

Sloane Square Choral Society

Newsletter March 2013

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Welcome to our second newsletter. We hope you find this of interest and will contribute items of news for future issues. As well as being circulated electronically, printed copies will be available at rehearsals thanks to the generous support of **The bookHaus**.

Our **EASTER CONCERT** is on **Sunday 17 March at 7pm**. **Mozart's Requiem, Ave verum corpus** and the **Clarinet Concerto**. Mystery and intrigue continue to surround the two-hundred-year-old requiem which is one of today's most popular choral works. Featuring Rebecca Hardwick *soprano*, Ben Williamson *alto*, John McMunn *tenor* and Nicholas Morris *bass*, with Harriet Hougham Slade *clarinet*.

Amadé As a small token of their appreciation for the huge effort made by everyone at SSCS to make the world premiere performance of *Incarnation* such a resounding success, Thomas Hewitt Jones and Paul Williamson have written a short encore for us to perform at our Easter Concert. Entitled *Amadé*, this three-minute piece for choir and orchestra takes the form of an affectionate portrait of the young Mozart that concludes with an exhilarating rendition of one of Mozart's best-known melodies. Sneak previews suggest that this brand new work from our composer- and writer-in-residence will provide us with a wonderful, rousing finale to our splendid concert!

Donations There is a suggested donation of £50 per term which goes towards the running of SSCS.

Posters and leaflets Please spread the word by helping to distribute posters and leaflets to shops, offices, churches, etc.

Advertisers and sponsors are always needed for our programmes. A full page in our amazing concert programme costs only £400, and half a page is £200. Please contact admin@sloanesquarechoralsociety.com

Jazz at The London Sketch Club, 7 Dilke Street, SW3 4JE A monthly evening of music hosted by The Lallemand Trio

Friday **22 March** & Thursday **25 April**

Tickets: £15 Drinks: Affordable!

The Sketch Club is a small, cosy venue.

Email trio@lallemand.com for more information.

Doors: 8-11pm, Music 8:15-10:10pm with breaks.

Reservations requested, though tickets will be available on the door.

Phone The Chelsea Arts Club on 0207 376 3311 to pay by card.

All profits go towards Sloane Square Choral Society's Scholarships Fund.

Peter Williamson The very first member of SSCS, Peter sings bass in the choir and has always been closely involved with classical music. In the burgeoning early music scene of the 1970s he was a founding member of the Early Music Centre, and worked as a lutenist, accompanying singers. These days Peter runs his own design company specialising in producing programmes and publicity material associated with classical music. For the past thirty years Peter has been responsible for the bulk of programmes and related advertising material for The Wigmore Hall. First-class editing and design is an extremely time-consuming job, and this year promises to be busier than ever for Peter as the musical world embarks on a year of celebrations in honour of the centenary of Benjamin Britten's birth. Despite the pressures of work, however, Peter has already prepared the beautiful leaflet for this term's concert, including the gorgeous image by Boticelli that will also be seen on our programme and banner. We owe Peter a huge debt of gratitude for generously donating his time and expertise in order to design and produce the stunning programmes, leaflets, and banners that add more than a touch of magic to our musical life at SSCS.

Heinz Schumi For the past two years Heinz Schumi, a great friend and loyal follower of the choir, has been fighting an ongoing battle to retain his hairdressing premises at 18 Britten Street, SW3. Schumi's celebrity supporters (and clients!) include Jenny Agutter and Jilly Cooper. Have a look at The Battle for Britten Street on YouTube, introduced by the eminent 'design guru' Stephen Bayley. Schumi cuts men's and women's hair and offers special rates to members of SSCS. If you would like to book an appointment, call Schumi on 020 7352 6504.

