

# A capella Christmas!

*Unaccompanied Choral Music for  
the festive season sung by*

## *Viva la Musica*

Chamber Choir

Conducted by **Simon Lumby**

**Sunday 12th December**

at 7.00pm



at  
Trinity  
Methodist  
Church  
Centre,  
Loughborough

# *Viva la Musica*

Registered Charity no. 1180705

*is a chamber choir based in Loughborough.*

Viva la Musica was formed in 2002 by Viva's first Music Director, David Necklen, and a group of singers who enjoy singing together and welcome the challenges and experiences that being part of a small ensemble brings. It sings a wide range of music from early to modern, sacred to secular, largely in the a capella style.

As well as performing locally, the choir has begun to travel further afield, with concert weekends in Haworth in 2013, Tideswell in 2015, Worcester in 2016 and Wadebridge in 2018.

As for all amateur choirs, the last 20 months have been a period of great disappointment during which all our concerts had to be cancelled. It is wonderful to be able to perform again in front of a live audience."

The next year's exciting projects are all detailed at the back of this programme.

**soprano:** Jo Boddison, Sue Elliot, Gail Stiven  
Jeni Beasley, Patti Garlick, Jenny Kemp, Jeanne Simpson

**alto:** Eleri Bristow, Clare Ward-Campbell, Philippa England, Lis Muller

**tenor:** Richard Thomas, Al Wardle, Neil Waddell, Simon Nicholls

**bass:** Simon Collins, John Thawley, Kevin Norman, James Ward-Campbell

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If you would like to be notified of these and other concerts,  
please email [info@vivalamusica.org.uk](mailto:info@vivalamusica.org.uk)  
to be added to our mailing list.

# Programme

## **Come to Bethlehem** - Peter Warlock 1894 - 1930

*Words by Dom Gregory Murray*

Come to Bethlehem and see the new-born King;  
Come and lay your heart before him while you sing.  
Lo, the God of earth and heaven, Lord of all,  
Lies within the manger of an ox's stall.  
Born of God the Father in the bliss above,  
Born a baby in a stable for our love.

Lord of all creation ere our race began.  
Loves to be and calls himself 'The Son of Man'.  
Holy Mary, Virgin Mother, gave him birth,  
See her meekly kneel before him on the earth.  
Let us kneel with her and lovingly adore  
Christ her son, our God and King for ever more.

## **Angelus Domini** - Franz Biebl 1906 – 2001

*Words from the Gospel according to Luke*

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariæ,  
et concepit de Spiritu Sancto.

*The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary:  
and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus  
fructus ventris tui, Iesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis  
peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostræ.

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women and blessed is  
the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.*

Et Verbum caro factum est.  
Et habitavit in nobis.

*And the Word was made Flesh:  
And dwelt among us.*

Ave Maria...

*Hail Mary...*

Organ

Chorale Prelude 'Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland' BWV 659 - **J.S. Bach**

*from the 18 Leipzig Chorales*

**Cradle Song** - trad Flemish Carol arr John Rutter b 1945

*Words by John Rutter*

In Bethlehem, all in a stable,  
Lies a new-born infant mild.  
By his side a virgin mother  
Watches o'er the holy child.  
Jesus lying in a manger,  
Comes to us on earth a stranger  
Lullaby! O little one sleep;  
Angels round you watch will keep.

Saint Joseph stands beside the cradle,  
Filled with wonder awe and love.  
See the infant King lies sleeping,  
Sent from God in heav'n above.  
Ox and ass before him kneeling,  
Mary's love his sorrows healing:  
Lullaby! O little one sleep;  
Angels round you watch will keep.

"Hosanna in the highest heaven;  
Peace goodwill to men on earth"  
Seraphim on high in chorus  
Greet the Saviour's joyful birth.  
Mary's voice in descant blending,  
Joins the heav'nly song unending.  
Lullaby! O little one sleep;  
Angels round you watch will keep.

**Shepherd's Carol** - Bob Chilcott b 1955

*Words by Clive Sansom*

We stood on the hills, Lady, our day's work done,  
Watching the frosted meadows that winter had won.  
The evening was calm, Lady, the air so still,  
Silence more lovely than music folded the hill.

There was a star, Lady, shone in the night,  
Larger than Venus it was and bright, so bright.  
Oh, a voice from the sky, Lady, it seemed to us then  
Telling of God being born in the world of men.

And so we have come, Lady, our day's work done,  
Our love, our hopes, ourselves, we give to your son.

