Saturday 12th April 2025, 7:30pm West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

# MOZART Requiem & Vesperae Solennes de Confessore



# Collegium Laureatum

lan Cobb, conductor

soloists:
Charlotte Jane Kennedy
Alexandria Moon
Francis Melville
Daniel Barrett





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Vivaldi

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#### **COLLEGIUM LAUREATUM CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA**

Ian Cobb (conductor)

Charlotte Jane Kennedy (soprano)
Alexandria Moon (alto)

Francis Melville (tenor)
Daniel Barrett (bass)

#### Divertimento in D K.136

Mozart

1756 - 1791

1. Allegro 2. Andante 3. Presto

Mozart left Salzburg in October 1772 to travel to Milan for the Carnival Season. He was composing an opera Lucia Silla for the City, to be performed in December. In a letter to his sister dated  $5^{th}$  December he writes: I still have fourteen numbers to compose and then I shall have finished. The opera was performed in January 1773 and Mozart's father wrote: The opera has been performed seventeen times already and is to be performed some twenty times in all. The theatre is astonishingly full every day.

Whilst in Milan, Count Leopold 111 Ernst, Prince-Bishop of Nassau had been made a Cardinal and in the city carillons sounded and trumpeters and drummers played in the streets. Gala performances were given, attended by royalty, and it is likely that Mozart's set of three *Divertimenti* were performed. He had composed them in early 1772 in anticipation of such an event.

# Vesperae Solennes de Confessore *K.339*

**Mozart** 1756 - 1791

1. Dixit DominusPsalm 109 (Vulgate)4. Laudate PueriPsalm 112 (Vulgate)2. ConfiteborPsalm 110 (Vulgate)5. Laudate DominumPsalm 116 (Vulgate)3. Beatus VirPsalm 111 (Vulgate)6. MagnificatSt. Luke 1: 46-56

Vespers is one of the services of Divine Office taking place in the early evening. Musically it consists of a Versicle and Response followed by five Psalms and a Magnificat.

Mozart composed the Vesperae Solennes de Confessore in 1780, the year of the Coronation Mass. The Solennes in the title implies that it is accompanied by orchestra. With trumpets and timpani it was probably composed for an important Feast, possibly St. Rupert, the patron Saint of Salzburg, and written in the concise form encouraged by Mozart's employer Archbishop Colloredo.

That Mozart was keen to have his church music performed elsewhere other than Salzburg is shown in a letter to his father in 1783 from Vienna: You could well take

the opportunity of sending me the scores of my Masses and the two Vesper settings, all this just so that Baron van Swieten can hear them.

The Vesperae contains very little solo development but displays much music of striking and moving contrast. The Laudate pueri is an alla breve fugue, reminiscent of And with his stripes from Handels' Messiah. Laudate Dominum has a soaring soprano solo which was written for Maria Magdalena Lipp, wife of Michael Haydn, and is among the most magical examples of Mozart's vocal writing.

#### 1. Dixit Dominus

Dixit Dominus Domino meo; The Lord said to my Lord; Sede a dextris meis, Sit at my right hand,

Donec ponam inimicos tuos

Scabellum pedum tuorum.

Virgam virtutis tuae emittet

Until I place your enemies

As a footstool for your feet.

The rod of your power

Dominus ex Sion: dominare The Lord will send forth from Zion: rule

Tecum principium in die virtutis tuae, Sovereignty is with you on the day of your strength,

In splendoribus sanctorum: In the splendor of the Holy Ones: Ex utero ante luciferum Out of the womb before the light

Genui te. I begot you.

Juravit Dominus, The Lord has sworn,
Et non poenitebit eum, And will not repent of it:
Tu es sacerdos in aeternum You are priest forever

Secundum ordinem Melchisedech. According to the order of Melchisedech.

