

### **The Program**

Behold, O God our defender	Herbert Howells
Ubi caritas Notre Père	Maurice Duruflé
O sacrum convivium	Gabriel Jackson
Justorum animae Beati quorum via	Charles Villiers Stanford
Take Him, Earth, for Cherishing	Herbert Howells
Missa "in simplicitate"	Jean Langlais

### **Graduate Singers**

Ali How Alison Day Annemarie Monck Arran Stewart Bill Schwenker Cassia Flashtig Cathy Lock Chris Rawlinson Chris Steketee	Frances Owen Helen Carrig Janet Henrie Janet Buchan Jo Pike Karen Lewis Linda Brugman Lisa Catinari Martin Day	Paul Henning Peter Bleby Peter Watt Phil Lock Rob Cox Ryan Cutherbertson Sarah Graves Sarah O'Brien Su Coutts
	Jo Pike	Rob Cox
	Karen Lewis	Ryan Cutherbertson
_	Linda Brugman	Sarah Graves
•	Lisa Catinari	Sarah O'Brien
Chris Steketee	Martin Day	Su Coutts
Corinna Benett	Mary Sandwell	Susan Murdoch
Craig Weatherill	Melinda Pike	Dee Dooland
David Rohrsheim	Patricia O'Rourke	Matt Winefield

# **Acknowledgements**

As well as our talented musicians, Graduate Singers would like to thank all those behind the scenes who have helped bring this concert to fruition, in particular:

St Peter's Cathedral
Pilgrim Uniting Church
Paddy McGee, Recording Engineer
Our front of house staff, Gillian Dooley and Lou McGee

### **Program notes and texts**

Tonight's program brings together some of the most attractive sacred music of the past 100 years. Despite the relative modernity of the pieces there is great contrast between them. The earliest are Stanford's motets from 1905, fine examples of that composer's sense of structure and style. Stanford's student Herbert Howells wrote the short but challenging *Behold*, *O God our defender* as the introit for the Coronation of Elizabeth II in 1953. His remarkable setting of *Take Him, Earth, for Cherishing*, on Helen Waddell's fine translation of a text by Prudentius (348-413) was composed in memory of John F. Kennedy and was first performed at the late President's memorial service. It is widely acknowledged as one of the composer's finest works. The contemporary British composer Gabriel Jackson, a great admirer of Howells' choral writing, wrote his setting of the communion motet *O sacrum convivium* in 1990, perhaps also influenced by Olivier Messiaen's famous setting of the same text.

The French content in tonight's concert comes from Maurice Duruflé and his contemporary, the blind organist and composer Jean Langlais. Both men were influenced by plainsong and this is evident through the former's exquisite motets and the latter's mass for unison voices, each work providing a distinctive take on their respective composers' ability to create something modern from ancient ideas.

Behold, O God our defender...... Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

Behold, O God our defender: and look upon the face of thine anointed. For one day in thy courts: is better than a thousand.

Ubi Caritas ......Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

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

Where there is charity and love, God is there. Love brings us together in one Christ.

We therefore rejoice in it.

Let us fear and love the living God.

And from the heart let us devote ourselves with sincerity.

Where there is charity and love,

God is there. Amen.

# Notre Père......Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain quotidien. Pardonne-nous nos offenses comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous soumets pas a la tentation, Mais délivre-nous du Mal.

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

# O sacrum convivium......Gabriel Jackson (b.1962)

O sacrum convivium! in quo Christus sumitur: recolitur memoria passionis eius: mens impletur gratia: et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur. Alleluia.

O sacred banquet! in which Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory to us is given. Alleluia.

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt, Et non tanget illos tormentum malitiae. Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori, Illi autem sunt in pace.

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God; there shall no torment or malice touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seem to die, but they are in peace.

Beati quorum via integra est, qui ambulant in lege Domini.

Beati quorum via......Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Blessed are those whose way is pure, who walk in the law of the Lord.

### Take Him, Earth, for Cherishing...... Herbert Howells

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, To they tender breast receive him. Body of a man I bring thee, Noble in its ruin.

By the breath of God created. Christ the prince of all its living.

