

Hexham Orpheus Choir

Conductor Glenn Davis



CARL ORFF

CARMINA BURANA



The Hexham Orpheus Choir

Conductor
Glenn Davis

Percussion and Timpani section led by
Andy Booth

Choir rehearsal pianist
Margaret Huntington



Tonight's Soloists



Kathryn Jenkin – Soprano

Once again we are delighted to welcome back to Hexham Kathryn Jenkin. Kathryn studied singing on both the opera and early music courses at the Royal Academy of Music, and now enjoys a variety of concert, operatic, recital and recording work.

Her work as a concert soloist includes performances at St James, Piccadilly (*Bach's B Minor Mass and St Matthew Passion*), St Martin in the Fields (Handel's *Dixit Dominus*), St John Smith Square (Haydn's *Creation*), Hexham Abbey with the Hexham Orpheus choir (Brahms' *German Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah*), and in St Helier, Jersey (Beethoven and Haydn). She has also performed Bach's

St John Passion with the Hanover Band in Brighton. Recent performances include Handel's *Messiah* for Spanish television, Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*, Ligeti's *Requiem* in Lucerne, and Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. Kathryn's operatic career so far has included the roles of Tatyana (*Eugene Onegin*), Despina (*Così fan Tutti*), Dido and Belinda (*Dido and Aeneas*), Drusilla (*The Coronation of Poppea*) and Lucy (Menotti's *The Telephone*). She has recently appeared as Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro* in St Albans and Mrs Vixen in *The Beggar's Opera* at Covent Garden which she has just recorded. She sings and records with the Extra Chorus at the Royal Opera House, and performs with London Voices, The Maida Vale Singers, Opera Rara, The English Concert and London Sinfonietta Voices. She has also sung with Lyon Opera Chorus and at the Chatelet Theatre in Paris. Kathryn works with English Pocket Opera Company, introducing and preparing opera performances in schools.



Robert Seaton – Bass

Robert has performed with the Orpheus choir on many occasions and we are pleased that he is able to join us yet again in tonight's performance of Carmina Burana. Recent performances with the choir include Handel's *Messiah*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, Brahms' *German Requiem* in March 2004 and as "The Judge" in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*, December 2003.

Robert is well known in the North of England for performances in all the major choral works: Beethoven's *Choral Symphony*, Haydn's *Creation*, the *Requiem*s of Mozart, Brahms and Fauré, and the many choral works of Handel.

He has sung Rachmaninov's *The Bells* in Russian and Bloch's *Sacred Service* in Hebrew. In the recital field his repertoire embraces Lieder and French Melodie, together with a special emphasis on British composers. His career has included recitals with the pianist Keith Swallow, appearances at the Ashington and Cambridge Festivals, a performance of Verdi's *Requiem* in the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield as well as charity concerts in Devon, Cheshire, Lancashire and the North East



David Murray - Piano

David is recognized as one of the North East's most acclaimed pianists, and is in constant demand as a soloist, accompanist and chamber music partner.

He has been a regular accompanist for David Haslam, Sir Thomas Allen, Ian Partridge, Graeme Danby, Bradley Creswick, and Alison Pearce, with whom he has appeared all over the world in solo song recitals.

His performing career has taken him all over the UK and also to France, Belgium, Holland, Portugal, Italy and Hungary.

David is well known as a choral trainer and conductor, and is permanent conductor of Bishopwearmouth Choral Society, Ryton Choral Society and Hexham Abbey Festival Chorus. He has played with the Northern Sinfonia for many years as orchestral pianist in this country and abroad and is featured as pianist on their Chandos recording of Walton's *The Bear*.

On an educational front David has been lucky enough to have helped many young pianists who are now starting to make their way in the musical world. He continues to teach privately and is also Head of Keyboard Studies at the Weekend School at The Sage, Gateshead, as well as Head of Keyboard Studies at the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.



Eileen Bown - Piano

Eileen has an active freelance career as soloist, orchestral pianist, chamber music player, accompanist and coach. She is also well known throughout the region for her work with choirs, as both choir trainer and repetiteur. In this capacity she works with Bishopwearmouth Choral Society, Ryton Choral Society, Hexham Abbey Festival Chorus and Newcastle Choral Society. She also directs the Bishopwearmouth Young Singers.

Her work with young people throughout the region includes the outreach programme for Durham Cathedral, working in partnership with Sunderland and Durham Local Education Authorities, visiting schools to act as vocal animateur and consultant. Eileen is a tutor in Piano and Music Language at The Sage Gateshead Weekend School. She is also one of the staff accompanists at the Universities of Newcastle and Durham, where she teaches piano, and she is a visiting lecturer at Sunderland University. Eileen is in demand as accompanist and coach for both instrumental and vocal master classes.



Glenn Davis - Conductor

Choral music has been a major part of Glenn's life since singing in the school choir of Newcastle R.G.S. under Jack Wolstenholme. After several years as a choral singer Glenn was given the chance to direct a small and highly successful madrigal group (the Tynemouth Consort) between 1974 and 1982, and was the choral trainer and conductor of the Priory Singers Tynemouth since its formation in 1979 until 2007.