Dominus a dextris tuis, The Lord at your right hand

Confregit in die irae suae reges. Crushes kings in the day of His wrath. Judicabit in nationibus, He will pass judgment on the nations;

Implebit ruinas: He will pile up calamities,

Conquasabit capita in terra multorum. And shatter heads in many lands.

De torrente in via bibet, He will drink from the rushing stream on the way;

Propterea exaltabit caput. Therefore He shall lift up His head.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper. as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. and for generations of generations. Amen.

#### 2. Confitebor

Confitebor tibi Domine, I acknowledge you, o Lord, In toto corde meo; With my whole heart;

In consilio justorum, In the council of the just Et congregatione. And in the congregation.

Magna opera Domini, Great are the works of the Lord,

Exquisita in omnes voluntates ejus. Chosen by all His desires.

Confessio et magnificentia opus ejus; I acknowledge as well the magnificence of His deeds;

Et justitia ejus manet And His justice endures

In saeculum saeculi. From generation to generation.

Memoriam fecit mirabilium suorum,
Misericors et miserator Dominus.

He has made memorials of His miracles,
A merciful and compassionate Lord.
He gives food to those that fear Him.

Memor erit in saeculum He will remember forever

Testamenti sui. His covenant.

Virtutem operum suorum

Annuntiabit populo suo.

Ut det illis

Hereditatem gentium;

Opera manuum ejus Veritas et judicium.

Fidelia omnia mandata ejus, Confirmata in saeculum saeculi, Facta in veritate et aequitate.

Redemptionem misit Dominus

Populo suo;

Mandavit in aeternum testamentum suum.

Sanctum et terribile nomen ejus:

Initium sapientiae timor Domini;

Intellectus bonus omnibus, Facientibus eum.

Laudatio ejus manet

In saeculum saeculi. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.

Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

The power of His works

Will be announced to His people.

So that He may give them

The inheritance of the nations;

The works of His hands Are truth and justice.

All His commandments are faithful, Confirmed from generation to generation,

Made in truth and fairness.
The Lord has sent salvation

To His people;

He has given His convenant for eternity.

Holy and awesone is His name;

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; All who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures

From generation to generation.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. Amen.

#### 3. Beatus Vir

Happy is the man

Beatus vir qui timet Dominum, Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, In mandatis ejus volet nimis. Who greatly delights in His commandments.

Potens in terra erit semen ejus, His seed will be potent on the earth,

Generatio rectorum benedicetur. The generation of the righteous will be blessed.

Gloria et divitiae in domo ejus, Glory and wealth will be in his house, Et justitia ejus manet And his righteousness will endure In saeculum saeculi. From generation to generation.

Exortum est in tenebris lumen rectis, A light has arisen in the dark for the upright;

Misericors et miserator et justus. Merciful, compassionae, and just.

Jucundus homo,

Qui miseretur et commodat, Who is compassionate and generous, Disponet sermones suos in judicio. Who chooses his words with discretion;

Quia in aeternum non commovebitur. For he will never be disturbed.

Ab auditione mala non timebit. And will not fear evil tidings.

Paratum cor ejus sperare in Domino. His heart is ready to trust in the Lord.

Confirmatum est cor ejus; His heart is strenghened; Non commovebitur He will not be troubled

Donec despiciat inimicos suos.

Until he looks down upon his enemies.

Dispersit, dedit pauperibus,

He disperses and gives to the poor,

Justitia ejus manet
In saeculum saeculi.
Cornu ejus exaltabitur in gloria.
Peccator videbit et irascetur,
Dentibus suis fremet et tabescet;
Desiderium peccatorum peribit.
His righteousness will endure
From generation to generation.
His horn will be exalted in glory.
The sinner will see and be angered,
Will gnash his teeth and sulk;
The desires of sinners will perish.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper. as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. and for generations of generations. Amen.

#### 4. Laudate Pueri

Laudate pueri Dominum, Praise the Lord, O sons, Laudate nomen Domini. Praise the name of the Lord.

