



Michael Haydn, *Requiem*

Mozart, *Requiem*

Conductor: Marco Fanti

Chorus Director: Mavis Fletcher

Lancashire Sinfonietta

led by Sarah Brandwood Spencer

Katie Lowe	Soprano
Miranda Westcott	Mezzo Soprano
Tyler Clarke	Tenor
Laurence Meikle	Baritone

**Saturday 17th March 2012 at 8.00pm**

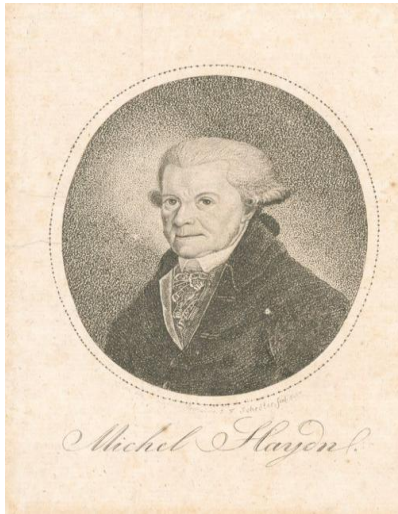
**St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster**

Lancashire *Sinfonietta*

## *Requiem Solemne*

Michael Haydn (1737-1806)

Missa pro defuncto Archiepiscopo Sigismundo 1771



Michael Haydn was the younger brother to the more well-known Joseph Haydn. The two boys' musical training began when they were taken on as choristers at St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna. Apparently Michael was the brighter student and the better singer, renowned for the clarity of his voice and his three-octave range. The influence of this early training as a singer is apparent in the writing of this *Requiem*. Whereas the Mozart *Requiem* is written mainly in four time, which particularly suits the playing of stringed instruments, much of the *Requiem Solemne* is in the more fluid three time.

The piece was written in 1771 when Michael Haydn was director of Music for the Archbishop of Salzburg and was Haydn's only completed *Requiem*. It consists of nine sections: *Requiem aeternam*, *Dies irae*, *Domine Jesu Christe* and *Quam olim Abrahae*, *Hostias et preces*, *Sanctus*, *Benedictus*, *Agnus Dei*, *Cum sanctis tuis*, and *Requiem aeternam*.

## *Requiem*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)



The Mozart family were in Salzburg at the time that the Haydn *Requiem* was completed and performed, and the influence of the older man on Wolfgang's own later *Requiem* is evident. There are several sections with melodic themes which recall the earlier work.

There is much myth and legend about the writing of this *Requiem*. It was commissioned by Count Franz Walsegg-Stuppach as a memorial for his wife, who had died in February 1791. The Count was a keen amateur cellist who also liked to think of himself as a composer – indeed he is reported to have claimed that he had actually composed parts of this work. The mysterious visitor who was said to have come to see Mozart as he was writing the piece was not a messenger from another world, portending the composer's death, but Johann Nepomuk Sortschan, Walsegg's business representative. Mozart died before finishing the work, and Franz Sussmayr completed it. It is not known precisely which is Mozart's and which is Sussmayr's work, a matter which is further complicated by the fact that Sussmayr followed some of Mozart's suggestions (such as the idea of repeating the *Kyrie* to form the last movement).

The *Requiem* consists of the following movements: Requiem, Kyrie, Dies Irae, Tuba Mirum, Rex Tremendae, Recordare, Confutatis Maledictis, Lacrimosa, Domine Jesu, Hostias, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei, Lux Aeterna.

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## Marco Fanti



Marco Fanti became Musical Director of the Lancaster Singers in September 2009. Born and educated in Bologna he holds degrees in Music, Classics and Linguistics and is currently Professor of Music at the University of Bologna, specialising in 18<sup>th</sup> century choral music and music education. He also teaches literature at a High School in Mantova.

As well as conducting the Lancaster Singers, Marco directs the Coro Athena in Bologna, and its children's choir Piccolo Coro Athena. In September 2010 he took up the post of Musical Director of the Preston Cecilian Choral Society.

## Mavis Fletcher

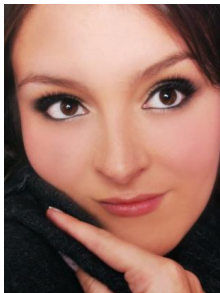


Mavis Fletcher is a graduate of RMCM and taught music in schools in Preston and Blackburn for many years before her retirement in 2000. She is an active church musician, choir mistress, organist and community choir director.

