

Conductor: Colin Stevens



Verdi Four Sacred Pieces

Rossini Stabat Mater

SOLOISTS

Gillian Ramm (Soprano) Flora McIntosh (Contralto) Mark Chaundy (Tenor) Robert Gildon (Bass)

Chiltern Orchestral Society Leader: Janet Hicks

Saturday 27 March 2010 at 7.30pm



The Soloists



GILLIAN RAMM (SOPRANO) is Australian born and completed her undergraduate training at the Western Australian Conservatorium of Music, moving on to the Young Artist Programme with West Australian Opera. After winning multiple prizes in the 2002 Australian Singing Competition, she travelled to England to take up a scholarship at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. There she was generously supported by the Peter Moores Foundation, the Tait Foundation and the lan Potter Foundation of Australia, and completed both her Post Graduate Diploma and Professional Performance Diploma with Distinction. Gillian was also awarded the John Cameron Lieder Prize and the Ricordi Prize for Opera.

Operatic engagements include Fiordiligi in *Cosi fan Tutte* (Glyndebourne Festival and Touring Opera, Budapest Festival Orchestra), Rosalinde in *Die Fledermaus* (Glyndebourne Touring Opera), First Niece in *Peter Grimes* (English National Opera) Second Niece in *Peter Grimes* (Teatro di San Carlo, Naples), Aci in *Aci, Galatea e Polifemo* (London Handel Festival), Valencienne in *The Merry Widow* (West Australian Opera), Anne Truelove in *The Rake's Progress* (RNCM), Clorinda in *La Cenerentola* (Ryedale Festival), Zerline in *Fra Diavolo* (Stanley Hall Opera) and Yum Yum in *The Mikado* for Carl Rosa.

Gillian has sung in concert with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Gran Canaria/Paul McCreesh (Messiah) The Classical Opera Company (King's Place concert series), the London Philharmonic Orchestra (Mahler Das Klagende Lied and Korngold Das Wunder der Heliane) and Teatro Comunale di Bologna (Bach's St. John Passion). She has performed solo recitals at the London Handel Festival, St. James' Piccadilly, Royal Overseas House, London and the Blackwood Chamber Music Festival (Australia). She has also recorded two song recitals for ABC Classic FM Australia, and her lieder repertoire ranges from Mozart, Schubert and Schumann to Grieg, Rachmaninov and Debussy. Gillian's concert repertoire includes Mozart's Mass in C Minor and Requiem, Handel's Messiah, Haydn's The Creation and The Seasons and Mahler's Symphony Number Four.

Gillian's future plans include understudy of the title role in Donizetti's *Lucia Di Lammermoor* for ENO, *Carmina Burana* with the Eton and Windsor Choral Society and Tytania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with English Touring Opera.

FLORA McINTOSH (CONTRALTO) was born in 1979 and began singing with Ann Lampard before entering the Royal Northern College of Music where she won several awards including the Anne Ziegler Award for Singing and the Ricordi Prize for Opera. During her studies Flora received generous support from the Peter Moores Foundation and the Countess of Munster Musical Trust and graduated with First Class Honours in



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2004. She has participated in masterclasses with Jane Eaglen, Della Jones, Janice Watson, David Syrus, Graham Vick, Paul Farrington and Sheila Armstrong, and is a Samling Foundation Scholar.

A regular on the concert and oratorio platform, Flora has sung in venues such as Birmingham Symphony Hall, Westminster Cathedral and Whitehall's Banqueting Hall; and with orchestras including the Hallé, Orchestra de Algarve and Southbank Sinfonia. Repertoire includes Verdi Requiem; Handel's Messiah and dramatic cantata La Lucrezia; Rossini Petite messe solennelle; Bach B-minor Mass, St Matthew Passion and Christmas Oratorio; Janáèek Glagolitic Mass; Mozart C-minor Mass, Requiem and Coronation Mass. In 2006 she sang the Angel and the Queen in Mendelssohn's Elijah alongside Sir Thomas Allen.