Sit nomen Domini benedictum ex hoc May the name of the Lord be blessed from henceforth

Nunc et usque in saeculum. And forevermore.

A solis ortu usque et ad occasum, From the rising of the sun to its setting, The name of the Lord is praiseworthy. Laudabile nomen Domini. Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus, The Lord is exalted above all people, Et super coelos gloria ejus. And His glory is above the heavens.

Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster, Who is like the Lord our God,

Qui in altis habitat, Who dwells on high

Et humilia respicit in coelo et in terra? And regards the lowly in heaven and on earth?

Suscitans a terra inopem Supporting the needy on the earth, Et de stercore erigens pauperem: And raising up the poor from the dust;

Ut collocet eum In order to place him

With the princes of His people. Cum principibus populi sui. Qui habitare facit sterilem Who makes the barren one to dwell In domo, matrem filiorum laetantem.

In a house as the happy mother of children.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper. as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. and for generations of generations. Amen.

#### 5. Laudate Dominum

Praise the Lord, all nations; Laudate Dominum omnes gentes; Laudate eum, omnes populi. Praise Him, all people. Quoniam confirmata est For His has bestowed Super nos misericordia ejus, His mercy upon us,

Et veritas Domini manet in aeternum. And the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.

Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. Amen.

#### 6. Magnificat

Magnificat anima mea Dominum. My soul magnifies the Lord. Et exultavit spiritus meus And my spirit rejoices in Deo salutari meo. In God my Savior.

Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae. For He has regarded the lowliness of His hand-

maiden.

Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent Behold, from henceforth, I will be called blessed

omnes generationes. by all generations.

Quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, For the Mighty One has done great things for

me,

et sanctum nomen eius. And holy is His name.

Et misericordia a progenie in progenies, timentibus eum. His mercy is for those who fear Him from gener-

ation to generation.

Fecit potentiam in bracchio suo, He has shown strength with His arm,

dispersit superbos mente cordis sui. He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of

their hearts.

Deposuit potentes de sede et exaltavit humiles. He has brought down the powerful from their

thrones and lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, Esurientes implevit bonis,

et divites dimisit inanes. Suscepit Israel puerum suum recordatus misericordie suae. Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,

Abraham et semini eius in saecula. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto,

sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

and sent the rich away empty. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy.

According to the promise He made to our ancestors

to Abraham and to His descendants forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. Amen.

#### Interval

Requiem *Mozart K.626 1756 - 1791* 

The year 1791 witnessed the greatest tragedy in the history of music. Mozart, then only thirty-five, died. During his last year he had composed the operas La Clemenza di Tito and The Magic Flute, the Clarinet Concerto, the Piano Concerto in Bb, the Eine kleine Freymaurer Kantata as well as several chamber works. The music he was working on up to the day of his death was the Requiem. More mystery and intrigue surround this work than anything else Mozart wrote.

Constanza, Mozart's wife, tells us that a mysterious commission to compose a Requiem came in an unsigned letter brought by an unknown messenger, enquiring whether Mozart would be prepared to compose a Mass, what would be the price and how long it would take to complete. Stories of visitors in black add colour to the mysterious composition. The Requiem request came from Count Walsegg, an amateur musician, who wished for a Requiem as a memorial to his wife and hoped to pass the work off as his own composition. François Devienne and Franz Hoffmeister also wrote compositions for the Count and their manuscripts were changed with Walsegg's name being substituted.

Mozart began composition of the *Requiem* in late or early July, but his departure to Prague on 25<sup>th</sup> August to oversee production of *La Clemenza di Tito* interrupted the compositional process. Returning to Vienna in mid September he resumed work on the *Requiem* but also worked on preparations for the première of *The Magic Flute* and writing the *Clarinet Concerto* for Anton Stadler.

In failing health Mozart began the last period of composition on around 15 $^{th}$  November and ended on 4 $^{th}$  December, the day before his death. He also managed to complete *Eine kleine Freymaurer-Kantata* for the Freemasons.

