

Handel | House
Museum

Christmas through the Ages
Pegasus Choir



Sunday 9 December 2012, 5.30pm
At Grosvenor Chapel



Programme

Welsh Traditional
Deck the Halls

Thomas Tallis
Videte Miraculum

Anon c.1420
There is no Rose

Appalachian arr. Rutter
I wander as I wander

German traditional arr. Pearsall
In Dulci Jubilo

Francis Poulenc
Quem Vidistis Pastores
Hodie Christus Natus Est

Herbert Howells
Sing Lullaby

Jonathan Rathbone
The Oxen

James Macmillan
O Radiant Dawn

Welsh Traditional arr. Morgan
Suo Gan

Franz Gruber arr. Guttridge
Silent Night

English Trad. arr. Warrell
We wish you a Merry Christmas

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off during the concert. Photography is not allowed anywhere in Grosvenor Chapel.

Pegasus

Pegasus has established a reputation as one of London's most versatile chamber choirs. Its members are experienced singers who pursue their passion for choral music alongside careers in other fields.



The choir's extensive repertoire embraces sacred and secular music from the Renaissance to the present day. It has premiered works by composers including John Tavener and Thomas Adès, and in September 2012 gave the world premiere of two pieces commissioned by the choir from Francis Grier, *A Baby Asleep* and *Pax*. Pegasus has worked with the London Handel Players under Laurence Cummings and the Southbank Sinfonia under John Rutter, and in 2010 and 2011 the choir performed at the London Coliseum with renowned ballet dancer Carlos Acosta.

Pegasus was a semi-finalist in the BBC Choir of the Year competition in 2005 and a prize-winner at the 2007 Tolosa International Choral Competition in Spain. The choir was selected to participate in the 2010 Guido d'Arezzo International Choral Competition in Italy, and has been featured on Channel 4, Classic FM and BBC Radio 3. Its CD, *Twelve Days – A Celebration of Christmas*, is available online.

Pegasus's future performances include Rachmaninov's *Vespers* at St Martin-in-the-Fields on January 24, 2013 and Handel's *Messiah* at Grosvenor Chapel on March 23. You can find out more about these and other concerts, and join our mailing list, at www.pegasusmusic.org.uk, visit us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter @pegasuschoir.

Matthew Altham has been the director of Pegasus since 2001. He began conducting choirs while studying at Oxford University and led performances of music by Poulenc and the major English Renaissance composers.

Alongside his work as a management consultant, Matthew directs Pegasus, Vox Cordis and the London Bach Players, with whom he has performed on several occasions in Pau, France. He has toured as a conductor to Prague, Tolosa, Arezzo and Antwerp and has broadcast on BBC Radio and Classic FM. Matthew also sings regularly in the church choir of St Mary the Virgin, Bourne Street, London.

January concerts at Handel House Museum

Tickets: £9, £5 students

Booking line: 020 7399 1953

English Songs and Cantatas

Thursday 3 January 6.30-7.30pm

Acarta Baroque perform Carey's lampooning *Musical Hodge Podge* and cantata *Venus & Adonis* by Pepusch. Acarta Baroque are Elin Harries (soprano), Carina Drury (cello) and Nathaniel Mander (harpsichord).

British Harpsichord Society Recital: *The Most Celebrated Aires*

Tuesday 8 January 6.30-7.30pm

Conductor and harpsichordist Christopher Bucknall will perform transcriptions for the harpsichord of opera arias and overtures by Lully, Purcell, Handel and Rameau.

At the home of Mozart

Thursday 10 January 6.30-7.30pm

Mozart was a great improviser and in this spirit David Gordon (harpsichord) and Jennifer Bennett (violin and cello) will improvise variations and sonatas over melodies by him and his contemporaries.

French Sojourn

Thursday 17 January 6.30-7.30pm

Ensemble Baroque presents a delightful evening of French baroque music for soprano, viola da gamba and harpsichord. Ensemble Baroque are Emily Armour (soprano), Donald Bennet (viola da gamba) and Petra Hajduchova (harpsichord).

Bachfest

Thursday 24 January 6.30-7.30pm

The Wright Trio will perform a programme of JS Bach flutes sonatas, the beautiful and inventive mainstay of the flute repertoire.

All The King's Men

Thursday 31 January 6.30-7.30pm

Cheyls will perform consort music from the courts of Charles I and II including works by John Cooper, Matthew Locke, John Jenkins and Henry Purcell. Cheyls are Ibi Aziz, Alison Kinder, Emily Ashton and Jennifer Bullock (viols).

Exhibition

Included in admission charge: £6, £5 concession, £2 (children free on Sat and Sun)

Charles Jennens: the man behind Handel's '*Messiah*'

21 November 2012 – 14 April 2013

A major new exhibition at Handel House Museum explores the life, work and character of Handel's great collaborator Charles Jennens and who provided the composer with words that inspired some of his most challenging and exciting music such as *Messiah*.

Find out more about Handel House Museum at www.handelhouse.org