Flora's operatic experience includes the title role in *Carmen*, Meg Page (*Falstaff*), Papagena and Third Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*), Dorabella (*Cosi Fan Tutte*), Judith (*Duke Bluebeard's Castle*), The Drummer (*The Emperor of Atlantis*), Masha (*Pique Dame*) and Fanny Nelson/Emma Hamilton in the world premiere of Bawden's *A Sailor's Tale*, which she later recorded for NMC. Flora made her international debut in 2000 in *Tre cantate per J S Bach* at the Batignano Festival in Italy where she returned the following year with Handel's cantata *Armida Abbandonata*. In 2006 she sang Myrtale in *Thaïs* for Grange Park Opera and various roles in Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges* with the European Opera Centre on tour in Greece and Cyprus. Flora returned to Grange Park the following year to sing Second Lady in a new production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. In 2008, she received critical acclaim for her performance of Idamante in Mozart's *Idomeneo* with New Sussex Opera and, most recently, sang Carmen for Opera Brava on tour. Flora lives with her husband and baby daughter in North London.

MARK CHAUNDY (TENOR) studied with Neil Mackie and Ryland Davies at the Royal College of Music; he now studies with Joy Mammen and Dennis O'Neill. He has been supported by The Countess of Munster and The Arts Council of Wales, as well as a Susan Chilcott Scholarship, Samling Scholarship, and Tanglewood fellowship. He reached the finals of the Young Welsh Singers Competition twice and has won the National Federation of Music Societies Award.

Concert collaborations include appearances with Peter Schreier, David Wilson-Johnson, Cleo Laine, the London Mozart Players, the CBSO and Northern Sinfonia. Concert repertoire includes Haydn's *The Seasons*, Handel's *Samson*, Rossini's *Stabat Mater* and *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Kodaly's *Psalmus Hungaricus* and Tippett's *The Tempest Suite*.

Operatic roles include Bajazet in Handel's *Tameriano* (Cambridge Handel Opera Group), First Trojan Man in *Idomeneo* and Guiseppe in *La Traviata* (Glyndebourne on Tour). As Associate Artist with Welsh National Opera, he understudied the roles of



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Lenski in *Eugene Onegin*, *The Duke* in *Rigoletto*, *Kudrjas in Káťa Kabanová*, Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* and Giove in Monteverdi's *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria*, and sang Roderigo in *Otello* in the WNO Millenium opening gala conducted by Carlo Rizzi.

Recent highlights include Brubeck's *La Fiesta de la Posada* (Barbican), Alvarez in Offenbach's *Barbe-Bleue* and Courier in *La Fanciulla del West* (Grange Park Opera), Egeo in Cavalli's *Giasone* (Early Opera Company), Pedrolino in Mozart's *Jewel Box* and *Romeo* in Benda's *Romeo and Juliet* (Bampton Classical Opera), Kudrjash (cover) in *Ká Abanová* (Opera North), Don José in *Carmen* (Opera Project) and Berlioz's *Te Deum* (Birmingham Symphony Hall).

ROBERT GILDON (BASS) studied at Manhattan School of Music in New York for three years and, while in America, sang the lead role in John Casken's Golem conducted by Diego Masson and Amantio in Gianni Schicchi under Julius Rudel both at the Aspen Music Festival. He was also a student at the Tanglewood Music Center (twice), performing in Gianni Schicchi under Robert Spano. Robert made his London Symphony Orchestra and Barbican debut in 2006 performing the baritone solos in Dave Brubeck's La Fiesta de la Posada. Recent opera engagements include workshops with Simon McBurney/Complicitie on Raskatov's new opera for Netherlands Opera - A Dogs Life, Kruger (cover) in Gershwin's Let 'em Eat Cake for Opera North, Cecil in The Cumnor Affair for Tete a Tete, Niceno (cover) in Vivaldi's L'incoronazione di Dario, Wigmaker and Harlequin (cover) in Ariadne auf Naxos both at Garsington, Critical Mass for Almeida Opera, Debussy's The House of Usher and Photo Booth for the Tete a Tete Opera Festival, Journalist in the TV opera Man on the Moon by Jonathan Dove (Channel 4), and the Pirate King in The Pirates of Penzance for Opera della Luna. Recent concert engagements include Brahms Requiem in Peterborough Cathedral, St Matthew Passion in St Albans Abbey, a recital of Faure/Kosma/Jonathan Harvey with Jeff Cohen and Benny Sluchin, a recital of Paul Bowles/Copland also with Jeff Cohen in Lisbon, two Radio France recitals, Haydn's Seven Last Words with the Maggini Quartet. Upcoming work includes Starveling in A Midsummer Night's Dream at Garsington Opera and Bampton Classical Opera.Other performances include Imeneo and Tamerlano (Cambridge Handel Opera Group), Bernstein's Trouble in Tahiti(Opera Group), Captain Corcoran (D'Oyly Carte), Aeneas in Purcell's Dido (Bruges Early Music Festival), Narrator/Hel Helson in Paul Bunyan (Dartington), John Wilkes Booth in Sondheim's Assassins(Pimlico Opera), the world premiere of a Ned Rorem song in Paris (Radio France), Maugiron in Chabrier's Le Roi Malgre Lui(Grange Park Opera), Papageno, Masetto, Schaunard (all with The Opera Project), Belcore (New Sussex Opera), Vaughan Williams' Hodie in Sheffield Cathedral. Robert has studied at the Centre International de la Melodie Française in Tours working with François le Roux and at the Britten Pears School in Aldeburgh working with Andreas Scholl. In April 2005 Robert was a prize winner in the MEGEP competition in Paris.