At his death on 5<sup>th</sup> December the *Requiem* remained unfinished. Only the *Requiem aeternum* was fully scored by Mozart, all other movements except the *Sanctus*, *Benedictus* and *Agnus Dei*, were sketched in Mozart's customary style of vocal parts and basso continuo, amounting to ninety-nine sheets of manuscript. He did not compose the *Requiem* in liturgical order, so the *Lacrymosa* has only eight bars sketched, probably the last bars he wrote. In the *Kyrie* the doubling of the instruments was added by Freystädler, a local Kapellmeister and the trumpet and timpani parts were added by Süssmayr.

In order that Mozart's widow could collect the money owed to her late husband for the *Requiem*, the work had to be completed. She first offered it to Joseph Eybler, who made several additions, but returned the work with beautiful excuses. Franz Xavier Süssmayr, having discussed the work with Mozart and even sung through sections of the work, was then chosen. On completing the *Requiem*, which involved orchestrating the movements already in Mozart's sketches and composing the *Sanctus*, *Benedictus* and *Agnus Dei*, he forged Mozart's signature and presented the work to Count Walsegg.

Whatever we think of Süssmayr's additions, he was working with Mozart on the *Requiem* and must have had some idea of the way in which Mozart wanted the work to be completed. That he was no Mozart is evident. In a letter he writes: I was approached with the project because it was known that still during Mozart's lifetime I had repeatedly played and sung through with him those segments of this composition already set to music, also that he had frequently discussed the working out of the piece with me and had instructed me concerning the different aspects of his instrumentation and the reasons behind them. I can only hope that I might have succeeded in working so that connoisseurs at least are able to find a few traces of his incomparable teaching here and there. I allowed myself to repeat the fugue of the Kyrie in order to give the work more unity.

Abbé Maximilian Stadler wrote in October 1826: The original manuscript of Mozart and the masterly movements they contain have been recognized by all true connoisseurs, and these movements, and only these, are the true witnesses for this work. Everything else is beside the point. Whoever has examined the manuscript in detail must admit that Mozart is the sole composer and Süssmayr had no more part in it than any man somewhat trained in figured bass. All the essentials come from Mozart.

How much of the work is authentic Mozart has been the problem facing musicologists ever since the composer's death. Vincent Novello, in conversation with Constanza, Joseph Eybler and Abbé Stadler, concluded that Mozart had composed in essentials the *Sanctus*, *Benedictus* and *Agnus Dei*, or at least prepared outlines. Constanza repeatedly said that Süssmayr had only done what anyone could have done, that is to fill out a design already in existence.

The orchestration raises another problem. The opening movement is scored for 2 basset horns, 2 bassoons, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, timpani and strings. Professor Friedrich Blume believes that the composer did not mean the orchestration of the opening to be applied, as Süssmayr has applied it, to the whole work. He compares the result to a thick grey crust, comparable to the layer of whitewash that was plastered over the naves of Gothic churches during the Reformation. The omission of flutes, oboes, clarinets and horns is certainly in opposition to Mozart's practice, and no other Mass of his has such uniformity of colour. Perhaps in his illness Mozart felt that the basset horns tone colour expressed the feelings of a man at the end of his life.

It would be unfair to dismiss Süssmayr's part in the work only with contempt, for without him we might have been left with much less than has survived. Though the great beauties of the work that are unmistakably Mozart's make his *vulgarizations* regrettable, they are not as disastrous as perhaps they might have been.

#### 1. Requiem aeternam

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

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord and let perpetual light shine on them. You are praised, God, in Zion, and homage will be paid to You in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer, to You all flesh will come. Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them.

#### 2. Kyrie

Kyrie, eleison. Lord, have mercy on us. Christe, eleison. Christ, have mercy on us. Kyrie, eleison. Lord, have mercy on us.

