

The Cherwell Singers

Conducted by Jonathan Leonard

Organist Matthew Martin

Duruflé

REQUIEM

Debussy

Chansons

Finzi

Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice

Saturday 31 March 2001

8.30pm

New College Chapel

By kind permission of the Warden and Fellows

Tickets at the door - £8 (concessions £5)

THE CHERWELL SINGERS
Conductor: Jonathan Leonard
Organist: Matthew Martin

Claude Debussy

(1862 – 1918)

Trois Chansons

1. Dieu! qu'il la fait bon regarder!

Dieu! qu'il la fait bon regarder.
La graciuise bonne et bille;
Pour les grans biens que sont en elle
Chascun est prest, de la louier.
Qui se pourroit d'elle lasser?
Tousjours sa beauté renouuelle.
Par de ca, ne de la, la mer
Ne scay dame ne damoiselle
Qui soit en tous bien parfaist telle.
C'est ung songe que d'ipenser.
Dieu! qu'il la fait bon regarder.

2. Quant j'ai oy le tabourin

Quant j'ai oy le tabourin
Sonner, pour s'en aller au may,
En mon lit n'en ay fait affray
Ne levé mon chief du coissin:
En disant; il est trop matin
Ung peu je me rendormiray:
Jeunes gens partent leur butin;
De non chaloir m'accointeray.

A lui je m'a butineray
Trouvé l'ay plus prouchain voisin.
Quant j'ai oy le tabourin
Sonner, pour s'en aller au may,
En mon lit n'en ay fait affray
Ne levé mon chief du coissin.

3. Yver, vous n'estes qu'un villain

Yver, vous n'estes qu'un villain;
Esté est plaisant et gentil
En témoing de may et d'avril
Qui l'accompagnient soir et main.
Esté revet champs, bois et fleurs
De sa livrée de verdure
Et de maintes autres couleurs
Par l'ordonnance de nature.
Mais vous. Yver, trop estes plein
De nège, vent, pluye et grézil
On vous déüst banir en exil.
Sans point flater je parle plein.
Yver, vous n'estes qu'un villain.

Gerald Finzi

(1901 - 1956)

Lo, the Full, Final Sacrifice

Lo, the full, final sacrifice
On which all figures fix't their eyes.
The ransomed Isaac, and his ram;
The Manna, and the Paschal Lamb.
Jesu Master, just and true!
Our Food, and faithful Shepherd too!
O let that love which thus makes thee
Mix with our low Mortality.
Lift our lean Souls, and set us up
Convictors of thine own full cup,
Coheirs of Saints. That so all may
Drink the same wine: and the same Way.

Nor change the Pasture, but the Place
To feed of Thee in thine own Face.
O dear Memorial of that Death
Which lives still, and allows us breath!
Rich, Royal food! Bountiful Bread!
Whose use denies us to the dead!
Live ever Bread of loves, and be
My life, my soul, my surer self to me.
Help Lord, my Faith, my Hope increase;
And fill my portion in thy peace.
Give love for life; nor let my days
Grow, but in new powers to thy name and praise.

Rise, Royal Sion! rise and sing
 Thy soul's kind shepherd, thy heart's King.
 Stretch all thy powers; call if you can
 Harps of heaven to hands of man.
 This sovereign subject sits above
 The best ambition of thy love.
 Lo the Bread of Life, this day's
 Triumphant Text provokes thy praise.
 The living and life-giving bread,
 To the great twelve distributed
 When Life, himself, at point to die
 Of love, was his own Legacy.
 O soft, self-wounding Pelican!
 Whose breast weeps Balm for wounded man.

All this way bend thy benign flood
 To a bleeding Heart that gasps for blood.
 That blood, whose least drops sovereign be
 To wash my worlds of sins from me.
 Come love! Come Lord! and that long day
 For which I languish, come away.
 When this dry soul those eyes shall see,
 And drink the unseal'd source of thee.
 When Glory's sun faith's shades shall chase,
 And for thy veil give me my Face. Amen.

Richard Crashaw

Maurice Duruflé

(1902 - 1986)

Requiem

INTROIT

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine; et lux
 perpetua luceat eis. Te decet hymnus, Deus, in
 Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.
 Exaudi orationem meam; ad te omnis caro
 veniet.

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

DOMINE JESU CHRISTE

(Soloist: John Tucker)

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera
 animas omnium fidelium defunctorum de
 pœnis inferni et de profundo lacu; libera eas de
 ore leonis; ne absorbeat eas tartarus, ne cadant
 in obscurum. Sed signifer sanctus Michael
 representet eas in lucem sanctam. Quam olim
 Abrahæ promisisti et semini ejus. Hostias et
 preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus. Te
 suscipe pro animabus illis quarum hodie
 memoriam facimus. Fac eas, Domine, de
 morte transire ad vitam. Quam olim Abrahæ
 promisisti et semini ejus.

SANCTUS

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus
 Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
 Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in
 nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

PIE JESU

(Soloist: Clemmie Franks)

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem. Pie Jesu,
 Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis
 requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
 dona eis requiem sempiternam.

LUX ÆTERNA

Lux æterna luceat eis. Domine, cum sanctis
 tuis in æternum: quia pius es. Requiem
 æternam dona eis, Domine; et lux perpetua
 luceat eis: quia pius es.

LIBERA ME

(Soloist: John Tucker)

Libera me, Domine, de morte æterna in die illa
 tremenda; quando coeli movendi sunt et terra;
 dum veneris judicare sæculum per ignem.
 Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo, dum
 discussio venerit atque ventura ira, quando
 coeli movendi sunt et terra. Dies illa, dies iræ,
 calamitatis et miserie, dies magna et amara
 valde, dum veneris judicare sæculum per
 ignem. Requiem æternam dona eis Domine, et
 lux perpetua luceat eis.

IN PARADISUM

In paradisum ducant te angeli, in tuo
 adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te
 in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus
 angelorum te suscipiat et cum Lazaro quondam
 paupere æternam habeas requiem.

THE CHERWELL SINGERS

SOPRANO – Claire Appleton, Sue Bignal, Kipper Chipperfield, Clemmie Franks, Sarah Franks, Claire Harman, Caroline Higginbottom, Lousie Locock.

ALTO – Virginia Allport, Julia Craig-McFeely, Stella Holman, Helen Maidlow, Clare Oxby, Joanna Tucker, Annemarie Vink.

TENOR – Derek Fowler, Rob Harnish, Christopher Palmer, Guy Peskett, David Sutton, John Tucker

BASS – Richard Coleridge, Christopher Franks, Mike Geary, Paul Lewis, John Storrs.

The Cherwell Singers was founded 21 years ago by a group of singers who wished to perform the vocal chamber music repertory to a high standard, and many of the original singers are still part of the choir.

Our repertoire covers sacred and secular music from the late Medieval period to 20th-century works - some written especially for the choir. It includes not only compositions central to the choral tradition, but also many lesser-known pieces.

The choir accepts bookings for weddings, dinners and other events - formal and informal - and we welcome enquiries from prospective new members. The choir has recently released two CDs: *The Twelve Days of Christmas* and *Oxford Conference* - an eclectic mix of English music from the 16th century to the present day, and these can be purchased at the back of chapel after the concert.

Contact numbers:

Richard Coleridge (01865) 762882
Julia Craig-McFeely (01865) 241323
Christopher Franks (01865) 723056

Next concert:

Saturday, 23rd June – English Pastoral Partsongs, St. Andrew's Church, Old Headington, Oxford.

Please leave your name and address with a member of the choir if you would like to be added to our mailing list.