



# Requiem

by John Rutter

## & Chichester Psalms

by Leonard Bernstein

Saturday 2nd July at 7.30 pm  
Vale Royal Methodist Church, Vale Royal, Tunbridge Wells.

 ROYAL  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
CHORAL  
SOCIETY

Entrance ticket  
& programme £10

# The composers

## Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart wrote the motet *Ave verum corpus* (Hail, true body) just a few months before his death in Vienna on December 5, 1791, at the age of 35.

This short, simple piece contains some of the composer's most noble music in which he seems to find spiritual solace and serenity, in stark contrast to the anguish he was then suffering in his earthly life.

The piece was written for a church in Baden where his wife, Constanze, was accustomed to take the waters.

## Leonard Bernstein (1918 – 1990)



Born in Massachusetts in 1918, Leonard Bernstein was one of the twentieth century's most enduring and popular musicians. Prodigiously talented, at twenty-five he became the youngest conductor ever of a major orchestra, and led the New York Philharmonic for many years. He was also an accomplished and inspired concert pianist, but it is as a composer that Bernstein is most widely known. His portfolio of work is extensive and crosses a wide range of styles and genres from works for Broadway, such as *West Side Story* and *Candide*, to symphonies, operas, ballets and choral works.

Drawing inspiration from his celebrated contemporary, George Gershwin, Bernstein successfully combined classical with popular music to form a unique and very natural sound. *Chichester Psalms*, commissioned for the 1965 annual choral festival at Chichester Cathedral in Sussex, is one of the best examples of Bernstein's work, layering jazz, blues and Broadway on top of a classical musical framework. The dean of Chichester at the time asked for a 'hint of *West Side Story*' and Bernstein obliged. The entire piece lasts no more than twenty minutes and comprises three movements covering Psalms 108, 100, 23, 2, 131 and 133.

## John Rutter (1945 –)



John Rutter was born in London in 1945, and was educated at Highgate School and Clare College, Cambridge. He began writing music seriously at the age of twenty-four, and, whilst his compositions are mainly choral, they also include two children's operas, orchestral works, music for TV and innumerable hymns and carols. From 1975 to 1979 he was Director of Music at Clare College. Two years later, he formed the Cambridge Singers and now divides his time between composing and conducting

orchestras in venues all over the world. In 1996, the Archbishop of Canterbury conferred a Lambeth Doctorate of Music upon him in recognition of his contribution to church music.

The *Requiem* was written in 1985 and is dedicated to the memory of the composer's father who had died in the previous year. Rutter drew inspiration from the *Requiems* of Fauré and Duruflé and Britten's *War Requiem*. The texts include Psalms 23 and 130 and fragments of the Anglican 1662 Book of Common Prayer. The BBC describe John Rutter as 'one of the heroes of twentieth century British classical music.' His music is accessible and interesting and extremely popular with choirs and their audiences throughout the world.

# The conductor

## Richard Jenkinson



Richard Jenkinson grew up in Sussex, and received his early musical training through the County Music Service. He won a scholarship to continue his studies at the Royal College of Music in London, where - among many inspirational characters – Sir David Willcocks was a great influence and source of inspiration. Richard now has a busy and vibrant career as a freelance musician, specialising in choral music of all kinds, as conductor, accompanist and composer, working regularly with many of the major choirs and choral societies in and around London and South East England. He has also recently been appointed to the post of Director of Music at St Swithun's Parish Church in East Grinstead, where he is already enjoying the challenges and opportunities that a major church provides. His new post as Musical Director to the Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is proving to be equally rewarding, as this well-known choir moves forward into the next chapter of its musical life.

# The programme

## **Ave Verum Corpus**

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

## **Solo performances:**

**Oboe – Helen Pye**

**Organ – Christopher Harris:**

**Cornet Voluntary** *William Wallond*

**Fanfare** *Jaak Lemmens*

## **Chichester Psalms**

*Leonard Bernstein*

## **Interval**

## **Requiem**

*John Rutter*

# The choir

## Sopranos

Soloist: Emily Ward  
L. Abblett  
Rachel Balcombe  
Diana Blower  
Deborah Bruce  
Jane Clifford  
Jill Dunstall  
Pauline Foy  
Ann Greenfield  
Janet Higbee  
Sheila Jones  
Alison Kain  
Alison Lewis  
Diana Macfarlane  
Helen MacNab  
Moira McMillan  
Mary Marshall  
Barbara Maw  
Emily Miller  
Barbara Moreton  
Janine Nicol  
Kathy Phillips  
Pat Prior  
Lauren Shotter  
A Tutt  
Audrey Wallis  
Eileen Weller

## Tenors

Stephen Davis  
James Day  
Guy Huntrods  
Gareth Looker  
Alan Spencer  
Michael Spencer  
W McMillan

## Altos

Fiona Abblett  
Margaret Butcher  
Marion Chase  
Anne Connolly  
Helen Featherstone  
Peggy Flood  
Eileen Gall  
Annette Grey  
Jane Hough  
Jane Lewis  
Magali Nicole  
Ros Robertson  
Sue Smith  
Yvonne Spencer  
Helen Sterling  
Audrey Stuart-Black  
Heather Styles  
Sue Taylor

## Basses

John Adkins  
Clive Brock  
Gerald Chew  
Patrick Connolly  
Roy Dunstall  
Mark Ellis  
Richard Gosling  
Gavin Grant  
Bran Gregory  
Michael Holcroft  
Mark Hudson  
Paul Jeffrey  
Vernon Jolly  
David Miller  
John Moffat  
Cyril Rogers  
Michael Selway  
George Weller

# The orchestra

Cello  
Flute  
Oboe  
Harp  
Timps & Percussion  
  
Organ

Chloë Allman-Ward  
Sarah Wicks  
Helen Pye  
Charlotte Seal  
Tim Saxby  
Chris Nall  
Christopher Harris

# Support

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Roy Douglas

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Joyce Stredder

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