cathedral in



addition to other concerts, singing and social events. Membership is by audition and prospective members are warmly welcomed to 'try us out'

before deciding to join – all receive a warm welcome!

For more information please contact **Frances Roberts** on 0117 927 6997 or email [choir@bristolchoral.co.uk](mailto:choir@bristolchoral.co.uk)

*Presidents: Mark Padmore and The Lord Mayor of Bristol*

**Adrian Partington** – Music Director

**Steven Kings** – Assistant Music Director

**Robert Dean** – Vocal Consultant

Registered Charity No. 266472

# TICKETS

Tickets are available from the **Colston Hall box office** in person, by telephone

**0117 922 3686**

or online at

**[www.bristolchoral.co.uk](http://www.bristolchoral.co.uk)**

Tickets on sale from Monday 2 July.

Booking fees apply to payments made by card.

**Save money with the BCS season ticket!** 15% discount when you buy the season ticket covering these 4 concerts: 24 Nov, 22 Dec (7.30pm), 23 Mar, 15 June. Cannot be used in conjunction with concessions.

**Concessions** (where available):

Under 25s all tickets £5, senior citizens 10% discount, registered disabled £10 plus one free seat for carer.

*'Bristol Choral Society is a really splendid choir; responsive, dynamic and controlled'*

Margaret Faultless

MUSIC FOR AWHILE

and co-leader, OAE

**[www.bristolchoral.co.uk](http://www.bristolchoral.co.uk)**