



Orpheus Singers

In Support of



Maurice Duruflé  
**REQUIEM**

**PROGRAMME**

Friday 4th November 2016

St. John the Baptist Church, Newport PO30 1EQ

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Friday 4 November 2016  
St. John the Baptist Church, Newport

## **PROGRAMME**

**W. A. Mozart** Kyrie in D minor KV 341

**A. Lotti** Crucifixus à 8

**J. S. Bach** Motet no. 6 Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden

**M. Duruflé** Requiem op.9

**Ali St-Denis** mezzo-soprano

**Bruce Russell** baritone

**Douglas Potts** organ

**Philip Fryer** conductor





## Orpheus Singers

Orpheus Singers is one of the leading chamber choirs on the Isle of Wight.

The choir was founded by Alan and Anne Burnett in 1992 to perform lesser known works of the classical music repertoire. Alan conducted it until the summer of 2014 when he retired, and Philip Fryer took over as conductor with Toni Rogers as Musical Director.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?

Choir members are expected to aspire to high choral standards and should have good singing and reading skills. Admission to the choir is by audition.

Rehearsals are held in St John's Church, Newport on Tuesdays from 7.15 to 9.15, and the choir performs on average three concerts a year, often in St Catherine's Church, Ventnor. There are also additional performances from time to time such as carol concerts, joint concerts and so on.

There are currently 35 members of the choir, but we do have vacancies in most voices. If you are interested in joining, please contact our secretary, Judith Hunt at [juhunt@btinternet.com](mailto:juhunt@btinternet.com).



A very warm welcome to St John's for this concert given by Orpheus Singers in support of our 2020Vision to build a new two-storey hall with a link to the Church and a redesigned welcome area for the Church itself.

The church hall, where refreshments will be served during the interval, hosts many varied community organisations. An improved replacement hall will be of great community benefit.

As chair of the 2020Vision committee, as well as a singer with Orpheus, I am very grateful for the generosity of the choir in sharing their talents in this concert. St John's Church has always benefited from first class acoustics. We look forward to many more musical events in a refurbished and improved building.

I hope that you thoroughly enjoy an evening of music to benefit a worthy cause and will be generous in your continued support for both Orpheus and the 2020Vision.

John Matthews  
Deputy Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight

*Further details of this ambitious project are available at the back of the Church.*



## **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)**

### ***Kyrie in D minor KV 341***

Kyrie eleison - Christe eleison

Composed during the last years of Mozart's life in the late 1780s, this 'monumental torso' was doubtless conceived as the opening of an important and serious Mass. It shares the key-signature of D minor with his final work of all, the Requiem, and is equally dark and tragic. But for whatever reason, the projected Mass remained incomplete, and we are left with this solemn fragment. The original orchestration was very large, implying that Mozart's intention was indeed on a very grand scale.

## **Antonio Lotti (c.1667 – 1740)**

### ***Crucifixus à 8***

Christ was crucified

Lotti lived and worked in Venice for most of his life, where he held the post of maestro di cappella at St. Mark's Church from 1736. His prolific output of church music is dominated by this famous unaccompanied Crucifixus with its eight voice parts, starting in the low basses, entering in turn polyphonically and progressing upwards. The harmonic suspensions create a heart-rending tension, but the final major chord brings solace.

## **Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)**

### ***Motet no.6 Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden***

Praise the Lord, all ye heathen and praise Him all ye people.

For God with mercy and justice watcheth over us for evermore.

Alleluia

This joyous Motet, the last of the six which Bach composed, is the only one which confines itself throughout to four voices (SATB). The text is taken from Psalm 117, and was possibly intended for a Reformation Feast. It is in three sections, full of bubbling momentum.

## **INTERVAL**

## **Maurice Duruflé (1902 – 1986)**

### ***Requiem opus 9***

Introit - Kyrie - Domine Jesu Christe - Sanctus - Pie Jesu - Agnus Dei - Lux Aeterna - Libera me - In Paradisum

Maurice Duruflé was a French composer and organist who began his musical life as a chorister at Rouen Cathedral, moving to Paris at the age of 17 to study at the Conservatoire, where later he would become a professor.

In 1927 he became an assistant to Louis Vierne at Notre-Dame, and pursued a distinguished career as a virtuoso organist and teacher. A modest and elusive man, his compositional output was not vast, but characterised by a highly individual harmonic style.

His Requiem was published in 1947 "*à la mémoire de mon père*" and, as in the earlier Requiem by Gabriel Fauré (1888) which Duruflé much admired, the music has a calm, meditative timelessness.

The texts are taken from the Mass for the Dead, and many of the melodies are from ancient Gregorian Plainchant, enriched with subtle harmony.

The nine movements, like those of Fauré, omit the scary Dies Irae, and follow a similar pattern regarding solo sections. Duruflé chose to avoid the nineteenth-century 'pessimistic obsession with eternal damnation', and instead achieves a more optimistic tranquillity.

The ethereal last movement *In Paradisum* is utterly peaceful, culminating in a shimmering unresolved chord on a major 9th for the final *aeternam habebis requiem*.

### **I. Introit**

Requiem aeternam 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.  
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Zion,  
and a vow shall be paid to Thee in Jerusalem;  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
all flesh shall come to Thee.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

### **II. Kyrie**

Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy on us,  
Christ have mercy on us.  
Lord have mercy on us.

### **III. Domine Jesu Christe**

Domine Jesu Christe, rex gloriae,  
libera animas omnium fidelium  
Defunctorum de poenis inferni  
et de profundo lacu.  
Libera eas de ore leonis,  
ne absorbeat eas Tartarus,  
ne cadant in obscurum.  
Sed signifer sanctus Michael  
repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam,  
quam olim Abrahae promisisti  
et semini ejus.  
Hostias et preces tibi, Domine,  
laudis offerimus.  
Tu suscipe pro animabus illis,  
quarum hodie memoriam facimus,  
fac eas, Domine, de morte transire  
ad vitam quam olim Abrahae promisisti  
et semini ejus.