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And, of course, new members are always welcome - please ring the Membership Secretary, Margaret Flanigan, on 01442 823915



Giuseppe Verdi 1813 - 1901



erdi was born in Roncole, in the former duchy of Parma, and he first studied music in the neighbouring town of Busseto. Upon being rejected by the Milan Conservatory in 1832 (because of his age), he became a pupil of the Milanese composer Vincenzo Lavigna, returning to Busseto in 1833 as conductor of the Philharmonic Society.

At the age of 25, Verdi again went to Milan, where his first opera, Oberto, was produced at La Scala with some success. His next work, the comic opera Un Giorno di Regno (King for a Day, 1840), was a failure, and Verdi, lamenting also the recent deaths of his wife and two children, decided to give up composing. After more than a year, however, the director of La Scala succeeded in persuading him to write Nabucco (1842). This opera created a sensation; its subject matter dealt with the Babylonian captivity of the Jews, and the Italian public regarded it as a symbol of the struggle against Austrian rule in northern Italy. I Lombardi (1843) and Ernani (1844), both great successes, followed, but of the next ten productions only Macbeth (1847) and Luisa Miller (1849) have survived in the permanent operatic repertory. Verdi's three following works, Rigoletto (1851), Il Trovatore (1853), and La Traviata (1853), brought him international fame and remain among the most popular of all operas.

Operas written in the middle of Verdi's career, including *Un Ballo in Maschera* (A Masked Ball, 1859), *La Forza del Destino* (The Force of Destiny, 1862), and *Don Carlo* (1867), exhibit a greater mastery of musical characterization and a greater emphasis on the role of the orchestra than earlier works. *Aïda* (1871), also of this period, and probably Verdi's most popular

opera, was commissioned by the Khedive of Egypt to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal; it was first performed in Cairo. Three years later, Verdi composed

his most important non-operatic work, the Requiem Mass, in memory of the Italian novelist Alessandro Manzoni. Verdi's other non-operatic works include the dramatic cantata



Inno delle Nazioni (Hymn of the Nations, 1862) and the String Quartet in E minor (1873).

In his seventies, Verdi produced the supreme expression of his genius, *Otello* (1887), composed to a libretto skilfully adapted by the Italian composer and librettist Arrigo Boito from the Shakespearean tragedy *Othello*. This was followed by his last opera, *Falstaff* (1893), also adapted by Boito from Shakespeare, and generally considered one of the greatest of all comic operas.

In general, Verdi's works are most noted for their emotional intensity, tuneful melodies, and dramatic characterizations. He transformed the Italian opera, with its traditional set pieces, old-fashioned librettos, and emphasis on vocal displays, into a unified musical and dramatic entity. His operas are among those most frequently performed in the world today.



Verdi's Four Sacred Pieces



- Ave Maria
- 2. Stabat Mater
- Laudi alla Vergine
- 4. Te Deum

In the twilight of his life, Verdi published a collection of four pieces entitled the Quattro Pezzi Pacri. Composed over some eight years prior to their publication, they reveal the eyes of Italy's most famous opera composer looking toward the afterlife through the sacred texts of the Catholic church. Much of the music is quite progressive: the style reflects the great tonal expansion of the latter nineteenth century, as well as Verdi's own advances in operatic composition. At the same time, the Quattro Pezzi Sacri provide Verdi's retrospective view of some highlights of his Italian cultural heritage, making references as far back as Dante and Palestrina.