## O Magnum Mysterium - Tomas Victoria 1548 - 1611

Words Anon 15th Century

O magnum mysterium et admirabile  
sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum  
natum jacentem in praesepio.  
O beata Virgo, cuius viscera meruerunt portare  
Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,  
that beasts should see the new-born Lord lying in  
a manger. O blessed virgin, whose body was  
worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia

## O Sacrum Convivium - Olivier Messiaen 1908 - 1992

Words from Saint Thomas Aquinas

O sacrum convivium!  
in quo Christus sumitur:  
recolitur memoria passionis eius:  
mens impletur gratia:  
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.  
Alleluia.

O sacred banquet!  
in which Christ is received,  
the memory of his Passion is renewed,  
the mind is filled with grace,  
and a pledge of future glory to us is given.  
Alleluia.

## In Dulci Jubilo - Robert Pearsall 1795 - 1856

Words translated from Medieval German

In dulci jubilo [*In quiet joy*]  
Let us our homage show  
Our heart's joy reclineth  
In praesepio [*in a manger*]  
And like a bright star shineth  
Matris in gremio [*in the mother's lap*]  
Alpha es et O. [*Thou art Alpha & Omega*]

2. O Jesu parvule [*O tiny Jesus*]  
I yearn for thee alway  
Hear me, I beseech thee,  
O puer optime [*O best of boys*]  
My prayer let it reach thee,  
O princeps gloriae, [*Prince of glory*]  
Trahe me post te. [*draw me unto thee*]

3. O patris caritas [*O father's caring*]  
O nati lenitas [*O newborn's mildness*]  
Deeply were we stained  
Per nostra crimina [*by our crimes*]  
But thou hast for us gained  
Coelorum gaudia [*heavenly joy*]  
O that we were there.

4. Ubi sunt gaudia [*where be joys*]  
If that they be not there  
There are angels singing  
Nova cantina [*new songs*]  
There the bells are ringing  
In regis curia [*at the king's court*]  
O that we were there.

Organ

Chorale Prelude Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland in 'Organo Pleno' BWV 661 - **J.S. Bach**

from the 18 Leipzig Chorales

## Quatre Motets pour le temps de Noel - Francis Poulenc 1899 - 1963

**O magnum mysterium** et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in praeseptio. O beata Virgo, cuius viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

*O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that beasts should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger. O blessed virgin, whose body was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia*

**Quem vidistis** pastores dicite: annuntiate pro nobis in terris quis apparuit. Natum vidimus, et choros Angelorum collaudantes Dominum. Dicite quidnam vidistis, et annuntiate Christi nativitatem.

*Tell us, shepherds, whom have you seen? Relate to us, who has appeared on earth? We have seen a new born babe, and choirs of Angels praising God together. Proclaim what you have seen, and announce the birth of Christ.*

**Videntes stellam** Magi gavisii sunt gaudio magno: et intrantes domum obtulerunt Domino aurum, thus et myrrham.

*Seeing the star, the wise men were overwhelmed with great joy; and entering the dwelling, they offered to the Lord gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

**Hodie Christus natus est** Salvator apparuit, Hodie in terra canunt angeli, Laetantur archangeli, Hodie exultant justii, dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, Alleluia.

*Today Christ is born: Today the Saviour appears: Today the angels sing on earth, and the Archangels rejoice. Today the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.*

## INTERVAL

*During which seasonal refreshments will be available in the upstairs hall*



## **Gaudete, gaudete Christus est natus - Karl Jenkins b 1944**

*Words - Latin Traditional, found in Piaae Cantiones, 1582*

Gaudete, gaudete Christus est natus Ex Maria virgine gaudete Gaudete, gaudete Christus est natus Ex Maria virgine gaudete	<i>Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born Of the virgin Mary Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born Of the virgin Mary</i>
Tempus adest gratiae hoc quod optabamus Carmina laetitiae devote redamus	<i>The time of Grace has come, which we have waited for, let us devotedly render Him joyful songs</i>
Gaudete...	<i>Rejoice..</i>
Deus homo factus est natura mirante Mundus renovatus est a Christo regnante	<i>God has become Man, and Nature is astounded. The world has been renewed by the reigning Christ</i>
Gaudete...	<i>Rejoice...</i>
Ezechielis porta clausa pertransitur Unde lux est orta salus invenitur	<i>The gate of Hezechiel has been crossed from there the Light has risen, Salvation has come in</i>
Gaudete...	<i>Rejoice...</i>
Ergo nostra contio psallat jam in lustris Benedicat domino salus regi nostro	<i>Therefore, our congregation, praise Him in brightness! Bless the Lord! Greeting to our King!</i>
Gaudete...	<i>Rejoice...</i>

## **Lully Lulla (The Coventry Carol) - Phillip Stopford b 1977**

*Words traditional 16th Century*

Lully, lullay, Thou little tiny Child, ye, bye, lully, lullay.  
Lullay, thou little tiny Child, bye, bye, lully, lullay.