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,  
deliver the souls of all the faithful departed  
from the pains of hell and from the deep pit.

Deliver them from the lion's mouth  
lest Tartarus swallow them up,  
lest they fall into darkness.  
But that Michael, the holy standard-bearer,  
bring them into the holy light,  
which Thou once promised to Abraham  
and his seed.  
We offer Thee, O Lord, sacrifices and  
prayers of praise;  
do Thou accept them for those souls  
whom we this day commemorate.  
grant them, O Lord, to pass from death to the  
life which Thou once promised to Abraham  
and his seed.

### **IV. 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!

Holy, Holy, Holy  
Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the  
Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!

### **V. Pie Jesu**

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

Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them rest.  
Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest.

### **VI. Agnus Dei**

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

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of  
the world: grant them eternal rest.

### **VII. Lux aeterna**

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum  
sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.

May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord,  
with Thy saints forever, for Thou art  
merciful.

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

### **VIII. Libera me**

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

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death  
on that dreadful day  
when the heavens  
and the earth shall be moved, and Thou shalt  
come to judge the world by fire.  
I quake with fear and I tremble awaiting  
the day of account and the wrath to come,  
when the heavens and earth shall be moved.  
That day of anger, disaster and sorrow,  
that mighty and most bitter day.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death  
on that dreadful day when the heavens  
and the earth shall be moved, and Thou shalt  
come to judge the world by fire.

### **IX. In Paradisum**

In Paradisum deducant Angeli  
in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres  
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam  
Jerusalem.

May the angels receive you in Paradise,  
at thy coming may the martyrs receive thee  
and bring thee into Jerusalem the holy city.

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat  
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere  
aeternam habeas requiem.

May the chorus of angels receive thee,  
and with Lazarus, once a beggar,  
may thou have eternal rest.

## ALI ST-DENIS Mezzo Soprano

Ali trained as a teacher at Goldsmith's College, since when, alongside full-time teaching and caring for her family, she has sung with many London-based choirs including the Purcell Singers, Choir of the 21st Century, Vox Musica, Tallis Chamber Choir and the Joyful Company of Singers, taking part in concerts, recordings and foreign tours.



Solo performances have included Bach Cantatas, Handel Oratorios, the Sorceress in Purcell's Dido, Copland's "In the Beginning", Duruflé's Requiem and Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle.

## BRUCE RUSSELL Baritone

Bruce was a chorister at King's College, Cambridge and a choral scholar and lay-clerk at Christ Church, Oxford. After a short time as a lay-clerk at St George's, Windsor he was for 8 years a member of the King's Singers.



Since 2003 he has been vicar of St Francis, Langley near Slough, having trained for ministry at Cuddesdon near Oxford and served his curacy in Bracknell. During his time as a vicar he has continued to sing, in the Adelaide Consort, as a soloist, as a member of Voci chamber choir, and most recently back at St George's, Windsor as a deputy lay-clerk.

## DOUGLAS POTTS Organ

Douglas came to the Isle of Wight in 1976 to take up the post of County Music Advisor. He established the Isle of Wight Music Centre and continued working as a choral and orchestral conductor with the Cantata Choir and the Youth Orchestra as well as for many combined school music festivals. In retirement, Douglas enjoys playing the organ and accompanying singers, here and in France, where he spends several months each year.

## PHILIP FRYER Conductor

Philip started his musical education on the violin, and changed to voice in the late '60s. Encouraged by John Alldis and John Whitworth, he took lessons with Suzanne Green and sang with The Taverner Consort, the Westminster Singers and Gothic Voices.



He was invited as a founder member of the Choir of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. With them, he enjoyed over 20 foreign tours, singing in Hong Kong, Carnegie Hall, the Philharmonie, Berlin and the Lincoln Centre under Sir Neville Marriner.

Latterly, Philip studied with Anthony Rolfe Johnson. He has sung with the Temple Church Choir, the Choir of St George's Chapel, Windsor, and has sung solos for Andrew Parrott, Sir David Willcocks, and Sir John Eliot Gardiner. He has toured Holland, Belgium and Turkey with Paco Peña, and with him recorded Missa Flamenca.



## Orpheus Singers

### Sopranos

Karen Cave, Judy Cleeve, Kathy Howells, Judith Hunt, Margaret Jackson, Janet Jones, Liz Lawlor, Julia Sheard, Natascha Skeet, Liz Wason, Kelly Wavell, Frances Yunnie

### Altos

Kath Ash, Debbie Coeshott, Carol Court, June Cox, Pippa Dice, Jo Hardy-Bishop, Lizzie Hutchinson, Marilyn Lansley, Toni Rogers

### Tenors

Graeme Burnett, Peter Hyde, Mitch Jones, Richard Wilkins, Alan Wiles

### Basses

Norman Cave, Andy Chilton, Gordon Ellis, Sandy Hunt, John Matthews, John Miles, Toby Wallis



Orpheus Singers

# FORTHCOMING CONCERTS AND EVENTS

Sunday, 11th December 2016  
*St Boniface Parish Church, Bonchurch*  
**Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols**

Saturday, 6th May 2017  
*St Catherine's Church, Ventnor*  
**Spring Concert**

If you would like to receive notification by email of future concerts please register on our website at [www.orpheussingers.org.uk](http://www.orpheussingers.org.uk). Just follow the link titled **Join our Mailing List** and enter your details.

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