

# christmas concert

benjamin britten  
a ceremony of carols

arcangelo corelli  
christmas concerto

also featuring music by vaughan williams and  
audience carols

conductors: benjamin wolf, andrew rochford

saturday 14 december, 2013



Hampstead  

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Sinfonietta

Royal *f*ree  
Music Society

7.30 pm  
programme £12

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# programme

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*Once in Royal David's City* (choir and audience)

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* (choir and audience)

O Jesulein Süß (choir)

O Holy Night (choir)

Corelli - Christmas Concerto (orchestra)

Personent Hodie (choir)

In the Bleak Mdwinter (choir)

Vaughan Williams - Fantasia on Greensleeves  
(orchestra)

What Child is This? (choir)

*Hark the Herald* (choir and audience)

Good King Wenceslas (choir)

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* (choir and audience)

Twelve Days of Christmas (choir)

## *Interval*

Vaughan Williams - Dives and Lazarus (orchestra)

Britten - Hymn to the Virgin (choir)

Britten - Ceremony of Carols (choir)

*O Come all ye faithful* (choir and audience)

Twelve Days After Christmas (choir)

**Harp:** Louisa Duggan

**Organ:** Michael Cayton

The Hampstead Sinfonietta is led by Tim Miller

# welcome

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Dear Audience

Seasons' greetings! Another year has flown by and we are once again reflecting on a successful year for the RFMS.

We started the year with a concert of wonderful music by Mozart and Haydn. In the summer, we joined forces with the Zemel choir, the UK's leading mixed voice Jewish choir, for a concert of Jewish music and light summer tunes. Ben, our conductor, leads both choirs and it was fantastic to sing together.

Our autumn concert returned to a more traditional classical setting with a choral performance of Schubert's Mass in G and some beautiful motets by Bruckner. This was accompanied by a performance of Tchaikovsky's Serenade for strings and Finzi's Prelude and Romance by our sister orchestra, the Hampstead Sinfonietta. The Hampstead Sinfonietta have supported the choir throughout the year and we are very fortunate to enjoy the support of such a friendly, high-quality orchestra.

Through the hard work of the committee, we have increased our choir membership, audience numbers and our fundraising contributions and we are very grateful to all who have supported these activities - particularly the committee members who have contributed their ideas, time and energy. We are also very fortunate to have the continued support of the Williams Church Music Trust. We have been granted charitable status by the Charity Commission, a recognition of the contribution our choir makes to the well-being of its members and the general community. Please make a note of our concert dates for next year and if you feel you would like to join the performers rather than the audience, our website [www.royalfreemusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.royalfreemusicsociety.org.uk) holds information and details of rehearsals. New members are always welcome.

We would like to thank the Reverend William Gulliford and the Parish of St Marks for another happy year of music-making in their wonderful church.

Finally, we are both stepping down from our Chair's role this year so this will be our final concert message. We would like to thank the committee and members for their support during our time at the helm, and wish our successors good luck.

Now sit back and enjoy the seasons best and remember to join in the audience carols! We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Diana Parkinson and Sally Rochford, RFMS Co-chairs

## Conductors

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### Andrew Rochford

Andrew has a variety of musical interests. At school he studied singing with Geraldine Hackett-Jones and started playing the bassoon at the age of 10 under the tutelage of Charles Cracknell, OBE. He has since had tuition from Gareth Newman (London Mozart Players & Royal Academy of Music, and an old pupil of Charles). Andrew has performed solo concerti with Lawyers Music and the Abbots Langley Symphony Orchestra; and when time permits, he plays with the London Charity Orchestra. After leaving school in Canterbury, Andrew completed a degree in Medical Biochemistry at King's College, London. He then studied Medicine at the Royal Free where he was a founding member of the choir in 1995.

Andrew trained in North London and is now Clinical Lead for Gastroenterology at Newham University Hospital, Barts Health NHS Trust and has a special interest in Intestinal Failure and Clinical Leadership.

# Conductors

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## Benjamin Wolf

Benjamin Wolf works as a conductor, pianist, composer, singer and academic. He is Musical Director of the Zemel Choir, the Wallace Ensemble and the Royal Free Music Society, Choirmaster of Belsize Square Synagogue and a regular conductor of the Quorum Chamber Choir. Performances with the Zemel Choir have included Holocaust memorial services for the Mayor of London, concerts at the South Bank and St John's Smith Square, a broadcast for the BBC's Songs of Praise and tours to Europe, Israel and the USA. Activities with the Wallace Ensemble have included performances at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room, while the professional choir of Belsize Square Synagogue has been featured on documentaries for BBC radio and television. Recent performances have included a Kristallnacht commemoration service at Westminster Abbey, while the Belsize choir will tour to Berlin in December.