O sisters too, how may we do, for to preserve this day.  
This poor youngling for whom we do sing. Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Herod, the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day  
His men of might, in his owne sight, all young children to slay.

That woe is me, poor Child for Thee! And ever mourn and day,  
For thy parting neither say nor sing, bye, bye, lully, lullay.

## **Carol of the Bells - Mykola Leontovich 1877 - 1921**

Words anon

Ring, Christmas bells,  
Merrily ring, tell all the world Jesus is King.  
Loudly proclaim with one accord,  
The happy tale, welcome the Lord!  
Ring Christmas bells,  
Sound far and near, the birthday of Jesus is here.  
Herald the news to old and young.  
Tell it to all in every tongue.  
Ring Christmas bells,  
Toll loud and long, your message sweet peel and prolong.  
Come all ye people join in the singing.  
Repeat the story told by the ringing.  
Ring Christmas bells, ring Christmas bells.  
Loudly proclaim with one accord,  
The happy tale, welcome the Lord!  
Ring, Christmas bells,  
Merrily ring, tell all the world Jesus is King.

### **Organ**

## **Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol – Gerald Near b 1942**

## **Ave Maris Stella - Edvard Grieg 1843 – 1907**

Words - The Council of Trent

Ave, maris stella, Dei Mater alma,  
Atque semper Virgo, Felix caeli porta.  
  
Solve vincla reis, Profer lumen caecis,  
Mala nostra pelle, Bona cuncta posce.  
  
Vitam praesta puram, Iter para tutum,  
Ut videntes Jesum, Semper collaetemur.  
  
Sit laus Deo Patri, Summo Christo decus  
Spiritui Sancto, Tribus honor unus.  
Amen.

*Hail, star of the sea, nourishing mother of God,  
ever a virgin, joyous gate of heaven.  
  
Release the chains of the guilty, bring light to the  
blind, take away our wrong-doing, demand all that is  
good.  
  
Display a pure life, prepare your path,  
so that we may see Jesus and rejoice together  
always.  
  
Let praise be to God the Father, glory to Christ the  
great, to the Holy Spirit, one honour in three.  
Amen.*

## Hymne a la Vierge - Pierre Villette 1929 - 1998

Words anon

Ô toute belle Vierge Marie,  
Votre âme trouve en Dieu le parfait amour  
Il vous revêt du manteau de la Grâce  
comme une fiancée parée de ses bijoux.  
Alléluia, alléluia. Je vais chanter  
ta louange, Seigneur,  
Car tu as pris soin de moi,  
Car tu m'as enveloppé du voile  
de l'innocence,  
Car tu m'as faite avant le jour,  
Car tu m'as fait précéder  
le jaillissement des sources.  
Vous êtes né avant les collines  
Ô sagesse de Dieu, porte du Salut  
Heureux celui qui marche dans vos traces  
Qui apprête son cœur à la voix de vos conseils.  
Avant les astres vous étiez présente  
Mère du Créateur  
au profond du ciel.  
Quand Dieu fixait les limites du monde  
Vous partagiez son cœur  
étant à l'œuvre avec lui.

*O beautiful Virgin Mary,  
In God your soul discovers perfect love.  
It cloaks you with the mantle of Grace  
like a betrothed adorned with her jewels.  
Alleluia, alleluia. I will sing  
your praise, Lord,  
for you have looked after me,  
for you have covered me  
with the veil of innocence,  
for you have made me before the day,  
for you have made me go before  
the gushing of fountains.  
You were born before the hills,  
O wisdom of God, the way to salvation.  
Happy is he who walks in your footsteps,  
who prepares his heart to listen to your advice.  
You were present before the stars,  
Mother of the Creator,  
in the very depths of heaven.  
When God was creating the world,  
working with Him  
you shared His heart.*

### Organ

#### **I saw three ships** – Richard Elliott b 1957

#### **The Three Kings** - Jonathan Dove b 1959

Words Dorothy L Sayers

O balow, balow la lay,

The first king was very young, with doleful ballads on his tongue  
He came bearing a branch of myrrh than which no gall is bitterer,  
O balow, balow la lay, gifts for a baby King, O.

