

***** CHRISTMAS CONCERT *****
by

LONDON CONCORD SINGERS

Conductor: Malcolm Cottle

with

- Janet Coles - Cello
- Graham Owen - Piano + Organ

The audience is invited to join in with those carols marked *. Please feel free to stand or sit, as you wish.

CAROLS

- * O come all ye faithful
Ding Dong! Merrily on high arr. Malcolm Williamson
- Good King Wenceslas arr. Malcolm Williamson

* Once in Royal David's City

- Sonata in Bb Vivaldi
Largo - Allegro - Largo - Allegro
- Studies in English Folk Song Vaughan Williams

Sainte Marye Virgine Michael Ball

1. Introitus
Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison.
Sainte Marye Virgine. (Prayer of St. Godric, mid 12th cent.)
2. Lauda I
Hale sterne superne - Hail, star of heaven
(William Dunbar 15/16th century)
3. Antiphon
Regina coeli laetare - Queen of heaven rejoice.
(Antiphon of the Blessed Virgin, 12th century)
4. Hymn
Of on that is so fair and bright (13th century)
5. Antiphon
Quia quem meruisti portare - He whom it was your privilege
to bear.
6. Lauda II
Vergine bella, che di sol vestita - clothed by the sun,
crowned by stars (Petrarch 1304-74)

7. Antiphon
Resurrexit sicut dixit - He has risen as He said.
8. Hymn
The furthe joy we telle mawen - The fourth joy we may
tell, on Easternorning ... (13/14th century)
9. Antiphon
Ora pro nobis Deum - Pray God for us
10. Lauda III
Was sie damals empfanden, What they experienced then:
is it not beyond all secrets sweet. (from Das Marienleben
- Rainer Maria Rilke. 1875-1926)
11. Canticle
Rise up, my love. (Song of Solomon 2 vv 10-12)

Michael Ball is based in Manchester, where for some 20 years he taught music. He has only recently turned his attention to serious composition, but is rapidly gaining a reputation as one of our better composers. He has one piece already in the repertoire of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra with another on commission from them.

Sainte Marye Virgine was written for Stephen Wilkinson and the William Byrd Singers, and was later broadcast by him with the BBC Northern Singers. The composer says that his motivation for using these particular texts was that he felt, apart from Bax's 'Mater Ora Filium', there had been no large scale Marian work written for unaccompanied chorus by a British composer this century. A measure of the popularity of the work with choral conductors is that it is here receiving the second of at least three performances in London within about four months, even though it has not yet been officially published and is an extremely difficult and challenging piece to sing.

The texts used range from the 12th to the 20th centuries, in several languages interspersed with lines from the Antiphon - Regina Coeli. The third movement is for Sopranos only, the fourth for male voices and the eighth, female voices. Lauda II contains a quotation from Dufay's 'Vergine bella'.

***** INTERVAL 20 mins *****

Elegie Op 24

Gabriel Faure

Variations about a Slovakian Theme

Martinu

CAROLS

* While Shepherds watched their flocks

A child is born in Bethlehem

Samuel Scheidt

Il est né le divin enfant

arr. John Rutter

Mary had a baby

arr. Maurice Gardner

* Hark the Herald Angels Sing