Two of the Quattro Pezzi Sacri borrow the traditional texture of stile antico church compositions, a cappella choral writing. In the Laudi alla Vergine (composed around 1890), Verdi uses only a quartet of women's voices to set his Italian text from the final Canto of Dante's Paradiso. He deliberately evokes the music of the Italian Renaissance in the vocal texture, with its clear cadences and imitative writing; the voice-leading, on the other hand, is often richly chromatic and wanders far from the home key. Verdi's Ave Maria similarly translates severe, four-voiced unaccompanied choral texture into a thoroughly "modern" harmonic idiom. The piece took life as Verdi's response to an editorial challenge in a Milanese periodical (1888) for any composer to write music based upon a scala enigmatica. Verdi places this challenging scale in each voice

in turn as an archaic cantus firmus. The other voices weave often extremely chromatic harmonies about it; almost every note of the 12-tone scale appears in the first four bars alone.

The other two pieces deploy the full range of choral and orchestral forces. Stabat Mater (1896-1897) sets the complete drama of the Passion as seen through Mary's eyes; it does so in a series of images from the ancient Latin text. In preparation for the winter composition of the Te Deum, Verdi studied the music of both Victoria and Purcell, though he ultimately created something quite different. His intention was a musically adventuresome portrayal of his own emotional responses to the traditional text. The "immense father" is also the "king of glory" (seen in brass fanfares), born in human flesh of a Virgin, and who will return as "Judge." Mankind trembles before this judge; Verdi asked to have this personally expressive score buried with him.

(See the article about the Enigmatic Scale later in this programme)

Of all composers, past and present, I am the least learned. I mean that in all seriousness, and by learning I do not mean knowledge of music.

Verdi, 1869



Verdi; Four Sacred Pieces



1. AVE MARIA (CHORUS)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, benedicta tu in multieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui Jesus.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

2. STABAT MATER (CHORUS)

Stabat Mater dolorosa, juxta crucem lacrymosa, dum pendebat Filius.

Cujus animam gementem contristatam et dolentem, per transivit gladius.

O quam tristis et afflicta, fuit illa benedicta Mater Unigeniti!

Quae moerebat et dolebat.

Pia Mater, dum videbat nati poenas inclyti. Quis est homo, qui non fleret, Matrem Christi si videret in tanto supplicio?

Quis non posset constistari, Christi Matrem contemplari dolentem cum Filio?

Vidit Jesum in tormentis, et flagellis subditum.

Vidit sum dulcem natum moriendo desolatum, dum emisit spiritum.

Eja Mater fons amoris me sentire vim doloris fac, ut tecum lugeam.

Fac ut ardeat cormeum in amando Christum Deum, ut sibi complaceam.

Sancta Mater, istud agas, crucifixi fige plagas cordi meo valide.

Tui nati vulnerati, tam dignati pro me pati, poenas mecum divide.

Fac me tecum pie flere, crucifixo condolere donec ego vixero.

Juxta crucem tecum stare, et me tibi sociare in planctu desidero..

Virgo virginum praeclara, mihi jam non sis amara, fac me tecum plangere.

Fac, ut portem Christi mortem, passionis fac consortem, et plagas recolere.

Fac me plagis vulnerati, fac me cruce inebriari, et cruore Filii.

Flammis ne urar succensus, per te, Virgo, sim defensus, in die judicii.

Christe, cum sit hinc exire, da per matrem me venire ad palmam victoriae.

Fac ut animae donetur paradise Gloria. Amen.

3. LAUDI ALLA VERGINE MARIA (SOPRANOS AND ALTOS)

Vergine Madre, figlia del tuo Figlio, umile ed alta pui che creatura, termine fiso d'eterno consiglio,tu se'colei che l'umana natura nobilitasti siche'l suo fattore non disdegno di farsi sua fatura.

Nel ventre tuo raccese l'amore per lo cui caldo nell'eterna pace così e germinato questo fiore.

Qui se'a noi meridiana face di caritate. Egiuso, in traimortali, se'di speranza Fontana vivace.

Donna, se'tanto grande e tanto vali, che qual vuol grazia, ed a te non ricorre, sua disianza vuoi volar senz'ali.

La tua benignita non pur soccorre a chi dimanda, ma molte fiate liberamente al dimandar precorre.

In te misericordia, in te pietate, in te magnificenza, in te s'aduna. Quantunque in creaturare di bontate. Ave. Ave.

4.TE DEUM (CHORUS)

Te Deum laudamus. Te Dominum confitemur. Te aeternum patrem omnis terra venerator.

Tibi coeli et universae potestates. Tibi Cherubim et Seraphim proclamant.

Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra majestatis gloriae tuae.

Te gloriosus Apostolorum chorus. Te prophetarum laudabilis numerus. Te martyrum candidatus laudat exercitus. Te per orbem terraum sancta confitetur Ecclesia.

