

The Hexham Orpheus Choir

Conductor Glenn Davis

BEETHOVEN



Violin Concerto
Mass in C

Saturday 17th May
Queen's Hall Hexham



The Hexham Orpheus Choir

Conductor

Glenn Davis

With an invited orchestra led by

Pauline Aitchison

Choir rehearsal pianist

Margaret Huntington



Tonight's Guest Soloists

The Violin Concerto



Lucy Jeal (Violin) Lucy is a former winner of the London Philharmonic Orchestra's International "Young Soloist of the Year" Competition. Described by the *Financial Times* as possessing 'a talent of a rare and precious kind', and by the *Birmingham Post* as 'a wonderfully serene violin soloist', Lucy has performed as a soloist in all London's major venues, and as a recitalist and chamber musician in many music clubs and festivals throughout the country and abroad. She has broadcast for BBC Radio 3, and was chosen for Radio 3's Young Artists' Forum recorded series of concerts. Lucy was one of the Countess of Munster Trust's sponsored recitalists and was chosen by the National Federation of Music Clubs & Societies for their recital scheme.

Born in London and a former scholar at the Purcell School of Music and Westminster School, Lucy was an Associated Board scholar at the Royal College of Music before winning a Dean's Talent scholarship to Oberlin College, Ohio, from where she graduated with high honours in 1999. She has won many grants and scholarships including the Emily English award.

For two years she was on tour with Alfred Brendel in his piano quartet in a worldwide series of chamber concerts to celebrate his 70th birthday. She is also a keen chamber musician and has been guest leader of various chamber orchestras and ensembles. For a decade she was a regular guest at the International Musicians' Seminar's annual chamber music concerts at Prussia Cove. From 2003 to 2006 she was a member of The Northern Sinfonia based at the spectacular Sage in Gateshead. She performed as a soloist with the Sinfonia and regularly played in quartets and small ensemble concerts with other members of the orchestra. For the first six months of 2007 she was guest leading the Brodsky Quartet and plays regularly with the Northern Sinfonia and the English Chamber Orchestra.

The Mass in C



Julia Watson (Soprano) Julia was brought up in Whickham and educated at Dame Allan's Girls' School. She studied cello at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and worked as a freelance cellist in Glasgow, playing with all of the major Scottish orchestras and Ballet Rambert. In 1984 she returned to Gateshead to work as a cello teacher and freelance player. Whilst she has always enjoyed singing, Julia's solo career began only in 1992 when she sang the soprano solo for Rutter's Requiem in Hexham Abbey. Since then she has been asked to perform the solos in several major works, including Schubert Masses in G, B flat and A flat, Haydn Nelson and St. Nicholas Masses, Mozart Vespers, Requiem and C minor Mass, Bach Magnificat and St. Matthew Passion, Handel Messiah and St John Passion, Britten Rejoice in the Lamb and Dido in a concert version of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas in Durham Cathedral. Julia has sung the part of Josephine in a concert version of Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore and Gianetta in The Gondoliers. She has also given performances of songs by George Gershwin and Jerome Kern with David Murray. One of Julia's recent musical interests is playing the bass guitar in a local swing band!



Kathryn Reynolds (Alto) Kathryn began singing in school and church choirs at the age of eight. She began to study singing seriously after auditioning and being accepted for the Chapel Choir of Christ Church College, Canterbury. Over a period of three years she regularly sang and performed a number of solos both in the Chapel and also in Canterbury Cathedral. On leaving Canterbury she continued with her singing studies and went on to gain her LTCL Singing Teacher's Diploma. Kathryn has performed as a member, and as a soloist, with a number of local choirs including Northern English Singers, the Fitzsimons Choir and the Dale Singers. Currently she is a member of the Northern Sinfonia Chorus and recently participated in a semi-staged production of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas at The Sage Gateshead. She teaches full time at a school in Cramlington and also teaches singing privately.



David de Winter (Tenor) David was born in Surrey in 1988. He received his primary music training as a chorister at Westminster Cathedral between the ages of eight and twelve, under James O'Donnell, Martin Baker and Anita Morrison. His achievements there included recording numerous CDs. These ranged from Palestrina to more contemporary works such as Kodaly's Missa Brevis and the widely acclaimed James MacMillan mass and his sacred works. He continued his education as a Music Scholar at the Royal Grammar School in Guildford. During his time there he was invited to join the Rodolfus Choir, performing at the BBC Proms in July 2006, and recording Clytus Gottwald arrangements of late Romantic music and the music of Nicholas Jackson. He is currently reading music at Durham University, and performs on a daily basis as a choral scholar of Durham Cathedral Choir under James Lancelot. This summer he toured France and Belgium with Oxford Voices, directed by Mark Shepherd, singing to audiences of over 15,000. In Durham he regularly performs as a soloist for, among others, the Durham University Choral Society and the Durham University Chamber Choir. He currently studies singing under Peter Wilson. In his spare time David enjoys playing in a jazz band, sport, watching his beloved Liverpool, and performing in a radio show on purpleradio.co.uk.