The second king was a man in prime, the solemn priest of a solemn time,  
With eyes downcast and rev'rent feet he brought his incense sad and sweet,  
O balow, balow la lay, gifts for a baby King, O.

The third king was very old, both his hands were full of gold,  
Many a gaud and a glittering toy, gifts for a baby King, O.



*Viva la Musica*

is looking for

 **friends**

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to an ever increasing audience.

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[info@vivalamusica.org.uk](mailto:info@vivalamusica.org.uk)

**Simon Lumby** is a conductor, tenor, organist, and pianist of some noted versatility. In a time of ever-increasing specialisation, Simon enjoys being thought of as something of a polymath, bringing a wide range of experience and influences to his music-making.



Simon was born in Birmingham and studied organ with Andrew Fletcher before moving to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. In 1993, Simon was awarded First Prize in the International Young Organist Competition, held in Plymouth for his performance of Bach First Trio Sonata and 'Litanies' by Jehan Alain. Organ recitals have included the Cathedrals of St Paul's London, Hereford, Leicester, Coventry, Birmingham Oratory, Salisbury, Lichfield and Liverpool, the Abbeys of Westminster and Ampleforth, St. Giles' Cripplegate, and St. Bride's Fleet Street. Other concerts of note have included the opening recital of the Harrison Organ at the Community of the Resurrection in Mirfield, several Battle of the Organs with the late and great flamboyant American virtuoso, Carlo Curley and most recently in a concert with the Northern Lights Symphony Orchestra at Saint John's Smith Square in London. Simon has been featured on both Classic FM and Radio 3.

Simon was ordained in the Church of England and spent many happy years as Parish Priest of Saint Aidan's in Leicester during which time he recorded his first CD ('Loud Organs his glory...') which met with both popular and critical acclaim and went on to record a series of videos with Shea Lolin featuring, among other instruments, the new organ put into Saint Aidan's Church. One such video, having been seen by more than 50,000 people was considered to have 'gone viral'! Simon enjoys recording and is excited to be now able to publish these on his YouTube Channel.

Since coming back to full time professional music-making, Simon has found himself in consistent demand as a singer and choral conductor. Singing performances have included Bach St. John Passion for Liverpool Cathedral, Handel Messiah at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester, Tippett A Child of our Time for Manchester Cathedral and Stainer Crucifixion for Lichfield Cathedral. Other concert appearances of note have included Mozart Mass in C minor for the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and Beethoven Missa Solemnis at Manchester Town Hall with the Northern Symphonia. As well as being Director of Music of 'Viva la Musica' he is also conductor of The Ryton Chorale, a large Choral Society based in Worksop.

Future plans include another series of organ videos with Shea Lolin as well as much concert making in and around his home city of Nottingham where he also maintains a very busy teaching practice.

In his limited spare time Simon pursues a wide range of other interests. He is a keen traveller and has spent much time in continental Europe. His love and study of French 20th century sacred, vocal and organ music has led him to be a keen student of the French language while engaging in more study in this area.

More information can be found about Simon at: [www.simonlumby.co.uk](http://www.simonlumby.co.uk)

# Forthcoming *Viva* Events

## **A Celebration of British Choral Music**

Madrigals, Part Songs, Anthems and more

sung by

*Viva la Musica*

on Saturday 19th March 2022, at 7.30pm

at **Leicester Guildhall, Guildhall Lane, Leicester LE1 5FQ**

Music includes

Take him earth for cherishing - **Herbert Howells**

Hymn to Saint Cecilia - **Benjamin Britten**

Four Latin Motets - **Martin Ellerby**

as well as works by **Stanford** and **Pearsall**

Tickets - £12.50

Available in advance from [www.vivalamusica.org.uk](http://www.vivalamusica.org.uk)

## **Vivre la Musique!**

*A French Feast to celebrate our 25th birthday*

sung by

*Viva la Musica*

on Saturday 18th June 2022, at 7.30pm

at **Stoneygate Baptist Church,  
315 London Rd, Stoneygate, Leicester LE2 3ND**

Music includes

Requiem in D minor - **Gabriel Fauré** (*with orchestra*)

Trois Chansons - **Claude Debussy**

Motets pour un temps de penitence - **Francis Poulenc**

as well as works by **Boulanger** and **Saint-Saëns**

Tickets - £12.50

Available in advance from [www.vivalamusica.org.uk](http://www.vivalamusica.org.uk)