

Rejoice my heart!

Saturday 26 October 2024, 7:30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Magnificat – Pergolesi

Cantique de Jean Racine, Op.11 – Fauré

Piano Concerto in G – Haydn

Ave Verum Corpus, K.618 – Mozart

Mass No.4 in C major, D.452 - Schubert

Gemma Summerfield * - Soprano

Laura Fleur - Mezzo Soprano

Thomas Elwin - Tenor

Sam Young – Bass

The Caccini Consort - Leader Julian Fish

Matthew Woodward – Piano

Michael Veazey - Conductor

Tickets: Unreserved £18; Students £9; Under 16 Free
Book online; click [here]

* Gemma Summerfield was indisposed so we are grateful that Jeni Berk was able to step in at short notice.

This was Michael Veazey's first concert as our new Music Director. It was very pleasing that we had a good sized audience at St Saviour's Church: notable audience members were the choir's founder, David Ireson, and Terrence Charleston, our interim Music Director while Rod McPhee managed John Elliot Gardiner's epic Bach Cantata Pilgrimage.

The soloists and the Caccini Concert were superb, the choir performed well and Matthew Woodward gave an excellent performance of Haydn's Concerto in G major. The audience clearly enjoyed the concert as we received several complimentary comments from the audience:

"Most enjoyable".

"We have never seen Hardynges singers watching the conductor so much, before"

"Your best performance yet".

"We loved Matthew's performance".

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi was an Italian Baroque composer, violinist, and organist, leading exponent of the Baroque; he is considered one of the greatest Italian musicians of the first half of the 18th century and one of the most important representatives of the Neapolitan school. The circumstances surrounding the composition of this **Magnificat in B flat** are unknown, and it may have been composed by his teacher Francesco Durante. In structure it follows a cantata-like approach typical of the 18th-century baroque, thus it is laid out in six movements.

Gabriel Fauré wrote **Cantique de Jean Racine, Op.11**, in 1865 at the end of his student days and it won the composition prize at his college, the École Niedermeyer.

Joseph Haydn wrote his **Concerto in G major**, Hob XVIII:4 in 1782, and it was published two years later. It was played at the Concert Spirituel in Paris by the famous blind Viennese pianist Maria Theresia von Paradis in the spring of 1784.

Ave Verum Corpus, K.618, is a motet in D major composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1791. It is a setting of the 14th century Eucharistic Latin hymn "Ave verum corpus" (Hail, True Body).

Mass No. 4 in C major, D.452, is the fourth of six settings of the Mass composed by Franz Schubert. It was written in the summer of 1816, and possibly received its first performance in late summer or early autumn of the same year at the Lichtental Church.



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