Chelsea Music Ben Williamson and Thomas Pocock have started a new music agency called Chelsea Music which provides professional classical and jazz musicians of the finest quality for weddings and private events. Our choral singers perform with the world's greatest choirs, and our instrumentalists are top conservatoire graduates. Please don't hesitate to contact us to discuss your particular requirements: enquiries@chelseamusic.co.uk • 020 7460 0987 • www.chelseamusic.co.uk

Accommodation needed Olly's sister, Rebecca (Bec) Lallemand, who sings soprano in the choir, is looking for a place to live, preferably somewhere near South Kensington where she has been living for the past few years. If you happen to know someone who has a small, self-contained flat or suitable living space that might be available at friendly rates, please contact Bec at rebecca@lallemand.com

A Classical Idyll Are you in search of an unimaginably idyllic break, a treat for mind and body alike? This summer one of our very earliest patrons, art historian Dr Amal Asfour, is taking a small group on a tour of Aphrodisias and the Ceramic Gulf in Turkey. Also accompanying the trip is Andrew Wilson, Professor of Archaeology at Oxford, who will draw on his unparalleled expertise to give a fascinating series of informal talks. After two full and exciting days visiting the breathtaking ancient city of Aphrodisias along with several smaller, enchanting and little-visited classical sites, guests will spend a week on a gulet (a Turkish sailing boat sleeping 12), discovering the beautiful coast of the gulf south of Bodrum. The food on board is marvellous, the swimming is a pleasure, the Greek and Roman ruins are spectacular, and travelling in the company of a world expert on the subject will make this an unforgettable experience. The trip, organised by Westminster Classic Tours, runs from **26th June to 6th July**. For more details contact Mandy Cunningham at the Westminster Classic Tours office: 020 8785 3191 or visit www.westminsterclassictours.com

Sally Knyvette (alto) is directing **Judgment at Nuremberg** at the The Bridewell Theatre, EC4Y 8EQ from the **20 - 23 March**. Written by the Oscar winning Abby Mann this is one of the most powerful plays about the Holocaust. The production is in aid of Paul's Cancer Support Centre and features a cast of actors who are all legal professionals and therefore have unique insight into what it means to practice law as they take to the stage to judge the judges. Box office: www.paulscancersupport.org.uk/judgement

Robin Farquhar-Thomson (bass) writes – My brother has an excellent new novel and I can recommend it as I have already read it. It could be the one that makes him famous (finally). Please buy it. If you pre-order it from Amazon you get it a lot cheaper at £10.00 – It is called Secrecy by Rupert Thomson and is a strange story of intrigue, love, murder, and the main character carves sinister things out of wax. It is published by Granta. Thank you and I hope you enjoy it as much as I did. If you do, it would help Rupert if you write a stunning review on the Amazon feedback page too! Love from Robin F-T. [another good reason to pop into the bookHaus!]



We have been sent complimentary tickets for two events that we think will be of interest to you that are taking place at Chelsea Town Hall. The Chelsea Antiques Fair (**March 13-17**) is an annual event of approximately 38 fine quality, specialist dealers. Prices start at £100 going up to about £10,000. The new Chelsea Art Fair (April 11-14) offers contemporary and modern works of art from respected dealers in London and further a-field. Prices range from £500 - £20,000. Up-to-date information including opening times and details on tours can be found on www.penman-fairs.co.uk & www.chelseaartfair.org

SSCS Summer Term Music Announced! Felix Mendelssohn: *Hear My Prayer* & Franz Schubert: *Mass in G, D.167*

Choral Scholar Success! Many congratulations to Eilish Cassidy for attaining a place at Caius College, Cambridge University to read Theology and to Rebecca Hardwick for being awarded a scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music.

Can you do more than sing? We would like to establish a list of volunteer friends – recording engineers, photographers, caterers, drivers, florists, celebrities, publicists, etc. Any way in which you can help would be hugely appreciated! Please contact admin@sloansquarechoralsociety.com

Choir members are invited to submit items of news and information for publication in future newsletters. Please contact David Shreeve at newsletter@sloansquarechoralsociety.com

This newsletter is supported by **The bookHaus**, an independent bookshop just minutes from Holy Trinity. (Walk up Sloane Street and turn right at Cadogan Place.) Open until 7pm daily, The bookHaus is ideally situated to visit before Monday evening rehearsals. The bookHaus stocks biography, history, photography, politics and fiction, as well as titles on art, theatre, film and music. Bring this newsletter with you to receive a **30% discount** on all purchases.

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Newsletter designed by Ben Williamson