

# THE CHOIR OF WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

in concert at the

BASILICA of the NATIONAL SHRINE of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

GREAT UPPER CHURCH MARCH 25, 2025 7:00 p.m.

# THE CHOIR OF WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL, UK

Simon Johnson, Master of Music Daniel Greenway, Organ Scholar

# **USA TOUR 2025 – CONCERT PROGRAMME**

Timor et tremor	Francis Poulenc					
from Quatre motets pour un temps de pénitence	(1899–1963)					
Ave maris stella	James MacMillan (b. 1959)					
De profundis	Ildebrando Pizzetti (1880–1968)					
Salve Regina (Op. 9, No 4)	Herbert Howells (1892–1983)					
Organ solo from Glagolitic Mass	Leoš Janáček (1854–1928)					
Ave Maria	Robert Parsons (c. 1535–1572)					
Infelix ego	William Byrd					
Infelix ego omnium auxilio destitutus	(1539/40–1623)					
Quid igitur faciam?	( 2 - 1					
Ad te igitur piissime Deus						
INTERVAL						
Cantus Missæ (Op. 109)	Josef Rheinberger					
Kyrie	(1839–1901)					
Gloria						
Credo						
Organ: Introduction and Passacaglia (Sonata, Op. 132, No 8) Sanctus						
Benedictus						
Agnus Dei						

# Timor et tremor Francis Poulenc

from Quatre motets pour un temps de pénitence

(1899–1963)

Timor et tremor venérunt super me, et cáligo cécidit super me: miserére mei, Dómine, miserére mei, quóniam in te confídit ánima mea. Exáudi, Deus, deprecatiónem meam, quia refúgium meum es tu et adiútor fortis. Dómine, invocávi te, non confúndar.

Fear and trembling came over me, and darkness fell over me: have mercy on me, O Lord, have mercy on me, for my soul trusts in you.

Hear, O God, my prayer, for you are my refuge and my strong helper.

Lord, I have called upon you, I shall not be confounded.

AVE MARIS STELLA Sir James MacMillan (b. 1959)

Ave, maris stella, Dei Mater alma, atque semper Virgo, felix cæli porta. Sumens illud Ave, Gabriélis ore, funda nos in pace, mutans Evæ nomen. Solve víncula reis, profer lumen cæcis: mala nostra pelle, bona cuncta posce. Monstra te esse matrem: sumat per te preces, qui pro nobis natus, tulit esse tuus. Virgo singuláris, inter omnes mitis, nos culpis solútos, mites fac et castos. Vitam præsta puram, iter para tutum: ut vidéntes Iesum, semper collætémur. Sit laus Deo Patri, summo Christo decus, Spiritúi Sancto, tribus honor unus. Amen.

Hail, star of the sea, sweet Mother of God, and ever a Virgin, the happy gateway of Heaven.

Taking that 'Ave' from Gabriel's mouth, establish us in peace, reversing Eva's name.

Loose the chains from the accused, bring light to the blind, drive away our evils, pray for all good things.

Show yourself a mother. May he, who was born for us as your Son, accept our prayers through you.

Gentlest of all virgins, make us free from faults, gentle, strong, and grateful.

Give us a spotless life, prepare a safe journey for us, so that, seeing Jesus, we may be ever joyful.

Praise be to God the Father, honour to Christ on high, in the Holy Spirit, one honour to three.

Amen.

DE PROFUNDIS

Ildebrando Pizzetti

(1880–1968)

De profúndis clamávi ad te, Dómine:
Dómine, exáudi vocem meam.
Fiant aures tuæ intendéntes
in oratiónem servi tui, Dómine.
Si iniquitátes observáveris, Dómine:
Dómine, quis sustinébit?
Quia apud te propitiátio est:
et propter legem tuam sustínui te, Dómine.

Out of the depths I have called to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. May your ears be inclined towards the prayer of your servant. If you were to pay heed, O Lord, to iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is merciful forgiveness, and because of your law I have awaited you, O Lord. Salve Regína, Mater misericórdiæ:
vita, dulcédo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamámus, exsúles, filii Evæ.
Ad te suspirámus, geméntes et flentes
in hac lacrimárum valle.
Eia ergo, Advocáta nostra,
illos tuos misericórdes óculos ad nos convérte.
Et Iesum, benedíctum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exsílium osténde.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo María.

