

GEORG FRIEDERICH HANDEL · 1685-1759



MESSIAH

A performance of the Watkins-Shaw edition given by

THE ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS
CHORAL SOCIETY

conducted by

Derek Watmough

Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells

Sunday, 11th November 1979, 3 pm

20p



JACQUELYN FUGELLE Soprano

Jacquelyn Fugelle made her first appearance with the Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society in a memorable performance of Bach's *B minor Mass* given in April 1976. Born in Portsmouth, she was awarded a scholarship to the Guildhall School of Music where she studied singing with Ellis Keeler, gaining her AGSM Diploma with Distinction in Performance.

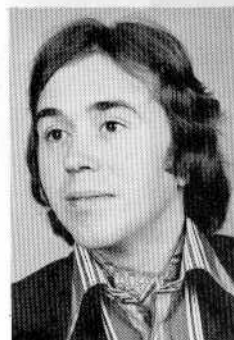
She has sung lead roles in many operas, including *Queen of the Night* in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and *Zerbinetta* in *Ariadne auf Naxos* by Richard Strauss. Recitals and oratorios throughout England and Wales include performances at Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room, St. John's Smith Square, St. Martin-in-the Fields, Fairfield Hall and major cathedrals.



GWYNETH GRIFFITHS Contralto

Gwyneth Griffiths has studied with some of the finest musicians in the country including Roy Henderson and Paul Hamburger; her repertoire ranges from Bach to Verdi. In the competitive field she has won the Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship, The Royal Overseas League Bronze Medal, a Leverhulme Scholarship for Study in Germany and the Award of Merit in the s'Hertogenbosch International Vocal Concours.

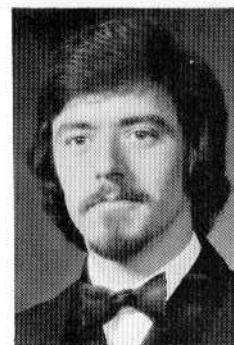
Gwyneth Griffiths is a regular performer at the South Bank Halls, the Royal Albert Hall and numerous cathedrals, concert halls and festivals. She has received considerable acclaim during her international appearances in Brazil, Switzerland and Holland, and has recorded for BBC Television a performance of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.



ANTHONY ATTWELL Tenor

Born and bred in Herne Bay, Anthony Attwell was a Chorister in Canterbury Cathedral, a music scholar at the King's School, a choral scholar at St. John's College, Cambridge, and a foundation scholar at the Guildhall School in London. In 1976 he joined the English Music Theatre for whom he has sung many roles in this country and abroad.

Earlier this year he joined Glyndebourne Festival Opera to understudy in *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse* by Monteverdi. Later this month he is to appear as tenor soloist in Purcell's *Fairy Queen* at St. John's Smith Square, and as Nadir in a specially mounted production of Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers* at the Festival Theatre, Malvern.



WILLIAM SHIMELL Baritone

William Shimell was born in Essex in 1952, and educated at Westminster Abbey Choir School and St Edward's School, Oxford. He studied with Ellis Keeler at the Guildhall School of Music and then went to the London Opera Centre, where he sang a number of roles including the Abbott in Thea Musgrave's *The Abbott of Drimock*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Figaro in their *Marriage of Figaro* (1978).

In October 1978 Mr Shimell joined Kent Opera, singing Monterone in Jonathan Miller's production of *Rigoletto*, and at the same time began studying at the newly formed National Opera Studio, where coaches have included Tito Gobbi, Graziella Sciutti, Martin Isepp, Otakar Kraus and Hans Hotter. His work in 1979 includes the Baron in Kent Opera's *La Traviata* and his debut at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

76th Season

GEORG FRIEDERICH HANDEL

Messiah

(Watkins-Shaw edition)

JACQUELYN FUGELLE — Soprano
GWYNETH GRIFFITHS — Contralto
ANTHONY ATTWELL — Tenor
WILLIAM SHIMELL — Baritone

Orchestra Leader: Jane Pamment
Harpichord Continuo: Anthony Smith-Masters
Trumpet: John Hammonds

conducted by

Derek Watmough

The Watkin-Shaw edition of 'Messiah' aims to recreate the sound as Handel originally conceived it; that is, for an orchestra of strings, woodwind, and continuo, with choral resources to match. The result is a performance much more in the Italian baroque style than those to which we have become accustomed in the last one hundred and fifty years or so. These latter performances might be compared to the architecture of St. Pancras' Station, whereas the original should be thought of in terms of one of Wren's delicate City churches.

M.F.

Part I

Overture

Comfort ye My people *Recit.*

Ev'ry valley *Air*

And the glory of the Lord *Chorus*

Thus saith the Lord *Recit.*

But who may abide? *Air*

And he shall purify *Chorus*

Behold, a virgin shall conceive
Recit.

