



Antonio Vivaldi

Gloria

Gabriel Fauré

Requiem

THE STAR CHORALE PRESENTS

Gloria

Antonio Vivaldi

Requiem

Gabriel Fauré

With Orchestra and Organ

Under the direction of Jane Elton Brown OAM

Soloists:

Judith Dodsworth, Soprano
Kerrie Bolton, Mezzo-Soprano
Paul Hughes, Baritone

Organist:

David Macfarlane

Orchestra Leader:

Susan Pierotti

Robert Blackwood Hall

Sunday June 30, 2013 at 2:30 pm

Programme

GLORIA

by Antonio Vivaldi

Interval

20 minutes

REQUIEM

(1893 VERSION)

by Gabriel Fauré

ABOUT THE COMPOSERS

Antonio Vivaldi:

Antonio Vivaldi was born in Venice in the late 17th century. A violinist, he wrote many concertos for his instrument. His string writing shows his love of special effects and moods, as evident, for example, in one of his most popular works, *The Four Seasons*.

Vivaldi wrote two settings for the *Gloria*; the longer of the two is performed today. It is scored for soloists, chorus and an orchestra of strings, with the addition of one oboe and one trumpet which add to the ceremonial dignity of both the opening *Gloria in excelsis deo* and the closing sequence of *Quoniam Tu Solus Sanctus* and *Cum Sancto Spiritu*.

Movements such as the *Et in Terra Pax* and *Qui Tollis Peccata Mundi*, engage performers and listeners in a movingly expressive Baroque canvass, while the characteristic “restless energy” of Vivaldi’s string writing underpins his lively interpretation of the *Domine Fili* text. Indeed, each movement establishes a particular character, with its own specific “single affection.”

Now recognised as one of the great composers of the 18th century, Vivaldi died in 1740.

Gabriel Fauré:

Gabriel Fauré was born in 1845 and occupied many positions as an organist. He became Professor of Composition at the Paris Conservatoire in 1896 and Director there in 1905 where, until 1920, his great work as a teacher was accomplished. Ravel was among his pupils. Fauré wrote music for piano, for strings and numerous songs. All display the chromatic and assertive harmonies of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, together with a sophisticated melodic style.

It was during his time as organist at the Church of the Madeleine in Paris that Fauré composed his settings of the *Requiem* in 1888.

In orchestrating this work, Fauré eschewed the violin sections and focused on the depth of tone offered by violas, celli, basses and horns. To those sombre colours he added the distinctive timbres of harp (memorable in the *Sanctus*, *Pie Jesu* and *In Paradisum*) and a solo violin (in the *Sanctus*).

The choir must perform at its most expressive – whether boldly (*Agnus Dei* in the fourth movement), sensitively (*O Domine* in the second) or with heavenly lyricism (*In Paradisum*). Memorable for its poignancy, the solo *Pie Jesu* has led its own life as a favoured choice for special occasions.

Fauré died in Paris in 1924.

-- Jane Elton Brown

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Jane Elton Brown OAM

Jane Elton Brown graduated from Melbourne University, B.Mus., Dip Ed., receiving the Dwight Prize in Education. She subsequently gained the degree of Master of Music (Melbourne) with first-class honours.

In 1971, Jane was appointed Director of Music at MLC and held that position for 29 years until her retirement from MLC in 1999. Highlights from those years included a concert tour to England in 1982, concerts with John Farnham and Kiri Te Kanawa and building up MLC's music programs, which resulted in the opening of the new Music School in 1995.

Jane is the on-going founder and conductor of the MLC Male Voice Choir and conductor/director of the MLC Old Collegians' Choir, which have now been amalgamated as The Star Chorale. Jane has conducted this ensemble to successful performances of Faure's *Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Grand Mass in C Minor*, Haydn's *Creation*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, the Verdi *Requiem* and, most recently, Brahms' *A German Requiem*. In 2001, Jane was appointed conductor of The Glen Eira City Choir, with which she has also conducted successful performances of these and other works.

Jane is an experienced examiner in music, speaker/presenter at conferences and seminars and Adjudicator at Eisteddfods. Jane recently retired as Director of Music from The MacRobertson Girls' High School, where she enjoyed fostering a comprehensive choral and instrumental program. A performance tour to England and Scotland with young musicians was a highlight of her work at that school.

Jane was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to music in the 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Judith Dodsworth: Soprano

Judith Dodsworth is an accomplished performer across the genres of opera, oratorio, chamber music and art song. A graduate of Canberra School of Music and the University of Melbourne, she furthered her studies in London and Vienna where she worked extensively with such groups as the Arnold Schönberg Chor, Concentus Vocalis Wien and NeuOper Wien.