Hail Queen, mother of mercy:
hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we call, in exile, the children of Eve.
To you do we sigh, mourning and weeping
in this vale of tears.
Come therefore, our Advocate,
turn those merciful eyes of yours towards us.
And after this our exile, show us Jesus,
the blessed fruit of your womb.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

# Organ solo from Glagolitic Mass

Leoš Janáček (1854–1928)

Ave Maria Robert Parsons (c. 1535–1572)

Ave María, grátia plena: Dóminus tecum: Benedícta tu in muliéribus, et benedíctus fructus ventris tui. Amen. Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you: Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Amen.

INFELIX EGO William Byrd (1539/40–1623)

# Infelix ego omnium auxilio destitutus

Infélix ego ómnium auxílio destitútus, qui cælum terrámque offéndi.
Quo ibo? Quo me vertam?
Ad quem confúgiam?
Quis mei miserébitur?
Ad cælum leváre óculos non áudeo, quia ei gráviter peccávi.
In terra refúgium non invénio, quia ei scándalum fui.

O woe is me, bereft of all help,
I who have sinned against heaven and earth.
Where shall I turn,
where find refuge?
Who will have pity on me?
I dare not lift up my eyes to heaven,
for I have sinned grievously against the Lord.
No refuge can I find on earth,
for I have become vile in his eyes.

# Quid igitur faciam?

Quid ígitur fáciam? Desperábo? Absit. Miséricors est Deus, pius est salvátor meus. Solus ígitur Deus refúgium meum: ipse non despíciet opus suum, non repéllet imáginem suam. What then shall I do? Shall I despair?
Surely not, for God is merciful.
My saviour is ever-loving.
Thus, God is my only refuge:
he will not depise the work of his own hands:
nor will he reject man made after his own image.

# Ad te igitur piissime Deus

Ad te ígitur, piíssime Deus, tristis ac mærens vénio: quóniam tu solus spes mea, tu solus refúgium meum. Quid autem dicam tibi, cum óculos leváre non áudeo? Verba doloris effúndam, misericórdiam tuam implorábo et dicam: Miserére mei, Deus, secúndum magnam misericórdiam tuam.

To you, O ever-loving God, in sadness and lamenting I come. You alone are my hope and my refuge.

What then can I say to you when I dare not lift up my eyes?

I will pour forth my words in sorrow: I will implore your mercy and say: God have pity on me,

according to your great mercy.

# INTERVAL

Cantus Missæ

Josef Rheinberger

(1839–1901)

Kyrie

Kyrie, eléison. Christe eléison. Kyrie, eleison. Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

Amen.

Glória in excélsis Deo! et in terra pax homínibus bonæ voluntátis. Laudámus te, benedícimus te, adorámus te, glorificámus te, grátias ágimus tibi propter magnam glóriam tuam, Dómine Deus, Rex cæléstis, Deus Pater omnípotens. Dómine Fili Unigénite, Iesu Christe, Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei, Fílius Patris, qui tollis peccáta mundi, miserére nobis; qui tollis peccáta mundi, súscipe deprecatiónem nostram. Qui sedes ad déxteram Patris, miserére nobis. Quóniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dóminus. tu solus Altíssimus, Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spíritu: in glória Dei Patris.

Glory to God in the highest! and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### Credo

Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem cali et terra,

visibilium omnium et invisibilium. Et in unum Dominum Iesum Christum,

Filium Dei Unigenitum,

et ex Patre natum ante omnia sæcula. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,

Deum verum de Deo vero, genitum, non factum, consubstantialem Patri: per quem omnia facta sunt.

Qui propter nos homines et propter nostram salutem

descendit de cælis. Et incarnatus est

de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virgine,

et homo factus est.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato;

passus et sepultus est, et resurrexit tertia die, secundum Scripturas, et ascendit in cælum, sedet ad dexteram Patris.

Et iterum venturus est cum gloria,

iudicare vivos et mortuos, cuius regni non erit finis. Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum et vivificantem: qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.