As composer, he has written music for the concert hall and the stage, including works using the texts and modes of Ancient Greek (performed in London and Oxford), a piano concerto (performed in 2003) and a cello concerto commissioned for the 70th anniversary of Belsize Square synagogue. He has written a number of pieces for the Zemel Choir, while he performed his latest instrumental work, *Cocaine Overture*, at the Chichester Festival in June 2013. As pianist, he works as both accompanist and solo recitalist, while his singing is primarily focussed on performances with his own Jewish barbershop quartet, bOYbershop, for which he has written a number of arrangements and original compositions, including comic songs *The Only Jewish Cowgirl* and *Fifty Shades of Hay*.

Following the award of a PhD in 2010, he has worked as a visiting lecturer at Royal Holloway and Bristol University. In 2011 he was appointed as Lecturer in Music at Regent's University, London, where he teaches both academic courses and runs the newly formed choirs of the Regent's School of Drama, Film and Media. He has given conference papers in the UK and America, and was on the organising team for a conference at the IMR in January 2013 (focussing on music in twentieth-century Britain). He has also worked as a researcher on a Royal Holloway project investigating the use of music to accompany silent films.

# performers

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## Michael Cayton (organ)

After training at Kneller Hall, Michael served with the Grenadier Guards as a trumpeter before studying piano at the Royal College of Music, where he gained his BMus and ARCM and won the Hilda Anderson Deane prize for conducting and improvisation. While completing postgraduate répétiteur studies he was appointed the first organ Scholar at the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Since his debut as an organist at the Royal Festival Hall in 1988, Michael has been in demand as a recitalist and accompanist and has appeared all over the country and in Europe, with notable London appearances at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Westminster Abbey, Blackheath Concert Halls and the Wigmore Hall. Since 2003 he has simultaneously held the posts of Director of Music at St John's Wood Church, organist at Belsize Square Synagogue and conductor of the Chiltern Choir. He has conducted the Watford Philharmonic Chorus, Goldsmiths Choral Union, City Chamber Choir, Aeolian Singers and English Chamber Choir and has broadcast on Radio 2, Radio 3, Radio 5 Live, the World Service and on BBC1's Songs of Praise. His church music is published by Redemptorist, the responsorial psalms now a staple of parish churches up and down the country. With broad musical tastes, a hunger to learn new styles and a particular talent for improvisation, he may often be found performing jazz, German cabaret and Judeo-Spanish Ladino music as well as fusion and funk.

# Performers

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## Louisa Duggan (harp)

Louisa Duggan first fell in love with harp at the age of three after being taken to see the Nutcracker ballet. She had her first harp lessons at the age of six years old, and at eleven won a scholarship to the Purcell School of Music. Her studies continued at Trinity College of Music where her teachers were Sioned Williams, Imogen Barford and Gabriella Dal'Olio. She was the first harpist at Trinity College to graduate with a first class degree and whilst undertaking her postgraduate studies was invited to perform a concerto at the Royal Festival Hall with the Trinity College symphony orchestra and was awarded the Silver Prize for String Players.

Since leaving college, Louisa has had a busy freelance career working with many of the main professional orchestras in the United Kingdom. These include the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia, London Philharmonic, Ulster Orchestra, Birmingham Royal Ballet, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra English National Ballet and English National Opera and at the Royal Opera House. She has given recitals at The Purcell Room Southbank, Fairfield Halls, Southwark Cathedral and St Martin's in the Fields and been broadcast many times on Radio Three. Louisa was also the featured soloist in a BBC television documentary on Benjamin Britten.

As a harpist for functions, Louisa has performed at many beautiful venues and hotels in London and the South East. She has performed for royalty and celebrities, and regularly plays for functions at the Houses of Parliament.

Louisa is also carving out a niche with her unique renditions of pop and rock songs played on the harp. This year she was invited to perform at the Kerang Rock Awards where she played in front of Slash from GunsN'Roses and Ozzy Osbourne!

# audience carols

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## Once in Royal David's City

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.

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 ho-  
ly.

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.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in Heav-  
en  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars His children  
crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

## O little town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless  
sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the  
years  
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the  
King,  
And Peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels  
keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human  
hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive  
him still, The dear Christ en-  
ters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

### **Hark the herald angels sing**

Hark the herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy  
mild,  
God and sinners reconciled":  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic host proclaim:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem".  
Hark! The herald angels sing:  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

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 th' incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to  
dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing:  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of  
Peace!  
Hail the Sun 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! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

### **It came upon the midnight clear**

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 heav'n'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 heav'nly music  
floats  
O'er all the weary world:  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring 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:  
Oh 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 give back  
the song  
Which now the angels sing.