#### 3. Dies irae

Dies irae, dies illa solvet saeclum in favilla, teste David cum Sibylla. Quantus tremor est futurus, quando judex est venturus, cuncta stricte discussurus! Day of wrath, day of anger will dissolve the world in ashes, as foretold by David and the Sibyl. Great trembling there will be when the Judge descends from heaven to examine all things closely.

#### 4. Tuba mirum

Tuba mirum spargens sonum per sepulcra regionum, coget omnes ante thronum. Mors stupebit et natura, cum resurget creatura, judicanti responsura. Liber scriptus proferetur, in quo totum continetur, unde mundus judicetur. Judex ergo cum sedebit, quidquid latet, apparebit, nil inultum remanebit. Quid sum miser tunc dicturus? quem patronum rogaturus, cum vix justus sit securus?

The trumpet will send its wondrous sound throughout earth's sepulchres and gather all before the throne.

Death and nature will be astounded, when all creation rises again, to answer the judgement.

A book will be brought forth, in which all will be written, by which the world will be judged.

When the judge takes his place, what is hidden will be revealed, nothing will remain unavenged.

What shall a wretch like me say?

Who shall intercede for me, when the just ones need mercy?

#### 5. Rex tremendae

Rex tremendae majestatis, qui salvandos savas gratis, salve me, fons pietatis.

King of tremendous majesty, who freely saves those worthy ones, save me, source of mercy.

#### 6. Recordare

Recordare, Jesu pie, quod sum causa tuae viae; ne me perdas illa die. Quaerens me, sedisti lassus, redemisti crucem passus; tantus labor non sit cassus. Juste judex ultionis, donum fac remissionis ante diem rationis. Ingemisco, tamquam reus: culpa rubet vultus meus; supplicanti parce, Deus. Qui Mariam absolvisti, et latronem exaudisti, mihi quoque spem dedisti. Preces meae non sunt dignae, sed tu, bonus, fac benigne, ne perenni cremer igne. Inter oves locum praesta,

Remember, kind Jesus, my salvation caused your suffering; do not forsake me on that day. Faint and weary you have sought me, redeemed me, suffering on the cross; may such great effort not be in vain. Righteous judge of vengeance, grant me the gift of absolution before the day of retribution. I moan as one who is guilty: owning my shame with a red face; suppliant before you, Lord. You, who absolved Mary, and listened to the thief, give me hope also. My prayers are unworthy, but, good Lord, have mercy, and rescue me from eternal fire. Provide me a place among the sheep, Et ab haedis me sequestra, Statuens in parte dextra. and separate me from the goats, guiding me to Your right hand.

#### 7. Confutatis

Confutatis maledictis, flammis acribus addictis, voca me cum benedictus. Oro supplex et acclinis, cor contritum quasi cinis, gere curam mei finis. When the accused are confounded, and doomed to flames of woe, call me among the blessed. I kneel with submissive heart, my contrition is like ashes, help me in my final condition.

#### 8. Lacrimosa

Lacrimosa dies illa, qua resurget ex favilla judicandus homo reus. Huic ergo parce, Deus, pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem. Amen.

That day of tears and mourning, when from the ashes shall arise, all humanity to be judged.
Spare us by your mercy, Lord, gentle Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest. Amen.

#### 9. Domine Jesu

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.

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, liberate the souls of the faithful, departed from the pains of hell and from the bottomless pit.

Deliver them from the lion's mouth, lest hell swallow them up, lest they fall into darkness.

Let the standard-bearer, holy Michael, bring them into holy light.

Which was promised to Abraham and his descendants.

#### 10. Hostias

Hostias et preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus.
Tu sucipe pro animabus illis, quaram hodie memoriam facimus.
Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam,
Quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.

Sacrifices and prayers of praise, Lord, we offer to You.
Receive them in behalf of those souls we commemorate today.
And let them, Lord, pass from death to life, which was promised to Abraham and his descendants.