Her numerous operatic roles include Greta in Brian Howard's *Metamorphosis* for Victorian Opera, the title role and Mercedes in *Carmen* for OzOpera, the lead soprano in *Opiume* for the Singapore and Hong Kong Arts Festivals, Eugenia in *Il Filosofo di Campagna* and the title role in Rameau's *Pygmalion* for Stopera and Mrs P in Michael Nyman's *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*. Most recently she was seen in Peter Maxwell Davies' seminal one-woman opera *Miss Donnithorne's Maggot* with Syzygy Ensemble and will create the role of Sophie in *From a Black Sky* in September for the Canberra Centenary Festival.

In demand as an exponent of new music, Judith has performed, recorded and premièred numerous vocal, operatic and chamber works by composers throughout Australia including Kevin March, Nicholas Vines, Mary Finsterer, Johanna Selleck, Stuart Greenbaum, Nirmali Fenn, Larry Sitsky, Peter Sculthorpe, Matthias Pintscher, John Taverner and György Kurtàg.

As an oratorio soloist Judith's repertoire has included *Carmina Burana* (Orff), *A Child of Our Time* (Tippett), Mozart's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah* and *Dixit Dominus*, Charpentier's *Te Deum*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* and numerous sacred works of Schubert, Haydn, Mozart and Bach. Judith is currently cantor and soloist at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Kerrie Bolton: Mezzo Soprano

BMusPerf, BEd, MMusPerf, VCA Opera Studio.

Kerrie performs regularly with Opera Australia (chorus, covers, OzOpera School's Company) and as a soloist in opera, oratorio and in concert.

With Adelaide's Co-Opera Kerrie has toured extensively throughout Australia and Germany as Third Lady in *The Magic Flute*, and in the title role of *Carmen*.

Other recent performances include the roles of Hansel and The Witch in *Hansel and Gretel* for Opera Australia's Oz Opera School's Company, as Guest Artist for The Opera Studio Melbourne performing the Stepmother in Phillip Glass's *The Juniper Tree* and Larina in *Eugene Onegin*, the title role of Kevin March's *Razing Hypatia (3Mask)* and in chorus for *Turandot*, *The Merry Widow* (Opera Australia) and *Nixon in China* (Victorian Opera). Future concert engagements include Schubert's *Mass in E flat*, Mendelssohn's *St Paul* (Camberwell Chorale), *Elijah* (Glen Eira City Choir) and Haydn's *Nelson Mass* (Victoria Chorale).

Paul Hughes: Bass Baritone

Paul Hughes is a graduate of The Victorian College of the Arts, holding a Bachelor of Music and Graduate Diploma in Opera. A performer of versatility, Paul moves with ease between the genres of opera, musical theatre, oratorio, art song, baroque and contemporary music.

Paul has performed as a principal artist for Opera Australia, Oz Opera, Cameron Macintosh, Really Useful Group, Production Company, Chamber Made Opera, Operalive, Co Opera, Stopera, Promac, The Australian Ballet's "*Sacred and Profane*" and "*Carmina Burana/Faure Requiem*" seasons.

Other roles Paul has performed include Snug in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Guglielmo in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, Le Fauteuil in Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, Le Tragique in Prokofiev's *L'Amour des Trois Oranges*, Morales in Bizet's *Carmen*, the title role in Donizetti's *Viva la Mama*, Don Tritemio in Galuppi's *The Country Philosopher*, Baron Duophol in Verdi's *La Traviata*, Dr Falke in Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, Lord Mountarat in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*, Sir William Hamilton in Stuart Greenbaum's opera *Nelson* and Mr Jenks in Aaron Copeland's *The Tender Land*.

Paul will be performing during Opera Australia's Ring Cycle season

over the next few months.

David Macfarlane

David Macfarlane is the organist at Newman College, for Canterbury Fellowship, and is on the staff of the University of Melbourne. He also teaches and accompanies at Methodist Ladies' College and St Michael's Grammar School.

David is active as an organist, harpsichordist and répétiteur, performing as soloist in recent weeks in the Twilight International Organ Series, Brisbane, and in St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. His post-graduate studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna were in church music, vocal training and choral conducting, harpsichord and organ performance; whilst in Vienna he officiated on the historically classified 1741 Dacci organ.

Orchestra Members:

Concertmaster and solo violin (Fauré): Susan Pierotti.

Violin 1: Susan Pierotti (Leader), Larissa Alguiar, Sophie Dunn, Loretta Meagher, Martin Welch, Moira Yffer.

Violin 2: Annabel Wyburn (Leader), Alyssa Kennedy, Karen Love, Daniel Neumann, Anthony Rossiter, Heng Lin Yeap.

Viola: Andrew Metaxas (Leader), Jules Cseszko, Daniel Neumann, Rebecca Parfitt, Antony Rossiter, Cheralyn Simpson, Martin Welch, Heng Lin Yeap.

Cello: Megan Smithies (Leader), Nikolai Sanadze, Janet Sim, Christine Vincent.

Double Bass: Ivan Sultanoff, Ian Wilmot.

Oboe: Stephen Moschner.