In January 1998 Glenn took on the directorship of the Hexham Orpheus Choir, and since then the choir has grown from strength to strength. The Orpheus Choir has performed in a number of joint concerts with the Priory Singers, thus offering the opportunity for both choirs to combine for works requiring forces larger than either could manage individually. The result to date has been three performances: Rossini's *Stabat Mater* and Brahms' *Song of Destiny* in Hexham Abbey in 2000, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* two years later in the hall of King's School, Tynemouth, Brahms' *German Requiem* in 2004, and Mozart's *Requiem* in 2006. Over the whole period he has developed his own standards of performance, particularly after his experience of summer schools in choral conducting at Canford with Simon Halsey and the late Simon Johnson. He is a regular member of the Association of British Choral Directors and sings with the Sinfonia Chorus.

THE HEXHAM ORPHEUS CHOIR

Sopranos

Sarah Barker
Evelyn Blenkinsop
Ruth Brownlee
Elspeth Christie
Janet Davies
Jill Dexter
Pip Emler
Nancy Gash
Rosemarie Hermand
Frances Hughes
Annette Marlow
Carolyn Ramsey
Broyna Read
Ann Reed
Elaine Rigg
Nuala Rose
Jay Thacker
Brenda Waton
Caroline Watson
Roz Woodward

Altos

Margaret Bainbridge
Lou Baxter
Liz Beattie
Anne Borland
Marie Bridges
Wendy Busby
Pat Crompton
Sheila Dance
Elizabeth Dixon
Davina Swyer
Alice Emerson
Val Hooker
Wendy Howe
Janette Kirton-Darling
Mary Lowans
Ellen Murphy-Clarke
Judith Murray
Pat Rose
Audrie Shiel
Janet Storrie
Catherine Stott
Gill Thompson
Jean Wilks
Jennie Winter

Tenors

John Barker
John Brewster
Keith Brunton
John Boothroyd
Malcolm Chainey
Tim Grew
Mark Lovell
Dorothy Peters
Richard Place
Peter Vasey

Tenor Soloist

Peter Vasey

Basses

James Arkless
Paul Barrett
Paul Berry
John Crawford
Robert Firth
John Guyon
Don Mcleod
Keith Mallinson
Tony May
Owen McArdle
John Rose
Esme Ryder
Jack Shiel
Peter Stott

TIMPANI & PERCUSSIONISTS

Timpani

Andy Booth

Percussionists

Mark Bolderson
Rebecca McChrystal
Alex Tustin
Matthew Moore
Corinne McCann

The Hexham Orpheus Choir gratefully acknowledge the support of our principal sponsors for 2008 - 2009

Cogito Books, 5 St Mary's Chare, Hexham. Tel: 01434 602555

PROGRAMME

An American Selection

The Choir, accompanied by David Murray

- (a) Long Time Ago
- (b) Ching-a-Ring Chaw

Aaron Copland arr. Irving Fine
Aaron Copland arr. Irving Fine

Robert Seaton, accompanied by Robert Humes

- (a) When I have sung my songs
- (b) Glory
- (c) Honour

Ernest Charles
Trad. arr. Hall Johnson
Trad. arr. Hall Johnson

Eileen Bown and David Murray (two pianos)

A Gershwin Fantasy

Kathryn Jenkin, accompanied by Eileen Bown

- (a) What good would the moon be? (from *Street Scene*)
- (b) The Saga of Jenny (from *Lady in the Dark*)

Kurt Weill
Kurt Weill

The Choir

- (a) Maria
- (b) The Boatmen's Dance

Leonard Bernstein
Aaron Copland, arr. Irving Fine

Interval

Carmina Burana – Carl Orff

Part One

- 1. O Fortuna (chorus)
- 2. Fortuna plango vulnera (chorus)
- 3. Veris leta facies (small chorus)
- 4. Omnia sol temperat (baritone)
- 5. Ecce gratum (chorus)
- 6. Dance
- 7. Floret silva nobilis (chorus and small chorus)
- 8. Chramer, gip die varwe mir (chorus and small chorus)
- 9. Reie, (Round Dance), leading to Swaz hie gat umbe (chorus)
- 10. Were diu werlt alle min (chorus)

Part Two

- 11. Estuans interius (baritone)
- 12. Olim lacus colueram (tenor, with male chorus)
- 13. Ego sum abbas (Baritone, with male chorus)
- 14. In taberna

Part Three: Cours d'Amour

- 15. Amor volat undique (soprano and small chorus)
- 16. Dies, nox et omnia (baritone)
- 17. Stetit puella (soprano)
- 18. Circa mea pectora (baritone, with chorus)
- 19. Si puer cum puellula (male chorus)
- 20. Veni, veni (chorus and small chorus)
- 21. In trutina (soprano)
- 22. Tempus est iocundum (soprano and baritone, with chorus)
- 23. Dulcissime (soprano)
- 24. Ave decus virginum (chorus)
- 25. O Fortuna (chorus)