



Spirit of

Christmas

Supporting



St Peter's Hospice

For Patients, Families and Bristol

In consideration of other members of the audience, please switch off all mobile phones, musical ties and other electronic devices.

It is not permitted to record or photograph the choir during performance.



Saturday, 15 October 2018
St George's, Brandon Hill

Liberty Brass Ensemble

Nigel Nash, *piano*

Christopher Finch, *conductor*

Gaudete arr. Brian Kay and David Overton

This day Christ was born Byrd

There is no Rose John Joubert

Audience Carol: Once in Royal David's City arr. Willcocks

Ave Generosa Ola Gjeilo

Reading: *from The Snow Flake* Paul Gallico

See amid the winter's snow Goss, arr. Willcocks

Sor Juana Tim Warren

Alex Gibberd, *recorder* Kirsten Cunningham; *percussion*

Sir Christèmas Mathias

Audience Carol: The first Nowell arr. Willcocks

Reading: Bee Carol Carol Ann Duffy

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day Philip Stopford

Venite Gaudete Adrian Peacock

Interval
20 minutes

The Lamb Kim André Arnesen

Reading: Journey of the Magi TS Eliot

We three Kings Hopkins, arr. Will Todd

In the bleak midwinter Holst, Will Todd

Reading: Three Wise Dads Oliver Pritchett

The 12 days of Christmas arr. Cable

Audience Carol: Hark the Herald arr. Willcocks

Reading: *from* Stop the World I want to get off
Ed Hollingshead

Away in a manger Kirkpatrick, arr. David Hill

White Christmas Berlin, arr. Bernard Wight

Jingle Bells Pierpont, arr. Willcocks

Audience carols

- 1 Once in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby,
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little Child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 And through all his wondrous
childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.
- 4 For He is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day, like us, He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles, like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.
- 5 And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.
- 1 The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping
their sheep,
On a cold winter's night
that was so deep.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!*
- 2 They lookèd up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day
and night.
- 3 And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from
country far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever
it went.
- 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
- 5 Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and
frankincense.
- 6 Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heav'n & earth
of naught,
And with His blood mankind
hath bought.
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!*

- 1 Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem".
Hark! the herald angels sing;
Glory to the newborn King.

- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing;
Glory to the newborn King.

- 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing;
Glory to the newborn King.

**There will be a retiring collection for St Peter's Hospice
to help raise funds for the *Room to Care* appeal.
Please give as generously as you can.**

Liberty Brass Ensemble comprises five of this country's leading young professional brass players. They are former students at this country's most prestigious music colleges, and between them have performed with some of the most respected conductors and orchestras throughout the world.

Christopher Finch is an acclaimed conductor, accompanist and vocal coach. He rose to national prominence in 2010 when he led the Wellensian Consort to the title of BBC Choir of the Year, the UK's premier choral competition. Christopher has since won international recognition with Wells Cathedral School Choralia as Grand Prize winners in Musica Eterna Roma (2018) and runners-up in the EBU's Let the Peoples Sing (2013). He is greatly in demand as a conductor, accompanist, vocal coach, répétiteur and teacher.



Photo: Debbie Scanlan

Christopher is currently Head of Student Programmes and Coordinator of Vocal Studies in the specialist music faculty of Wells Cathedral School. A passionate advocate of the importance of singing in education, Christopher is actively engaged in outreach programmes as a choral advisor and guest conductor. Appointed as music director to Bristol Bach Choir in 2012, Christopher combines this with his commitments conducting the Wellensian Consort, Choralia, Wells Cathedral School Chapel Choir and Chamber Choir. He was also musical director of Bath's leading chamber choir, A Handful of Singers, from 2005-2018.

Christopher has performed and collaborated with some of this country's finest performers, composers and ensembles, including; Richard Hickox; John Rutter, Charles Hazelwood, Bob Chilcott, John Tavener, Will Todd, Brian Kay, Charivari Agréable, Canzona, Arve Henriksen, Patricia Rosario and Iestyn Davies amongst many others. Performances, workshops and recordings have taken Christopher to many parts of Europe, the USA and the Far East, and his recordings have garnered Gramophone Editor's choice accolades and have been broadcast worldwide.