Take him earth, for cherishing.

—Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348–413), from *Humnus circa Exsequias Defuncti* translated by Helen Waddell.

### Peter Kelsall, Conductor

Peter Kelsall completed his Bachelor of Music degree in 1989 at Adelaide University studying piano with Zelda Bock. He commenced organ studies with Christa Rumsey in 1987 and completed a Graduate Diploma in Performance on the instrument in 1993. In 1998 he completed his Masters Degree in Music Theory. He also holds a Certificate in Church Music from the Flinders Street School of Music TAFE and has undertaken studies in choral conducting with Carl Crossin.

As an organist Peter has given recitals in the Adelaide Town Hall, St. Peter's Cathedral, Pilgrim Church and at various locations for the Organ Music Society of Adelaide for which he was a committee member for a number of years. He has played with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra on many occasions, including performances of Saint Saens' Organ' Symphony, Holst's Planets, Handel's Messiah, Mahler's Symphony no. 2 and the 2010 Adelaide Festival performances of Ligeti's opera Le Grande Macabre and Mahler's Symphony no. 8. He has also played on a number of occasions with the Adelaide Art Orchestra.

Peter has performed with many Adelaide choirs, including the Adelaide Chamber Singers, Syntony, Adelaide Philharmonia Chorus, Graduate Singers, Corinthian Singers, Elder Conservatorium Chorale and the Adelaide and Flinders Universities Choral Societies.

In 1995 he was appointed Organist and Choir Director at Pilgrim Uniting Church in the city where he continues to build on this church's strong musical tradition. Pilgrim has recently developed a tradition of 'importing' some of the world's best organists to Adelaide to play for services and to give recitals on the church's organ (South Australia's largest). As a result of this initiative Peter has had the opportunity in recent years to work with highly distinguished organists including Thomas Trotter, David Goode, Benjamin Bayl, Clive Driskill-Smith, Simon Preston and John Scott.

An honorary life member of the Adelaide University Choral Society, he has been their Musical Director since 1997. With AUCS he has conducted a wide range of repertoire, from Palestrina to Pink Floyd and most things in between.

Peter is in demand as an accompanist and has been associated with a number of choirs in this capacity. He is also a piano, organ and music theory teacher and works as an accompanist and music tutor at Walford School. He has a particular interest in the music of J.S. Bach as well as organ and choral music from 20th century England and France.

### Karl Geiger, Organ

Karl Geiger is a graduate of both the Elder Conservatorium of Music and the University of Melbourne. An active accompanist, Karl was the inaugural winner of the Diana Harris Prize for Accompanying and the winner of the 2010 Geoffrey Parsons Award for Accompaniment.

Karl's passion for vocal and choral music has lead to extensive and varied involvement in the choral music scenes in both Adelaide and Melbourne as an accompanist and performance pianist and organist. He was Organ Scholar at St Peter's Cathedral in 2005 and 2006 where he was heavily involved in the music program as both organist and chorister. He has enjoyed considerable success as a guest choral accompanist, having been engaged by a wide range of ensembles including The Corinthian Singers, the Flinders, Adelaide and Melbourne University Choral Societies, the Australian Children's Choir, the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Society and the Adelaide Chamber Singers.

Karl has also been actively involved in choral music as a singer and director. He studied conducting under Carl Crossin at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, with particular focus on choral direction. His activities as a choral director include directing the St Peter's Cathedral Choir of Adelaide in rehearsal, services and weddings; Elder Conservatorium opera productions; guest rehearsal director for choirs including the Flinders and Melbourne University Choral Societies and the Australian Children's Choir.

Karl is currently the accompanist for the three classical choirs of the Elder Conservatorium of Music and the First Concert Choir of Young Adelaide Voices. From September 2012 Karl will take up his new appointment as Musical Director of Graduate Singers.

# For your diary

Cristemas concert ......8pm December 8, St Peter's Cathedral

Our traditional Christmas concert remains an audience favourite. This year Graduate Singers will be under the baton of Karl Geiger for a selection of well known and lesser known gems of the Christmas period.

For more details or to get on our mailing list, email graduatesingers@gmail.com

