**PROGRAMME**

**Benjamin Britten: Missa Brevis in D, Op. 63**

*Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei*

(Soloists: Harriet Sampson, Rosemary Hensor, Harriet Hansell)

**Wayne Marshall: Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis**

(Soloist: Sarah Russell)

**Simon Preston: Alleluyas**

(Organ: Philip Scriven)

**Malcolm Singer: Psalm 100**

**John Sanders: Te Deum Laudamus**

(Soloists: Rachel Ellis, Rachel Sherlock)

SHORT INTERVAL

**Michael Hurd: Missa Brevis**

*Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei*

(Soloist: Sarah Russell)

**Benjamin Britten: Rejoice in the Lamb, Op. 30**

(Soloists: Jenny Hansell, Jo Browse, Harriet Hansell)

Refreshments will be served after the concert

For the flowers are great blessings.
For the flowers have their angels even the words of God's creation.
For the flower glorifies God and the root parries the adversary.
For there is a language of flowers.
For the flowers are peculiarly the poetry of Christ.

For I am under the same accusation with my Saviour -
For they said, he is besides himself.
For the officers of the peace are at variance with me, and the watchman smites me with his staff.
For Silly fellow! Silly fellow! Is against me and belongeth neither to me nor to my family.
For I am in twelve Hardships, but he that was born of a virgin shall deliver me out of all.

For H is a spirit and therefore he is God.
For K is king and therefore he is God.
For L is love and therefore he is God.
For M is musick and therefore he is God.

For the instruments are by their rhimes,
For the shawm rhimes are lawn fawn moon boon and the like.

For the harp rhimes are sing ring string and the like.
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well toll soul and the like.
For the flute rhimes are tooth youth suit mute and the like.
For the bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like.
For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place beat heat and the like.
For the clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like.
For the trumpet rhimes are sound bound soar more and the like.

For the Trumpet of God is a blessed intelligence and so are all the instruments in Heaven.
For God the Father Almighty plays upon the Harp of stupendous magnitude and melody.

For at that time malignity ceases and the devils themselves are at peace.
For this time is perceptible to man by a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.

Hallelujah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnifical and mighty. Hallelujah.

**TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS**

**Missa Brevis**

***Kyrie****.* Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

***Gloria****.* Glory to God on high and in earth peace towards men of good will. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of the Father, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right of the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art Holy. Thou only art the Lord. Thou only art the Most High. Thou only, O Jesus Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art Most High in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

***Sanctus.*** Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the Highest.

***Benedictus.*** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest.

***Agnus Dei.*** Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

**Magnificat**

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Psalm 100**

Shout unto the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

Know ye that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the flock of his pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; give thanks unto him, and bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy endureth for ever; and his faithfulness unto all generations.

**Te Deum Laudamus**

We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee: the Father everlasting.
To thee all Angels cry aloud: the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.
To thee Cherubim and Seraphim: continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty: of thy glory.
The glorious company of the Apostles: praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets: praise thee.
The noble army of Martyrs: praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world: doth acknowledge thee;
The Father of an infinite Majesty;
Thine honourable, true: and only Son;
Also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter.
Thou art the King of Glory; O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son: of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man: thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death: thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God: in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come: to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants: whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints: in glory everlasting.

**Rejoice in the Lamb**

(*Text from JUBILATE AGNO by Christopher Smart)*

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues; give the glory to the Lord, and the Lamb.
Nations, and languages, and every Creature, in which is the breath of Life.
Let man and beast appear before him, and magnify his name together.

Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter, bind a leopard to the altar, and consecrate his spear to the Lord.

Let Ishmail dedicate a Tyger, and give praise for the liberty in which the Lord has let him at large.

Let Balaam appear with an Ass,and bless the Lord his people and his creatures for a reward eternal.

Let Daniel come forth with a Lion, and praise God with all his might through faith in Christ Jesus.

Let Ithamar minister with a chamois, and bless the name of Him, that cloatheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the satyr bless God in the dance.

Let David bless with the Bear - The beginning of victory to the Lord -
to the Lord the perfection of excellence.

Hallelujah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnifical and mighty. Hallelujah.

For I will consider my Cat Jeoffry.
For he is the servant of the Living God, duly and daily serving him.

For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East he worships in his way.
For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant quickness.
For he knows that God is his saviour.
For God has blessed him in the variety of his movements.
For there is nothing sweeter than his peace when at rest.

For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty, from whom I take occasion to bless Almighty God.

For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.
For - this is a true case - Cat takes female mouse - male mouse will not depart,
but stands threat'ning and daring.
If you will let her go, I will engage you, as prodigious a creature as you are.

