LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

CONDUCTOR

St. James in-the-City
March 1, 2020
6:00 PM

THE CHOIR OF
SAINT JAMES
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

JAMES BUONEMANI
CONDUCTOR

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NEXT WEEK

**Sunday, March 8, Great Music** presents **THE CHOIR OF SAINT JAMES** performing a service of Solemn Evensong at **4:30 PM**, followed at **6:00 PM** by **MALCOLM MATTHEWS** on the *International Laureates Organ Series*.

**ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

The **CHOIR OF SAINT JAMES** is made up of amateur and professional adult musicians from the Los Angeles metropolitan area. Under the direction of Choirmaster James Buonemani since 1995, it is the first American choir to have sung in performance with the Choir of Westminster Abbey, London. The Choir of Saint James has been honored to serve three times as Westminster Abbey’s choir-in-residence and they have toured four times throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland in such venues as Canterbury Cathedral, St. George’s Chapel Windsor Castle, Christ Church Cathedral Oxford, Wells Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral Dublin, and St. Nicholas Collegiate Church, Galway. Please visit STJLA.org for more information.

The Choir of Saint James has recently released a new album entitled *O Beauty Ever Ancient Ever New* on the Gothic label. Reviewing the album for the *Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians*, John Palmer writes “This recording has been a musical highlight of my year. . .the musical forces could not be better. . .this CD is nothing short of genius in its conception and execution.” Jack Sullivan reviews the album in the *American Record Guide* with “pristine purity. . .a wonderful choral collection, full of variety and adventure, mostly radiant and serene but with moments of melancholy and subtle disturbance.” CDs are available following this concert. Please visit STJLA.org/album to order a copy.
THE CHOIR OF SAINT JAMES

Edward Murray Chapel Organist
Jae Park Assistant Conductor
James Buonemani Organist and Director of Music
The Rev. Dr. Kate Cress Rector

PROGRAM

I.
Ēriks Ešenvalds
Magnificat (Merton College, Oxford)

Ola Gjeilo
Second Eve

Vytautas Miškinis
Dum medium silentium

II.
William Walton
A Litany

Herbert Howells
Take him, earth, for cherishing

III.
Ola Gjeilo
Ubi caritas et amor

Arvo Pärt
The Beatitudes

Ola Gjeilo
Northern Lights

IV.
Henry Balfour Gardiner
Evening Hymn

Will Todd
I am changed

Morten Lauridsen
Sure on this shining night
Ériks Ešenvalds (b. 1977)

**Magnificat** (Merton College, Oxford)

*Magnificat anima mea Dominum;*
*Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo,*
*Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae;*
*ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.*
*Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est,*
*et sanctum nomen ejus,*
*Et misericordia ejus a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.*
*Fecit potentiam in brachio suo;*
*Dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.*
*Deposuit potentes de sede,*
et exaltavit humiles. *Esurientes implevit bonis,*
et divites dimisit inanes. *Suscepit Israel, puerum suum,*
recordatus misericordiae suae,**
*Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,*
Abraham et semini ejus in saecula. *Gloria Patri,*
et Filio,*
et Spiritui Sancto:*
*Sicut erat in principio,* et nunc, et semper:*

(Luke 1:46-55)

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

**Second Eve**

*Sancta Maria, Regina caeli,*
dulcis et pia, *o mater Dei:* or a pro nobis pecatoribus,*
*ut eum electis videamus.*
*Ave Maria, gratia plena,*
Dominus tecum: *Benedicta tu in mulieribus,*
*Et benedictus frustus ventris tuui,*
Jesus Christus. Amen.

(Medieval Latin Marian Hymn)

Vytautas Miškinis (b. 1954)

**Dum medium silentium**

*Dum medium silentium tenerent omnia,*
*Et nox in suo cursu edium iter haberet,*
*Omnipotens sermo tuus, Domine,*
*De caelis a regalibus sedibus venit.*

(Introit for the Sunday after Christmas)
II.

William Walton (1902-1983)

A Litany

Drop, drop, slow tears,
And bathe those beauteous feet
Which brought from heaven
The news and Prince of Peace.
Cease not, wet eyes,
His mercy to entreat;

(Phineas Fletcher, 1582-1650)

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Take him, earth, for cherishing

Take him, earth, for cherishing
To thy tender breast receive him.
Body of a man I bring thee,
Noble even in its ruin.

Once was this a spirit's dwelling,
By the breath of God created.
High the heart that here was beating,
Christ the prince of all its living.

Guard him well, the dead I give thee,
Not unmindful of his creature
Shall He ask it: He who made it
Symbol of His mystery.

Comes the hour God hath appointed
To fulfill the hope of men,
Then must thou, in very fashion,
What I give, return again.

Body of a man I bring thee.
Not though ancient time decaying
Wear away these bones to sand,
Ashes that a man might treasure
In the hollow of his hand:

Not though wandering winds and idle winds,
Drifting through the empty sky,
Scatter dust was nerve and sinew,
Is it given to man to die.

Once again the shining road
Leads to ample Paradise;
Open are the woods again,
That the Serpent lost for men.

Take, O take him, mighty Leader,
Take again thy servant's soul.

Grave his name, and pour the fragrant
Balm upon the icy stone.

Take him, earth, for cherishing.

(Prudentius (348-413), from Humnus circa Exsequias Defuncti translated by Helen Waddell)
III.

Ola Gjeilo

**Ubi caritas et amor**

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.*
*Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.*
*Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur.*
*Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.*
*Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

(Prophecies for Maundy Thursday)

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

**The Beatitudes**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.  
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.  
Rejoice and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Amen.

(Matthew 5:3-11)

Ola Gjeilo

**Northern Lights**

*Pulchra es, amica mea,*  
*suavis et decora sicut Jerusalem,*  
*Pulchra es, amica mea,*  
*suavis et decora sicut Jerusalem,*  
*terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata.*  
*Averte oculos tuos a me,*  
*quia ipsi me avolare fecerunt.*

(From Song of Solomon)
Henry Balfour Gardiner (1877-1950)

**Evening Hymn**

Te lucis ante terminum,  
Rerum Creator, poscimus  
Ut pro tua clementia  
Sis praesul et custodia.  

Procul recedant somnia  
Et noctium phantasmata,  
Hostemque nostrum comprime  
Ne polluantur corpora.  

Praesta, Pater piissime  
Patrique compar unice  
Cum Spiritu Paraclito  
Regnans per omne saeculum. Amen.

(8th century Roman Breviary Hymn)

Will Todd (b. 1970)

**I am changed**

I have found an earthly throne,  
in this bare place, this humble home.  
The greatest love the world has known,  
Heaven’s child resting below.

I have found where I belong.  
I have heard the perfect song;  
Angel voices from above,  
Heaven’s child given by God’s love.

(Will Todd)

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

**Sure on this shining night**

Sure on this shining night  
Of star made shadows round,  
Kindness must watch for me  
This side the ground.

The late year lies down the north.  
All is healed, all is health.  
High summer holds the earth.  
Hearts all whole.

Sure on this shining night  
I weep for wonder  
Wand’ring far alone  
Of shadows on the stars.

(James Agee, 1909-1955)

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