Nigel Nash read Music at Bristol University and teaches piano at Badminton School, as well as being accompanist at Bristol Grammar School & Badminton. Since his appointment as Bristol Bach Choir's accompanist in 1998, Nigel has played for the choir in numerous concerts in Bristol, Oxford and Gloucester and on tour in Paris, Oporto, Prague, Dresden, Iceland and Tallinn. In the autumn of 2011 Nigel became the choir's acting Musical Director, conducting them in concerts at St Mary Redcliffe and St George's, Bristol.



A fellow of the Royal College of Organists, Nigel is much sought after as an accompanist for choirs across the West Country and he has accompanied choral workshops with Brian Kay, Nigel Perrin & Bob Chilcott. He has also been involved with several broadcasts on national radio and television including HTV's *Morning Worship*, *Carols from Wells Cathedral*, and BBC Radio 4's *Daily Service*, and *Sunday Half-Hour* on Radio 2.



President: Brian Kay

Hon. Vice President: The Lord Mayor of Bristol

Music Director: Christopher Finch

Registered Charity No. 253338

Sopranos: Polly Beck, Julie Borowski, Fiona Bowden, Gill Cato, Helen Cooper, Cynthia Dobson, Alison Grant, Sue Gregory, Lucy Griffith, Tamzin Howard, Lisa Lewis, Emma Lovell, Sarah O'Grady, Fran Smettem, Jeanie Swan

Altos: Andrea Argent, Carol Barratt, Jessica Best, Kirsten Cunningham, Pat Harrad, Natahsa Melia, Melanie Reed, Danni Rochman, Bridget Simpson, Caroline Taylor, Emily Thornton, Helen Thouless, Judith Vorley, Margaret Williams

Tenors: Richard Griffith, Steve Hudson, Phil Neville, Gui Rego, Tim Warren, Thomas Weidner

Basses: Julian Dale, Marcus Evans, Angus Gregson, Chris Hall, Rupert Handley, Paul Stephens, Graham Thornton, Paul Tilbury, Basile Vigneron

Bristol Bach Choir is one of the South West's finest choral groups. Over 50 years the choir has gained a reputation for its dynamic, expressive singing and its vibrant performances.

Its repertoire ranges from early Baroque music to 21st century compositions by James MacMillan, Arvo Pärt, Ēriks Ešņvalds, Cecilia McDowall and Will Todd. This versatility, and the choir's size, mean that larger choral works and more intimate chamber choir pieces are performed with equal success.

The choir regularly appears alongside the country's finest professional soloists and orchestras and also engages exceptionally talented young musicians on the verge of major international careers.

The choir have had a number of highly successful tours with performances across the Europe including Spain, France, Germany, Portugal, Iceland, Czech Republic, Italy and Estonia.

Keep in touch

If you'd like to receive the occasional email notification of choir events and other news, why not join our mailing list?

Open up the camera on your phone and hover over this square and this should take you to the sign up page.



Are you interested in joining the choir?

We are actively recruiting for singers in some sections of the choir. If you are interested and have relevant experience and good sight reading ability please apply to membership@bristolbach.org.uk

Before auditioning, why not come to a few rehearsals to meet and sing with the choir. The choir meets on Thursdays, 7.30-9.30 pm at Trinity-Henleaze United Reformed Church.

PATRONS

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Bristol Bach Choir Patrons enjoy

- top price tickets for all concerts
- reserved seating
- preferential booking for extra tickets before general release
- complimentary programmes
- an annual reception and invitation to other choir events
- choir news and updates

If you would like to consider becoming a Patron, please contact:
Althea Hamlyn, 2 Church Lane, Berkeley, GL13 9BN tel: 01453 811723
email: patrons@bristolbach.org.uk

There are also opportunities for corporate sponsorship. For details please contact Pat Harrad email: secretary@bristolbach.org.uk