Qui cum Patre et Filio

simul adoratur et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per prophetas. Et unam, sanctam, catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam. Confiteor unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum.

Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum,

et vitam venturi sæculi.

Amen.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,

and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son

is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic

and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Organ solo: Introduction and Passacaglia (Sonata, Op. 132, No 8)

### Sanctus & Benedictus

Sanctus, Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Lord God of hosts.

Pleni sunt cali et terra gloria tua. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in excelsis. Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in excelsis. Hosanna in the highest.

Agnus Dei

*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccáta mundi:* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

miserére nobis. have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccáta mundi:* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

miserére nobis. have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccáta mundi: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

dona nobis pacem. grant us peace.

# WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR

### Choristers

Elie de Juglart de Lardinie Finn Shields Joseph de Juglart de Lardinie Camille Fayaud Milo Harland Eddy Thompson Dominic Padgham Joseph Bento Raphael Hicks Alexander Palamarchuk Alastair Black Alexander Micouris Alexander Koci Ikechukwu Okafor Ethan Tairo Noah Parra Gomes Symeon Voskresensky Agostino-Nelson Leotta

Zak Roberts

### Altos

Matthew Farrell, William Waine

### **Tenors**

Thomas Castle, Nicholas Keay, Henry Laird, Tom Robson

### Basses

Michael Hickman, Alexander Hopkins, David Le Prevost, Daniel Tate

# **Choir School Staff on Tour**

Tiffany Bogle, Joseph Deery, Robert O'Brien

### **USA Management Representative**

John McElliott, Karen McFarlane Artists, Inc.

# WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Westminster Cathedral Choir is acclaimed as one of the world's great choirs. Since its foundation in 1901, Westminster Cathedral Choir has occupied a unique and enviable position at the forefront of English church music, not least because of the groundbreaking work of Sir Richard Terry, who revived the great works of the English and continental Renaissance composers. The choir's fame grew under Terry as it presented this forgotten music, revolutionising attitudes to the repertoire. Innovation continued under George Malcolm who pioneered the development of the choir's sound along continental lines, resulting in a choir that was truly revolutionary in both what and how it sang. The choir continues these traditions today, and it remains the only Catholic Cathedral choir in the world to sing daily Mass and Vespers. More recent Masters of Music have included Colin Mawby, Stephen Cleobury, David Hill, James O'Donnell, Martin Baker and, since September 2021, Simon Johnson.

The choir's reputation is ever-expanding and it continues to reach new audiences through its series of acclaimed recordings on the Hyperion label. In 1998 the choir was awarded the Gramophone Awards for 'Best Choral Recording of the Year' and 'Record of the Year' for the performance of Frank Martin's *Messe* and Pizzetti's *Requiem*. The choir's most recent release, recorded in 2023, is *Lumen Christi: A sequence of music for the Easter Vigil* on the Ad Fontes label.

The choir has a history of commissioning and performing new music, famous examples being Britten's *Missa brevis* for boys' voices, the *Mass in G minor* by Vaughan Williams and compositions by Wood, Holst and Howells. Within the last decade the choir has commissioned new Masses from James MacMillan, Peter Maxwell Davies, Judith Bingham, John Tavener, Matthew Martin and Stephen Hough, all of which were first performed in the context of the regular liturgies at Westminster Cathedral.

Westminster Cathedral Choir features frequently on radio and television. When its busy liturgical schedule permits it takes its music further afield. In addition to regular concerts around the United Kingdom, recent tours have included Hungary, Norway, Germany, Belgium, Italy and the United States of America.

"In short: the performance of the English choir under its new Music Director Simon Johnson was sensational." – *Die Rheinpfalz* (September 2022)

# SIMON JOHNSON

Simon Johnson is the Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral, where he is responsible for directing the iconic choir, the only ensemble of its kind in the world. Previously he was the Organist of Saint Paul's Cathedral for thirteen years.