Mavis continues to teach piano and singing at home, and helps to arrange training for choir leaders and singing workshops for adults and young people throughout the North West. She is a Trustee of the Association of British Choral Directors (ABCD) and is actively involved in running the North West Children's Honour Choir.

As a member of Lancaster Singers, Mavis says that it has been a privilege to be their chorus director this term.

## Katie Lowe (soprano)



Katie received scholarships to study at the Royal Northern College of Music and in the Royal College of Music's International Opera School.

Katie's roles include Kabanicha (*Kat'a Kabanova*), Electkra (*Idomeneo*), Donna Anna, Fiordiligi and Mimi. She has performed with Opera Holland Park, the Pereta Festival in Tuscany, in the Bridgewater Hall and at Buxton Opera House. In 2009 Katie took the role of the Sorceress (*Dido and Aeneas*) with the Manchester Camerata, which was also recorded for BBC Radio 3's *Discovering Music*.

This year Katie completes her MA in Advanced Vocal Studies with Dennis O'Neill at the Wales International Academy of Voice where she is supported by a Les Azuriales Opera Young Artist Scholarship 2011.

## Miranda Westcott (mezzo-soprano)



Miranda read music at Birmingham University and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She recently completed a year at Dennis O'Neill's Cardiff International Academy of Voice.

Miranda made her debut at the Royal Opera House as Second Bridesmaid (*Figaro*) under Colin Davis and sang Glasha (*Kat'a Kabanova*) under Charles Makerras. In 2009 she performed the role of Jenny Diver (*The Beggar's Opera*) for the ROH in the Linbury Studio Theatre and recorded this for Chandos. Other roles include Cherubino, Suzuki and Olga working with companies including Welsh National Opera, Raymond Gubbay, Garsington and Longborough Festival.

In concert Miranda has appeared at the Wigmore Hall, in the Crush Room series at the ROH, The Sage Gateshead, Shakespeare's Globe, The Handel House Museum and Canterbury Cathedral.

## Tyler Clarke (tenor)



Tyler Clarke is currently a member of the Wales International Academy of Voice studying with Dennis O'Neill, before which he was a member of the National Opera Studio.

Operatic roles include: Ferrando, Tamino, Don Ottavio, Jenik (*The Bartered Bride*), San Giovanni (*La Resurrezione*), Aminta (*Atalanta*), and Albert (*Albert Herring*).

On the concert platform Tyler has sung many of the major oratorios including: *Elijah* with Kurt Masur and the RPO, *St. Nicholas* at the Endymion Festival, Orff *Carmina Burana* and Mozart *Requiem* at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London. Recent and forthcoming events include: Liverotto (ENO), Kudryash (*Kat'a Kabanova* (WNO cover), Novice (*Billy Budd*) (ENO cover), *Messiah* at the Royal Festival Hall, Mozart *Requiem* at the Royal Festival Hall and a recital series in St. Gervais, France.

## Laurence Meikle (baritone)



Laurence Meikle studied in his native Australia before completing opera studies at London's Royal Academy of Music. Opera highlights include Marcello and Schaunard (*La Boheme*), Escamillo (*Carmen*), the Mozart roles of Don Giovanni, Guglielmo, Masetto, and Count Almaviva, Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Aeneas (*Dido and Aeneas*), Angelotti (*Tosca*), Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*), Malatesta (*Don Pasquale*), and Luiz (*The Gondoliers*), with which he made his Opera Australia debut at the Sydney Opera House.

Recent and upcoming performances include principal roles for Grange Park Opera, Opera Holland Park, Teatro dell'Opera di Milano, and Bergamo Opera. Laurence appears throughout the UK and Europe as a recitalist, recently performing alongside singers such as Angelika Kirchschrager, Yvonne Kenney and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

Lancashire *Sinfonietta*

The Lancashire Sinfonietta is an outstanding and unique chamber orchestra.

The Sinfonietta was born in 1996 to celebrate the wealth of musical talent nurtured in Lancashire and has a mission to entertain, educate and inspire local communities in the county. Thanks to the continuing support of Lancashire County Council, the Sinfonietta has taken music directly into the lives of thousands of adults and children.