#### 11. Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of they glory. Hosanna in the highest.

#### 12. Benedictus

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

#### 13. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis Lamb of God, who takes away peccata mundi, the sins of the world, dona eis requiem. grant them eternal rest. Agnus Dei, qui tollis Lamb of God, who takes away peccata mundi, the sins of the world, dona eis requiem. Grant them eternal rest. Lamb of God, who takes away Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, the sins of the world,

dona eis requiem sempiternam. grant them eternal rest forever.

#### 14. Lux aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es. Requiem aeternum dona eis, Domine, et Lux perpetua luceat eis, cum Sanctus tuis in aeternum, quia pius es. Let eternal light shine on them, Lord, as with Your saints in eternity, because You are merciful.
Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them, as with Your saints in eternity, because You are merciful.

#### **Ian Cobb (conductor)**

lan Cobb began his teaching career at Wandsworth School, helping to form the boys' choir which would achieve an international reputation. He worked with many composers, particularly Benjamin Britten, as well as leading conductors and orchestras. In 1969 Britten wrote *Children's Crusade* for the choir, recorded by Decca. The association with Britten led to many performances of the *War Requiem*. Recordings of Bach's *St. John Passion* and Schumann's *Scenes from Goethe's Faust* followed.

Following a move to Suffolk, Ian formed the Suffolk Symphony Orchestra, performing a wide range of works from the symphonic and concerto repertoire. He was a founder director of Suffolk Chamber Opera, conducting Britten's Albert Herring, Mozart's Cosi fan Tutte and Carey Blyton's The Girl from Nogami.

In 1980 Ian became Musical Director of Cambridge-based Collegium Laureatum. With the choir, he has conducted music ranging from early Renaissance pieces to the large-scale works of the choral repertoire. Ian retired from teaching in 2005, giving him more time to concentrate on producing and arranging music.

#### **COLLEGIUM LAUREATUM ORCHESTRA**

**LEADER: Mateja Kaluza** 

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**Timpani:** David Ellis

Violin 1: Mateja Kaluza Helen Gibbens

Sue Thomas Jonathan Watts

**Bruce Godfrey** 

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#### **Charlotte Jane Kennedy (soprano)**

Winner of the Loveday Song Prize at the 2024 Ferrier Awards, British soprano Charlotte Jane Kennedy is a member of The Royal College of Music International Opera School. Charlotte made her role debut as Susanna in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* at The Royal College of Music before returning to Garsington Opera as an Emerging Artist performing Gianetta in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore*.

Charlotte recently made her international debut as Fiordiligi in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* for the Da Ponte Opera Festival, Italy. As an Alvarez Young Artist, she sang in the



chorus for Garsington Opera's 2024 Season, covered Amor in Rameau's *Platée* and sang the role of Papagena at their Opera Gala. Charlotte performs regularly on the concert platform and recent repertoire includes Haydn's *Nelson Mass* for the Leith Hill Festival, Dvorak's *Mass in D* at St John's Smith Square and Bach's *B Minor Mass* with the City Music Society.

Charlotte sang with us at our 2024 Christmas concert and we warmly welcome her back again.

#### **Alexandria Moon (alto)**

British mezzo-soprano Alexandria Moon is a member of the opera studio at the Royal College of Music and is the Lotti Masterson and H&F Music Award holder, studying with Dinah Harris.

Alexandria recently made her role debut as Lucretia at the Brunel Museum mentored by Dame Sarah Connolly (*The Rape of Lucretia*, British Youth Opera). Other role highlights include Concepción (*L'heure espagnole*, RCM), Cherubino (*Le Nozze di Figaro*, Westminster Opera), L'enfant (*L'enfant et les sortileges*, RCM), Mistress Ford (*Sir John in Love*, Opera Holland Park and British Youth Opera) and the Older Woman (*Flight*, RCM).