O thou that tellest good tidings *Air*
and Chorus

For behold, darkness *Recit.*

The people that walked in
darkness *Air*

For unto us a Child is born *Chorus*

Pastoral Symphony

There were shepherds *Recit.*

And lo! the angel of the Lord
Recit.

And the angel said unto them
Recit.

And suddenly *Recit.*

Rejoice greatly *Air*

Then shall the eyes of the blind
Recit.

He shall feed His flock *Air*

His yoke is easy *Chorus*

Part II

Behold the Lamb of God *Chorus*

He was despised *Air*

Surely He hath borne our griefs
Chorus

And with His stripes *Chorus*

All we like sheep *Chorus*

All they that see Him *Recit.*

He trusted in God *Chorus*

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart
Recit.

Behold, and see *Air*

He was cut off *Recit.*

But Thou did'st not leave *Chorus*

Unto which of the angels *Recit.*

Let all the angels of God *Chorus*

Thou art gone up on high *Air*

The Lord gave the word *Chorus*

How beautiful are the feet *Air*

Their sound is gone out *Chorus*

Why do the nations? *Air*

Let us break their bonds asunder
Chorus

He that dwelleth in Heaven *Recit.*

Thou shalt break them *Air*

Hallelujah! *Chorus*

Part III

I know that my Redeemer liveth
Air

Since by man came death *Chorus*

Behold, I tell you a mystery *Recit.*

The trumpet shall sound *Air*

Worthy is the Lamb *Chorus*

Music in Tunbridge Wells

The following concerts will take place in the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells, during the 1979/80 season. For ticket prices and other details, please watch the columns of the local press or get in touch with the Assembly Hall Box Office (Telephone 30613) prior to the advertised date in each case.

Sunday 2nd December

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra
(Leader: Barry Collins) conducted by Elgar Howarth
Soloists: Brian Rayner Cook (*Baritone*).

Sunday 9th December

Green Room (Music) Club of Tunbridge Wells
The Nash Ensemble
Works by Beethoven, Nielsen, Villa-Lobos and Poulenc

Sunday 16th December

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

CAROL CONCERT

with Alexandra Thompson, The Mayfield Silver Band and the Choir of Cranbrook Primary School,
conducted by Derek Watmough

Sunday 6th January

Green Room (Music) Club of Tunbridge Wells
A recital by Radu Lupu (*piano*)
Works by Mozart, Schubert and Schumann

Sunday 3rd February

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra
(Leader: Barry Collins) conducted by Jonathan Del Mar
Soloist: Geoffrey Tozer (*piano*)

Sunday 17th February

Green Room (Music) Club of Tunbridge Wells
Academy of Ancient Music
Works by Biber, Couperin, Daquin, Vivaldi and others

Sunday 2nd March

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra
(Leader: Barry Collins) conducted by Elgar Howarth
Soloist: Rohan de Saram (*cello*)

Sunday 16th March

Green Room (Music) Club
Julian Lloyd Webber (*cello*) Yitkin Seow (*piano*)
Works by Vivaldi, Beethoven, Fauré and Rachmaninoff

Sunday 23rd March

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

J. S. BACH: ST. MATTHEW PASSION

Conducted by Brian Wright

Sunday 30th March

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra
(Leader: Barry Collins) conducted by Elgar Howarth
Soloist: Howard Shelley (*piano*)

Sunday 27th April

Green Room (Music) Club: Prize-winning Young Concert Artists
Susan Mason (*mezzo-soprano*) Corinne-Ann Frost (*cello*) and Barry Douglas (*piano*)

Sunday 18th May

Crowborough Choral Society
Haydn 'Paukenmesse': Bach 'Magnificat'

Saturday 7th June

Green Room (Music) Club
Grimethorpe Colliery Band
Conducted by Elgar Howarth

THE ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

76th Season

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Patrons of the Society may either contribute a minimum of £10 each season and receive two free tickets for each concert, or may covenant £7 or more in accordance with the Society's status as a charity.

Vice-Presidents contribute a minimum of £5 each season and receive one free ticket for each concert. The names of Patrons and Vice-Presidents are listed in each of the Society's programmes, and we would like to express our thanks to them for their past and continuing support. New Patrons and Vice-Presidents are also most welcome: for details please write to the General Secretary, G. D. Stredder, Birchetts Court, Stockland Green Road, Tunbridge Wells TN3 0TY. Telephone: Langton 2887. The General Secretary would also welcome applications for ordinary membership from tenors, as there are still a few vacancies in that section.

We would also like to express our thanks to the staff and management of the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, for their assistance and advice in the presentation of our three major concerts each season.

The National Federation of Music Societies and South East Arts, to which the Society is affiliated, give support towards the costs of concerts with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain. The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council also provides guarantees.

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is a registered charity.