Patrem immensae majestatis. Venerandum tuum verum et unicum Filium. Sanctum quoque paraclitum spiritum.

Tu, Rex gloriae, Christe. Tu Patris sempiternus es Filius. Tu ad liberandum suscepturus hominem non horruisti Virginis uterum. Tu devicto mortis aculeo, aperuisti credentibus regna coelorum.

Ad dexteram Dei sedes in Gloria Patris. Judex crederis esse venturus.

Te ergo, quaesumus, tuis famulis subveni, quos pretioso sanguine redemisti.

Aeterna faccum Sanctis tuis in Gloria numerari.

Salvum fac populum tuum, Domine, et benedic haereditati tuae. Et rege eos, et extolle illos usque in aeternum. Per singulos dies benedicimus te. Et laudamus nomen tuum in saeculum et in saeculum saeculi

Dignare, Domine, die isto sine peccato nos custodire, Miserere nostril, domine.

Fiat misericordia tua, Domine, supernos, quemadmodum speravimus in te speravi. Non confundar in aeternum. In te, Domine, in te speravi.



Verdi's Enigmatic Scale



n the first of Verdi's Four Sacred Pieces (Ave Maria), listen out for a most unusual musical device that the composer makes use of. It is called the Scala Enigmata, or Enigmatic Scale. This very uncommon scale includes elements of both major and minor scales, as well as the whole-tone scale. It was originally published in a Milan journal (Gazetta Musicale) as a musical challenge, with an invitation to harmonize it in some way.

Verdi (who, supposedly, invented the scale) used it in his *Ave Maria* in response to the magazine's challenge. The piece features the scale both in its harmonies and as a *cantus firmus* throughout this short piece. First you will hear it in the bass, then in each successively higher voice part.

William Hadow, in "The Oxford History of Music", describes it as 'queer counterpoint which...is far-fetched and difficult of

intonation; the total effect is almost, if not quite, as musical as it is curious'.

For those of you interested in the technical side of things, the scale (written out in the key of G) is G, Ab, B, C#, D#, E#, F#, G, following the musical step pattern of semitone, tone and a half, tone, tone, tone, semitone, semitone. The scale lacks a perfect fourth (except descending) and a perfect fifth, both of which are usually used in standard chord progressions, and help to establish the tonic.

By the way, the scala enigmatica is not confined to classical music - guitarist Joe Satriani used in his piece *The Enigmatic* from his album *Not of This Earth.*

So, when Verdi's Four Sacred Pieces begins this evening, not only can you appreciate the lovely singing of Tring Choral Society, but you can also see if you can pick out the Enigmatic Scale!



Gioachino Rossini 1792 - 1868



position in the Italian musical world of his time, winning considerable success relatively early in his career. The son of a horn-player and a mother who made a career for herself in opera, he had direct experience, as a boy, of operatic performance, both in the orchestra pit and on stage. The operas from his early success in 1810 were followed by a fruitful period in Paris, leading to his final opera, Guillaume Tell, which was first staged in that city in 1829. The revolution of 1830 prevented the fulfilment of French royal commissions for the theatre but, in his later life, he continued to enjoy considerable esteem, both in Paris, where he spent much of his last years, and in his native Italy. There he spent the years from 1837 until 1855, before returning finally to France, where he died in 1868.

Of his three dozen or so operas, Il Barbiere di Siviglia (The Barber of Seville) is probably the best known, a treatment of the first play of the Figaro trilogy by Beaumarchais on which Mozart had drawn thirty years before in Vienna. Other well known comic operas by Rossini include La Scala di Seta (The Silken Ladder), Il Signor Bruschino (Mr Bruschino), L'Italiana in Algeri (The Italian Girl in Algiers), Il Turco in Italia (The Turk in Italy), La Cenerentola (Cinderella) and La Gazza Ladra (The Thieving Magpie). More serious subjects were tackled in Otello, Semiramide, Mose in Egitto (Moses in Egypt) and the French Guillaume Tell (William Tell), based on the play by Schiller. The overtures to many of these are still very frequently played.

Church music by Rossini includes the *Petite Messe Solennelle*, originally for twelve solo voices, two pianos and harmonium, but rescored four years later,

ossini occupied an unrivalled in 1867, with orchestral accompaniment. position in the Italian musical world Tonight's work, *Stabat Mater*, was written of his time, winning considerable in 1841 (in its final version).