Described by *Gramophone* magazine as "a brilliant and sensitive musician", Simon's love of choral direction first came to the attention of many through his work establishing the reputation of the Saint Albans Abbey Girls' Choir (\*\*\*\* \*\*\* \*\* "stunning" *Choir & Organ*). Since arriving at Westminster, Simon has led the Choir in several concerts, including recent tours to Germany ("In short, the performance of the English choir under its new music director Simon Johnson was sensational" *Die Rheinpfalz*). The choir has released its first album under his direction ("Johnson and his well-drilled forces bring a genuine sense of occasion to proceedings, with pleasingly bright, forward projected singing from the boys" *Choir & Organ*), and another will be released after Easter. He will direct the choir for concerts in Palestrina, Italy (celebrating the 500th anniversary of the composer's birth) and during a tour of Hungary later this year.

Simon was involved in all of the important occasions that took place at Saint Paul's during his time there, playing for the senior members of the Royal Family, the Dalai Lama, as well as numerous Prime Ministers and Archbishops, and the funeral of Baroness Thatcher. He composed works for both the Diamond and Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and directed the music at many national occasions, as well as at the Memorial Services for fashion icons Alexander McQueen and Vidal Sassoon. As part of the Cathedral's partnerships with orchestras in London, he conducted many landmark works from the orchestral and orchestral/choral repertoire. Whilst at Saint Paul's, he also founded a pioneering partnership project with schools in East London that reached thousands of children.

An active recital schedule takes Simon regularly to the United States of America, as well as to many of the great venues in Europe, including a Royal Festival Hall debut in 2017. He chaired the jury at the 2023 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition in the United States.

Simon has performed with groups such as the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, The Cardinall's Musick and The Sixteen, with whom he has recently recorded ("Another of the album's great pleasures is Simon Johnson's superbly note-perfect organ-playing" *Gramophone*); he also made his BBC Proms debut performing with the group earlier this academic year.

Previously, Simon has recorded for Decca, Hyperion, Coro and Chandos, and also made a legendary disc of Holst's *The Planets* for Priory. He has been published by Oxford University Press and Peters, collaborated with NASA and the International Space Station, and worked on the Oscar-winning soundtrack for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. In 2018, he was a keynote speaker at the Pontifical Council for Culture in Rome. He is Co-Chairman of the United Kingdom's largest firm of organbuilders, Harrison & Harrison Ltd, who are also responsible for many of the most significant instruments in the United Kingdom and beyond, including those in Westminster Abbey, York Minster and King's College, Cambridge.

Reviews of Simon's latest solo recording, *B-A-C-H Anatomy of a Motif* (Chandos), a double-disc set featuring major works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Brahms, Liszt, Reger and Karg-Elert:

"An outstandingly good release and a perfect combination of repertory, player and organ." *Gramophone* magazine, Editor's Choice

"This is a remarkable survey, brilliantly executed." BBC Music Magazine \* \* \* \* \*

"The empathy, clarity and first-class musicianship of this admirable production make it one of the most significant releases for the organ I have encountered for some time. If you care in any way about organ music on record, this release must form part of your collection." The  $Organ \star \star \star \star \star$ 

# Daniel Greenway

Daniel Greenway is Organ Scholar at Westminster Cathedral where he accompanies the world-famous Cathedral Choir on a regular basis. He began his musical studies as a chorister at Liverpool Cathedral. Whilst there, he developed a keen interest in the organ, becoming a student, and later scholar playing regularly for services. During this time, he studied with the cathedral organist Ian Tracey. This led to an organ scholarship at Keble College, Oxford where he graduated with a First Class degree in Music.

He has won recital prizes to play at various venues around the country. Recently, they have included The Queen's and Merton Colleges in Oxford, Coventry and Truro Cathedrals, and Bloomsbury Organ Day. He has also performed on multiple BBC Radio 3 and Television broadcasts.

Daniel has also performed orchestral organ and piano with ensembles such as the Philharmonia Orchestra, and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. As a continuo player, he has appeared with Oxford-based period orchestra Instruments of Time and Truth and the London Mozart Players.

During his time in Oxford, he was organist to Campion Hall and principal accompanist to Oxford Bach Choir (2022–2024). In 2023, he was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, winning multiple prizes, and has subsequently been awarded the Silver Medal of the Worshipful Company of Musicians.



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