French Horn: Cate Waugh and Phoebe Smithies

Trumpet: Robert Harry

Harp: Huw Jones

Manager: Jennifer Stengards

THE STAR CHORALE

The Star Chorale is a Kew-based community choir dedicated to continuing and enhancing a tradition of excellence in the performance of choral music.

The choir comprises, but is not limited to, former students, staff members and families of students or friends of MLC (Methodist Ladies' College in Kew, Victoria).

Since the choir's first performance in November 2000 it has been delighting its audiences with a number of important choral works. These have included Faure's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem* and his *Grand Mass in C Minor*, Haydn's *Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Rutter's *Gloria*, the Verdi *Requiem*, Orf's *Carmina Burana* and Brahms' *A German Requiem*, as well as many shorter works. The choir's repertoire also includes music by Handel, Dyson, Schutz, Vaughan Williams, Britten and many other well-known composers.

Sopranos

Janet Allen, Jacqueline Brockbank, Miriam Carthew, Seraphina Carthew, Agnes Chee, Heather Clarke, Joy Darbyshire, Wendy Donovan, Helena Dunn, Joan Healy, Roswitha Horgan, Merle Lamb, Andrea Macdonald, Yochen Lan Machen, Sue MacLeod, Vicki McLachlan, Barbara McLaughlin, Megan McLaughlin, Liz McLeish, Lyn Miller, Carolyn Motteram, Lis Phillips, Nancy Pizzi, Chris Power, Carol Pullar, Maren Rawlings, Judith Robinson, Liz Seward, Lesley Tan, Jill Thorpe, Barbara Timcke and Sue Veljanovski.

Altos

Liz Anderson, Rosemary Breen, Kim Cahill, Joan Callahan, Mary-Anne Carmody, Helen Cracknell, Heather Evans, Robyn Fraser, Margaret Haines, Kaia Hillier, Pam Hjorth, Elaine Hobbs, Julie Huf,

Trish Johnson, Wendy Johnson, Margreta Kuiper, Roseanne Loh, Anne Loughnan, Suzanne Lucadou-Wells, Anne Matthews, Janet Matthew, Grace McAllister, Cas McFarlane, Joan McMeeken, Jo Metcalf, Kim O'Byrne, Liz Porter, Rosemary Ross, Jill Sanguinetti, Judy Shaw, Samantha Szeredi, Dianne Vale, Shirley Watson, Blanche White, Nell White and Mary Wright.

Tenors

Raymond Abbott, Alan Bailey, David Bevan, Jim Callahan, Chris Davie, John Dunham, Rod Findlay, Helen Funston, John Graves, Peter Hutchinson, Cameron MacIntosh, John McCallum, Ross Walker and Robert Wright.

Basses

Chris Ansell, Rob Carmichael, Jeff Castles, Paul Castley, Lindsay Cracknell, David Cotterill, Simon Eggleston, Alan Epstein, Gregg Gafon, David Grigg, Aaron McCaughal, Doug McLaughlin, Adrian Mill, Trevor Norris, Rupert Palmer, David Watson and Chris White.

Rehearsal Pianist: Joan Shewan

An accompanist from the age of 11, Joan gained her Bachelor of Music at Melbourne University. A former student of Roy Shepherd, she recently retired from teaching piano at Methodist Ladies College. She is an experienced accompanist, having played for the National Theatre Opera School and also for ballet classes. She has many years' experience in accompanying choirs, including the Camberwell Chorale and presently the Glen Eira City Choir, in addition to her role with the Star Chorale.

OUR NEXT CONCERT

The Star Chorale's next concert will be held in the MLC Chapel on Sunday, 1st December 2013 and will include Christmas music and community carol singing. Please check our website (www.starchorale.org) for more details.

Invitation to Choristers

We are always pleased to welcome new choristers. Auditions are not generally held, but the ability to hold a tune is essential. An ability to read music is also a big advantage. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening in excellent facilities at MLC, Barkers Road, Kew.

Further information, including application forms, can be obtained from the Star Chorale's website, by telephone on (03) 9379 8181, via email to robymf@myaccess.com.au, or by post to The Star Chorale, PO Box 942, Templestowe, 3106.

Acknowledgements

We extend our grateful thanks to the following for their assistance:

- MLC: especially the staff of the Music School;
- Members of The Star Chorale Committee: President – Maren Rawlings; Vice President – Joan McMeeken; Secretary – Robyn Fraser; Treasurer – Chris White; Assistant Members – Jenny Stengards, Jeff Castles, Suzanne Lucadou-Wells, Samantha Szeredi, David Grigg, Rod Findlay, Robert Wright and Honorary Member – Jane Elton Brown.
- Many members of the choir who make a special contribution to our enjoyment, well-being and public presentation.
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RECORDING

This performance is being recorded, and a CD will be available for purchase early in July 2013 at a cost of \$20 plus post and packaging.

Please visit www.starchorale.org/recordings for more details.

presented by
The Star Chorale and Orchestra
30 June 2013

www.starchorale.org