

M E S S I A H

Friedrich George Handel

LONDON CONCORD SINGERS

ORCHESTRA CONSISTING OF STRINGS FROM

PLAYERS OF THE ESSEX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AUGMENTED

Conductor	Malcolm Cottle
Soprano	Lois Murray
Contralto	Ann McLoughlin
Tenor	Peter Jeffes
Baritone	Colin Dove

Saturday, 3rd December 1983, 7.30 pm

Part One

Sinfonia (Overture)

Comfort ye my people

Recit. tenor

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted

Air

And the glory of the Lord

Chorus

Behold, a virgin shall conceive

Recit. mezzo soprano

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion

Air & Chorus

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth

Recit. baritone

The people that walked in darkness

Air

For unto us a child is born

Chorus

Pifa ("Pastoral Symphony")

There were shepherds abiding in the field

Recit. soprano

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them

Recit.

And the angel said unto them

Recit.

And suddenly there was with the angel

Recit.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion	Air soprano
Then shall the eyes of the blind	Recit. mezzo soprano
He shall feed his flock	Air for soprano & mezzo soprano
His yoke is easy, and his burthen is light	Chorus

- interval -

Behold the Lamb of God	Chorus
He was despised	Air. mezzo soprano
Surely he hath borre our griefs	Chorus
And with his stripes we are healed	Chorus
All we like sheep have gone astray	Chorus
All they that see him laugh him to scorn	Recit. tenor
He trusted in God	Chorus
Thy rebuke hath broken his heart	Recit. tenor
Behold, and see if there be any sorrow	Air
He was cut off out of the land of the living	Recit.
But thou didst not leave his soul in hell	Air
Lift up your heads, O ye gates	Chorus
Their sound is gone	tenor
Why do the nations so furiously rage together?	baritone
Let us break their bonds asunder	Chorus
He that dwelleth in heaven	Recit. tenor
Thou shalt break them	Air
Hallelujah	Chorus

- interval -

Part Three

I know that my redeemer liveth	Air soprano
Since by man came death	Chorus
Behold, I tell you a mystery	Recit. baritone
The trumpet shall sound	Air
Then shall be brought to pass	Recit. mezzo soprano
☉ death, where is thy sting?	Duet. mezzo soprano & tenor
But thanks be to God	Chorus
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain	☉ Chorus

MALCOLM COTTLE - was a boy chorister at St. Paul's Cathedral, sang at the Queen's Coronation and toured USA and Canada with the Choir. He is the regular conductor of the London Concord Singers, has worked as repetiteur with the new Opera Company at Sadlers Wells and conducted for Orpheus Opera. He has appeared as musical director at the Sheffield Playhouse, the Swan Theatre, Worcester and Nottingham Playhouse, the Wyvern Theatre, Swindon and the Gordon Craig Theatre, Stevenage where he is currently preparing for this year's Fantomime production. He is organist of a West End Church and a Synagogue in North London and also works as a ballet accompanist.

THE LONDON CONCORD SINGERS - a small well knit group of about 30 voices formed in 1966 who perform a wide range of choral music. None of the group is a fulltime musician. The choir has performed in the Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, Royal Albert Hall, St. John-Smith's Sq., has undertaken cabaret engagements won competition prizes at home and abroad, appeared at the Montreux and Dubrovnik Festivals among others and made a successful tour in North Holland, The Netherlands, last year. It has performed and recorded with the London Symphony Orchestra, worked with modern composers on British and World premiers of their compositions. In 1977 in recognition of its support of contemporary music, particularly British compositions, the choir was only one of four in the Country to receive a Jubilee Award from the Performing Rights Society.

ESSEX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - the orchestra you will hear today is comprised of strings from the Essex Symphony Orchestra augmented by wind players from other groups. The members of the Essex Symphony Orchestra come from all parts of Essex and each year the orchestra accompanies choral societies in Coggeshall Church and this year will be accompanying the Tiptree and Braintree Choral Society.

LOIS MURRAY - graduated from Exeter University in 1981 with a Music Degree and L.R.A.M. Whilst still a student she gained experience in recital and oratorio. She now lives in Chelmsford where in addition to frequent public performances, she also teaches singing and piano.

ANN McLOUGHLIN - graduate of the Royal College of Music, now married with three children, previously a member of the Ambrosian singers and also has wide oratoric concert and operatic experience.

PETER JEFFES - studied at the Royal College of Music, won a Gulbenkian Music Fellowship and a Royal Society of Arts scholarship to study in Rome. Made his Covent Garden debut in the title role of Rameau's "Castor et Pollux" and his American debut in "La Fille du Regiment" with the Boston Opera. Has performed for every British Opera Company including "The Barber of Seville" for the English National Opera, "The Magic Flute" and "Coronazione di Poppea" for the Welsh National Opera, and "The Rake's Progress" and "Midsummer Night's Dream" for Glyndebourne. Recent productions include "Cosi fan Tutte" in Le Touquet Festival and Belfast, "Thais" in Avignon, "Il Turco in Italia" in Nantes, "Romeo et Juliette" in Rennes, "Le Roi Arthus" in Paris, "Entfuhrung aus dem Serail", "Cosi fan Tutte" at Grenoble and Montpellier and this year took part in the Aix en Provence Festival. Has recorded and has broadcast for British, French, Greek and Dutch television as well as the BBC, Radio France and Hessischer Rundfunk. His oratorio work has taken him to the Orange Festival, Santander Festival, Belgium, Greece and the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall and throughout Britain.

COLIN DOVE - qualified as a solicitor in 1967. Studied singing privately for many years with Bruce Boyce the distinguished Canadian Baritone. He sang professionally in Opera in West Germany between 1972 and 1974 before returning to this County. He is now a solicitor in private practice in Colchester but continues to sing as much as possible.