The Sinfonietta's members are drawn from established orchestras throughout the UK and most received their early musical education in Lancashire via the County Music Service Ensembles and Orchestras. Their concerts feature world-class directors and Lancastrian soloists, with famous names alongside rising young talent. These homegrown musical champions return to Lancashire to inspire the next generation of talent at a personal, local level and mentoring is an important part of the work.

Education is at the very heart of everything the orchestra does, with the Learning and Participation Programme encompassing a colourful spectrum of activity, including a competition for young composers (the Christopher Brooks Memorial Prize), a series with the University of the Third Age, projects with community artists and film-makers, a groundbreaking orchestral jazz trilogy as well as a robust programme of work in schools. For more information see [www.lancs-sinf.com](http://www.lancs-sinf.com).

## LANCASTER SINGERS

### SOPRANOS

Maggie Bremner  
Liz Eddington  
Bea Freund  
Joan Guénault  
Barbara Hacking-Douglas  
Lauren Kenwright  
Andrea King  
Keeley Lund  
Philippa McCormick  
Jean Morris  
Pamela Nickols  
Jean Norgate  
Harriet Pollock  
Marilyn Pooley  
Hermione Roff  
Trixi Schirok-Huggett  
Katy Taylor  
Georgia Treglown  
Lindsay Ward  
Terry Wareham  
Sheila Wolfendale  
Louise Wood

### ALTOS

Jo Anderson  
Vivienne Bonnett  
Jo Burrow  
Doreen Champness  
Bea Conder  
Cathleen Dawson  
Mavis Fletcher  
Brenda Harding  
Janet Hopkins  
Ruth Hutchison  
Sarah Jackson  
Serena Lailey  
Gillian Sheath  
Yi-Ling Tan  
Annik Taylor  
Jean Wangermann  
Heather Willes

### TENORS

Graham Bartram  
Jim Birkett  
John Falkingham  
Luca Guariento  
Tony Guénault  
Roger Heise  
Douglas Lee  
Peter Sampson  
Mark Shackleton  
Richard Williams

### BASSES

David Brooks  
Andy Bruno  
Martin Clarke  
Ian Cookson  
Chris Haughton  
Charlie Lewis  
Berwyn Morris  
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### **Friends of Lancaster Singers:**

Paul and Pamela Barker  
Rev. David Brown  
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Brian Hopkins  
Audrey Mitton  
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### **Corporate Friends:**

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Lancaster Singers would be delighted to welcome you as a member of our Friends' Association. Please contact Lauren Kenwright for further details Tel: 07966 924087. Email: [lancsingers@googlemail.com](mailto:lancsingers@googlemail.com)

Lancaster Singers would like to express thanks to St Peter's Cathedral for their help with this concert, and their appreciation for the services of the Lancashire County Library and Wimborne Choral Society in providing music. Thanks also to our rehearsal accompanists Tetiana Kolosova and Helena Morwood.

## SUMMER CONCERTS

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012

Crosthwaite Parish Church, Keswick

with Ian Hare (organ)

and

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012

St Paul's Church, Brookhouse

with Bibi Heal (soprano)

**Music by Elgar, Fauré and Smetana**

Ticket enquiries to 01524 68481

### **We've made a CD!**

Copies of the Lancaster Singers' CD recorded at Tunstall Church in June 2011 will be on sale at the concert, price £12.00. They are also available by phone, 01524 68481.

The CD includes

Vaughan Williams	Five English Folk Songs
Schumann	Vier doppelchörige Gesänge
Cherubini	Credo a 8 voci

## **haffner**orchestra

Ashton Hall, Lancaster, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2012 at 7.30pm

Conductor: Natalia Luis-Bassa

J.S.Bach	Suite No 2 in B minor
Dvořák	Serenade in D minor
Suk	<i>from</i> Serenade in E flat major
Beethoven	Symphony No 8 in F major

Buy tickets online at [www.haffnerorchestra.org](http://www.haffnerorchestra.org); Lancaster or Morecambe Visitor Information Centres; Lancaster University Box Office, at the door or by phone on 01524 582394 (credit card sales) or 01524 65531. Price: Adults £12, Concessions £11, 18 and under free