Alexandria debuted at the Wigmore Hall in their first ever concert in collaboration with the RCM's vocal department, where she performed the world premiere of a long-lost scenario by RCM alumni Samuel Coleridge-Taylor titled "Nourmahal's Song". Competition highlights include  $\mathbf{1}^{st}$  prize in the Maureen Lehane 2023 Vocal Awards,  $\mathbf{3}^{rd}$  in the 2024 Concerto Competition at the RCM and  $\mathbf{1}^{st}$  prize in the Lies Askonas 2023 competition at the RCM.

#### Francis Melville (tenor)

Francis Melville is a tenor currently studying on the master's course at the Royal College of Music, where he is a Cuthbert Smith Scholar and is generously supported by the Janet Baker Trust. He is taught by tenor Ben Johnson.

Previous roles include Miguel in Offenbach's *Pepito* and Count Almaviva in Rossini's *Barber of Seville*. He performed in the chorus for Grange Park Opera's 2024 season. Recent solo engagements include: Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, Verdi's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah*. He also studied medicine at Imperial College,



London and worked as a junior doctor from 2020 until 2022.

Francis sang with us at our 2024 Christmas concert and we warmly welcome him back again.

#### **Daniel Barrett (bass)**

Daniel Barrett is a Glaswegian baritone studying with Russell Smythe at the Royal College of Music Opera Studio.

In January 2022 Daniel won 1 $^{st}$  Prize at the RCM's Lieder Competition; he claimed 2 $^{nd}$  Prize in RCM's Brooks van der Pump English Song competition 2022 and, most recently, 3 $^{rd}$  Prize in the Lies Askonas Competition Finals 2023.

During the summer of 2022, Daniel was part of the Verbier Festival's Atelier Lyrique program where he performed the role of Sam in Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera*. He recently performed the role of Figaro in *The Barber of Seville* as a Young Artist at Opera Holland Park (Summer 2024).



Daniel sang with us at our 2024 Christmas concert and we warmly welcome him back again.

#### **COLLEGIUM LAUREATUM CHOIR**

Soprano	Alto	Tenor
Lois Arnold	Vera Ahrfelt	Philip Blakely
Helen Eisner	Ruth Cheung	<b>Anthony Clay</b>
Jane Fellows	Lorna Cox	Peter Debenham
Miranda Francis	Tabitha Driver	David Hathaway
Danielle Kijewski	Jane Fleming	Milton Micallef
Nicola Lythgoe	Sue Grace	Peter Radden
Rosamond McKitterick	Eleanor Pippard	
Hannah Mitchell	Ann Prentice	Bass
Alison Powell	Valerie Reader	Neil Caplan
Mary Prechner	Rachel Russell	Toby Chadd
Daphne Ridge	Sarah Smalley	Aidan Challen
Ruth Saxl	Margaret Spencer-Thomas	Tim Entecott
Teresia Schaedler	Clare Tupman	Chris Ford
Juliet Short	Marj Winter	John Gatiss
Pip Smith		Ieuen Hughes
Julia Stibbs		Alex Riley
Catriona Syed		Tony Spring
Liz Tavner		Joe Warrington
Raquel Torras		Alan Winter
Keren Turton		
Wyn Unsworth		
Brenda Whitfield		
Amy Whittaker		
Kicki Wikstrom		

Collegium Laureatum (Society of Graduates) was founded in 1974 by Don Neville as an informal madrigal group of graduate students, fellows and friends of Corpus Christi College.

In 1980 Ian Cobb was appointed Musical Director. The choir's membership increased rapidly, outgrowing its college basis, and performed many of the large-scale choral works from the Baroque to the twentieth century, including rediscovering some works by lesser-known composers. In 1989 the choir gave the world premiere of *Fiat Lux*, a specially commissioned work by Ian Kellam, in St. Edmundsbury Cathedral. The choir has toured several times in Europe.



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