For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.
For the Mouse is of an hospitable disposition.

**NOTES**

As we have been rehearsing the music for this concert we have become more and more aware of the great debt composers of our time owe to **Benjamin Britten** (1913-1976): his influence is everywhere, so it is appropriate to pay homage in this year, the centenary of his birth. We start and end with two hugely important works from his output, the first of which, his *Missa Brevis,* is often performed liturgically, like most of the works in our concert. The main parts of the mass are set, with the exception of the long *Credo.* It was written with trebles in mind, having been dedicated to the boys of Westminster Cathedral Choir and first performed there in 1959.

**John Sanders** (1933-2003) and **Wayne Marshall** (b.1961) both worked in English cathedrals, the former for most of his career as Organist of Gloucester Cathedral. His *Te Deum Laudamus* was commissioned by Cheltenham Ladies College in 1982. Wayne Marshall was Organ Scholar at St George’s Chapel,Windsor (as was a certain Philip Scriven…) and is now an internationally famous concert organist, pianist and conductor known in particular for his interpretation of the music of Gershwin and Bernstein. The jazz influence is clear in his wonderfully melodic setting of the canticles (*Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis)*, which are coloured by delicious jazz harmonies. These were also written in 1982, for the choristers of St George's Chapel.

The setting of Psalm 100 in Hebrew by **Malcolm Singer** (b. 1953), currently Director of Music at the Menuhin School, was writtenin 1995 for the Zemel Choir. He re-wrote it in 2004 for six-part high voices for Putney High School.

**Michael Hurd** (1928-2006) was a composer and musicologist who also wrote jazz cantatas for children such as *Jonah-Man Jazz.* His *Missa Brevis* is dedicated to the composer Lennox Berkeley and was written for The Farnham Girls’ Choir in 1967, just eight years after Britten’s.

**Simon Preston** (b. 1938) was sub-organist of [Westminster Abbey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westminster_Abbey) and organist of [Christ Church, Oxford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christ_Church%2C_Oxford) before returning to Westminster as Organist and Master of the Choristers from 1981-7. The best-known of his organ compositions is probably *Alleluyas*, written in the style of [Olivier Messiaen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olivier_Messiaen).

*Rejoice in the Lamb* (1943)is the only piece in the programme not written for high voices but it does work very well for these forces and as it is such a great work we do not want to miss out! Britten’s setting of the deeply religious but rather unbalanced eighteenth century poet Christopher Smart’s quirky words confirms his great skill as a writer of music for choirs, with wonderful choral textures and evocative word painting – listen to the organ accompaniment portraying the ‘wreathing’ cat and the ‘pouncing’ mouse!

***Cantilena***

*Charlotte Bassett-Chan Rosemary Hensor*

*Jo Browse Judith Ironmonger*

*Elizabeth Burtenshaw Rachel Musgrove*

*Katy Ellis Josie Pitchforth*

*Rachel Ellis Claire O’Brien*

*Lis Gardner Harriet Sampson*

*Cathy Garner Rachel Sherlock*

*Laura Goldsmith Sarah Russell*

*Harriet Hansell*

***Jenny Hansell*** read Music at the University of Durham. For many years her career combined teaching Music in schools with performing, but she now works as a freelance soprano, private teacher, vocal coach and conductor.

As a solo singer shespecialises in the performance of Baroque and Classical oratorio and vocal chamber music. As well as singing the masterpieces of the period and the standard eighteenth-century repertoire (by Monteverdi, Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart), she has also given first modern performances of innumerable re-discovered works, particularly by Charpentier, a selection of whose motets she recorded for Cologne Radio with her colleagues in the ensemble *Sospiri.* She has also performed a number of more contemporary works. Singing has taken her throughout Britain and to France, the Czech Republic, Holland, Germany, Austria and Slovenia, and she has made three visits to Israel for performances of medieval songs, music by Purcell, and *Messiah*.

In addition to her work with *Cantilena*, Jenny directs the choir of Holy Trinity Church, Rudgwick and is the conductor of *Horsham Chamber Choir*.

Thank you to the St Nicolas PCC and clergy for their help and for allowing us to use this lovely building for our concert.

Thanks also to the many helpers behind the scenes and, in particular, to Chris Dubois for his invaluable assistance with publicity.

**For more information about *Cantilena* and details of forthcoming concerts see our website www.cantilenachoir.jimdo.com**

**or contact** **cantilena.info@gmail.com**

***REJOICE!***

***A celebration of Benjamin Britten’s Centenary***



***Cantilena***

***Conductor: Jenny Hansell***

***Organ: Philip Scriven***

**Saturday 12th October**

**7.30 pm**

**St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh**

**www.cantilenachoir.jimdo.com**