His instrumental compositions some early *String Sonatas*, designed for two violins, cello and double bass and thought to have been written when he was twelve. The so-called *Péchés de Vieillesse* (Sins of Old Age) consist of thirteen volumes of varied music, some vocal and some instrumental. These compositions demonstrate both



the well-known wit of the composer as well as his continuing technical command of musical resources.

Rossini had been a well-known gourmand and an excellent amateur chef his entire life, but he indulged these two passions fully once he retired from composing, and today there are a number of dishes with the appendage "alla Rossini" to their names that were either created by him or specifically for him. Probably the most famous of these is Tournedos Rossini, still served by many restaurants today.



Rossini; Stabat Mater



1. INTRODUCTION (CHORUS AND QUARTET)

Stabat Mater dolorosa
Juxta crucem lachrymosa,
Dum pendebat Filius.
(The grieving mother stood by the cross,
where her son was hanging.)

2. ARIA (TENOR)

Cujus animam gementem Contristatem et dolentem Pertransivit gladius. O quam tristis et afflicta Fuit illa benedicta Mater unigeniti; Quae moerebat et dolebat Et tremebat cum videbat Nati poenas inclyti. (As she shared his sorrow and grieved, a sword pierced her heart. O how sad and afflicted was that blessed mother of the only-begotten one. As she mourned and grieved, she trembled when she saw the punishment of her illustrious son.)

3. DUET (SOPRANO AND CONTRALTO)

Quis est homo qui non fleret
Christi Matrem si videret in tanto
supplicio?
Quis non posset contristari
Piam Matrem contemplari
Dolentem cum Filio?
(What man would not weep to see
the mother of Christ in such suffering?
Who would not share in the sorrow, on
contemplating the mother of Christ grieving
for her son?)

4. ARIA (BASS)

Pro peccatis suae gentis Vidit Jesum in tormentis, Et flagellis subditum. Vidit suum dulcem natum Morientem desolatum Dum emisit spiritum. (She saw Jesus in agony and flogged for the sins of her people. She saw her sweet child desolate as He died and His spirit slipped away.)

5. RECITATIVE (BASS AND CHORUS)

Eia, Mater fons amoris,
Me sentire vim doloris
Fac ut tecum lugeam.
Fac ut ardeat cor meum.
In amando Christum Deum.
Ut sibi complaceam .
(Oh Mother, fountain of love,
Help me to feel the strength of
your grief so that I may mourn with you.)

6. QUARTET

Sancta Mater, istud agas, Crucifixi fige plagas Corde meo valide. Tui nati vulnerati, Tam dignati pro me pati, Poenas mecum divide. Fac me vere tecum flere, Crucifixo condolere, Donec ego vixero. Juxta crecem tecum stare, Te libenter sociare In planctu desidero. Virgo, virginum praeclara, Mihi jam non sis amara. Fac me tecum plangere. (Holy mother, help me hold the wounds of the crucified firmly in my heart. Share with me the punishment of your wounded son who deigned to suffer Help me truly to weep with you, to grieve with you for Him, the crucified, for as long as I live. I long to stand beside the cross with you and gladly share the mourning with you.



Rossini; Stabat Mater



Virgin, most noble of Virgins, do not be bitter towards me, let me mourn with you.)

7. CAVATINA (CONTRALTO SOLO)

Fac ut portem Christi mortem,
Passionis ejus sortem,
Et plagas recolere.
Fac me plagis vulnerari,
Cruce hac inebriari,
Ob amorem Filii.
(Let me bear Christ's death, let me share in His sufferings and reflect on His wounds.
May His wounds transfix me, May His

holy cross and lifeblood fill my heart and

8. ARIA (SOPRANO AND CHORUS)

Inflammatus et accensus

mind.)

Per te, Virgo, sim defensus, In die judicii. Fac me cruce custodiri, Morte Christi praemuniri, Confoveri gratia. (Let me be guarded by the Cross, Protected by the death of Christ, and cherished with His grace.)

9. QUARTET

Quando corpus morietur, Fac ut animae donetur, Paradisi Gloria. (When my body dies, may my soul be granted the glory of paradise.)

10. FINALE

In sempiterna saecula, Amen. (World without end. Amen.)

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Goodchild, David Taine

Oboe; Fraser MacAulay, Fraser Kelnan Tympani; Richard Baron-Tait



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The piano accompanist for Tring Choral Society rehearsals is Richard Grylls.

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> We are grateful for the presence of St John Ambulance representatives at this concert.



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