### **O Come All Ye Faithful**

O Come All Ye Faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Beth-  
lehem.  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels:  
*O come, let us adore Him, (x3)*  
*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...*

See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh  
with lowly fear  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps:  
*O come, let us adore Him...*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of Heav'n  
above;  
Glory to God in the Highest;  
*O come, let us adore Him...*

# the choir

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## Soprano

Emma Ashton  
Elizabeth Bowman  
Danielle Cahill  
Cathy Cale  
Jo Charlottes  
Gill Cracknell  
Teresa Elkins  
Sarah Hammond  
Jane Hassid  
Sara Henley  
Ann Lloyd  
Louise Morton  
Ruth Muscat  
Tricia Pank  
Sarah Pepperrell  
Maggie Sinclair  
Katharine Vroobel

## Alto

Barbara Bryant  
Louise Coopman  
Catherine Haw  
Sue Henderson  
Katharine Hodgson  
Sophie Jackson  
Kar Tiang Low  
Diana Muggleston  
Diana Parkinson  
Sally Rochford  
Annie Sedley  
Wendy Stallings  
Lucinda Sturgis  
Gillian Sutherland  
Jessie Twiest

## Tenor

Barbara Byth  
Sarah Carrier  
Barbara Foster  
Wilder Gutterson  
Di Howard  
John O'Shea  
Andrew Rochford  
Robert Salmon  
Caryl Vytelingum

## Bass

Nick Jackson  
James Kennedy  
Phil Mackney  
Andy Miller  
James Ridler  
Nick Roberts

# the hampstead sinfonietta

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## Violin I

Tim Miller (orchestra leader)  
Anne Bradley  
Ewa Gawkowska  
Alice Ruffle  
David Giles  
Keiko Thiele  
Varuni Paravanitane

## Viola

Helen Dodd  
Sarah Nichols  
Rhiannon Mayon-White  
Niko Yiwen Chen  
Leah Broadfield  
Freda Ward  
Nilanthi Kelsey

## Violin II

Johanna Saarinen  
Sharon Philbey  
Amanda Roberts  
Robert Chatley  
Lydia Greeves  
Kate Bailey

## Cello

Hannah Boothe  
Julian Carter  
Irene Macmillan  
Ed Tricklebank

*For more information visit our website at [www.hampsteadsinfonietta.org.uk](http://www.hampsteadsinfonietta.org.uk)*

# the royal free music society committee

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Chairs	Diana Parkinson / Sally Rochford
Secretary & Membership Secretary	Ruth Muscat
Treasurer	Lucinda Sturgis
Events Organiser	Louise Morton
Fund-raising	Wilder Gutterson
Music Librarian	Nick Roberts
Musical Director	Benjamin Wolf
Orchestra Administrator	Ellie Wood
Choir Committee Members	Lynn Bryden, Teresa Elkins, Jane Hassid, Anne Lloyd, Tricia Pank, Hermione White

# the royal free music society

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The Royal Free Music Society is a group of healthcare professionals, local residents and their friends, who meet on a weekly basis in the Royal Free Hospital to stage four concerts a year. We sing a wide variety of music. Performances have included Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Haydn's *Creation*, *Harmoniemesse*, *Heiligmesse* and *Paukenmesse*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, Faure's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, *Grand Mass in C Minor* and *Coronation Mass*, Brahms's *German Requiem*, Elgar's *The Music Makers*, Dvorak's *Mass in D Major*, Rutter's *Magnificat*, Stainer's *Crucifixion*, Gounod's *St Cecilia Mass*, Handel's *Coronation Anthems* and *Chandos Anthems*, and many concerts of light music. We have also premiered work, such as Stephen Gillespie's *Gloria*, and have had a number of successful collaborations with, amongst others, the Beckenham Concert Band and the Zemel Choir.

For the major works, we are joined by an orchestra of hospital members and their friends: the Hampstead Sinfonietta.

Visit us at [www.royalfreemusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.royalfreemusicsociety.org.uk)

and [www.HampsteadSinfonietta.org.uk](http://www.HampsteadSinfonietta.org.uk)

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Please contact Wilder Gutterson, [wgutterson@gmail.com](mailto:wgutterson@gmail.com) ( 020 7419 4252 for further information, or fill out the form below and give to a member of the choir this evening, or post to us:

\* RFMS, c/o Wilder Gutterson, 11 Croftdown Road, London NW5 1EL

Our heartfelt thanks to our Patrons: Neil McLelland, David Gluckman & Barbara Bryant, Adrian Cahill, Rev & Mrs. Devonshire-Jones, Rev Peter Baker, Liz Joyce.