John Kirk (Bass) Born in Lincolnshire but resident in Northumberland for over forty years, John has a wide range of musical interests spanning classical music through popular and folk music to jazz. Trained originally as a choirboy, he formed his own traditional New Orleans jazz band whilst still at school and, as a young man, he frequently appeared as the baritone soloist with local church choirs. John married Joan in 1963 since when she has always been his most perceptive but supportive critic. Music took a back seat for some years as a family of four young children grew up and the demands of club rugby and squash took priority. Since 1980 a return to public performance has included radio and television appearances as a member of the well-known Vivace quartet from which he retired in 1997 to further his solo career. Since then John has concentrated on oratorio (numerous Messiah's, Creations etc.; most recently "Elijah" in Hexham Abbey; "The Last Supper" at Brunswick and Morpeth Methodist Churches) and recital work (recent performances have included works by Butterworth, Finzi, Schubert, Schumann and Vaughan Williams) interspersed with performances of lighter material (G & S, "Die Fledermaus", "The Merry Widow" etc.). John is currently a member of the Northern Sinfonia Chorus and for relaxation he particularly enjoys singing Northumbrian and Scottish traditional songs.

Programme

(see enclosed notes relating to the individual pieces)

Elegischer Gesang, Op. 118

Hexham Orpheus Choir

Violin Concerto, Op. 61

Soloist Lucy Jeal

Interval

Mass in C major, Op. 86

The Hexham Orpheus Choir

Soloists: Julia Watson (Soprano), Kathryn Reynolds (Alto)

David de Winter (Tenor), John Kirk (Bass)



Cogito Books
Independent bookselling
for independent minds

The Hexham Orpheus Choir would like to express their thanks to Cogito Books as our principal sponsors for 2008



Glenn Davis (Conductor) Choral music has been a major part of Glenn's life since he sang in the school choir of Newcastle R.G.S. under Jack Wolstenholme. After years as a choral singer Glenn was given the chance to direct a small and highly successful madrigal group, the Tynemouth Consort. When in 1979 it was decided that there should be a new mixed-voice choir in Tynemouth, with his established consort experience, Glenn was appointed conductor of the newly-formed Priory Singers, and continued as their conductor until December 2007. In 2006 Glenn also took over as conductor of Tynemouth Gilbert & Sullivan Society which has provided him with new challenges in conducting for the stage. Under Glenn's leadership the Hexham Orpheus Choir has gone from strength to strength. Recent concerts have included The Chichester Psalms, Brahms's Requiem, Mendelssohn's Elijah and more recently a sell out performance of Handel's Messiah in Hexham Abbey. In 2006 the choir gave what is thought to be the first performance in the North of England of the Missa Aedis Christi by Howard Goodall. Periodically Glenn also organises and arranges concerts with the Orpheus Choir and other groups to raise money for various charities in the region.

The Hexham Orpheus Choir

Sopranos

Sarah Barker
Evelyn Blenkinsop
Ruth Brownlee
Elsbeth Christie
Janet Davies
Jill Dexter
Pip Emmer
Nancy Gash
Rosemarie Herdman
Frances Hughes
Annette Marlowe
Carolyn Ramsey
Ann Reed
Elaine Rigg
Nuala Rose
Caroline Watson
Carrie Winger

Altos

Marie Bridges
Pat Crompton
Sheila Dance
Sue Davis
Davina Dwyer
Kate Gessey
Val Hooker
Janet Hornsey
Rita Howell
Anita Jeffries
Judith Murray
Pat Rose
Audrey Shiel
Janet Storrie
Jean Wilks
Jennie Winter

Tenors

John Barker
John Brewster
Keith Brunton
Malcolm Chainey
Tom Frost
Tim Grew
Dorothy Peters
Richard Place
Peter Vasey

Basses

James Arkless
John Crawford
Robert Firth
John Guyon
Don Macleod
Keith Mallinson
Tony May
Owen McArdle
Esme Ryder
Jack Shiel

The Orchestra

Violins

Pauline Aitchison (leader)
Elsbeth Scott
Dawn Allen
Jane Cuggy
Ann-Britt Hedley
Louise Khazaee
Kathryn Wakefield
Helen West

Violas

Jill Blakey
Michael Kershaw
Laura Newton

Cellos

Debora Thorne
Nigel Chandler
Clarke Slater

Bass

Tony Jarrett

Flutes

Robert McBlain

Oboes

Philip Cull
Vicky Bates

Clarinets

Jennifer Murray
Anne Francomb

Bassoons

Paul Judson
Philip Noble

Horns

David Milner

Timpani

Andrew Booth

Trumpets

David Hignett
Andrew Kyle