

St Columba's Church Stirling

Christmas Concert

Music for recorders & voices

The Scottish Recorder Orchestra
Conductor Eileen Silcocks

Cathures Chamber Choir
Conductor Katy Cooper

Sunday 11th December 2011
6.0pm-7pm

Voluntary donation
on the door in aid of a local charity



This piece first appeared in John Forbes *Songs and Fancies* in Aberdeen in 1662, thought to be one of the first collections of secular Scottish music published. The spelling "Jebusalem" is as it appears in the original printed edition, which only provides the melody and twelve verses! This arrangement is by the late Kenneth Elliott.

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Trad. Arr. S Rosin

A popular and well known Christmas carol arranged here for recorder orchestra. The arranger uses the orchestra skilfully, harnessing different sound qualities from the instruments to add colour and variety. These range from sharp tonguing through to percussive accompaniments as well as moments of lyricism. Watch out for an interloping King!

Beati immaculate in via William Mundy

William Mundy (c.1529–1591) lived at a time of religious turmoil which saw Henry VIII's schism with Rome, the establishment of a Protestant church under Edward VI, the re-establishment of the Roman Catholic church under Mary Tudor and the reintroduction of the Protestant Episcopal church on the accession of Elizabeth I. Mundy worked in London as a chorister in various churches, including Westminster Abbey. He was eventually elected Gentleman of the Chapel Royal in 1564 until 1591. His surviving works are all sacred. He was regarded as one of the outstanding composers of the time, as is shown in the following play on his name:

Dies lunae/ Ut lucem solis sequitur lux proxima lunae/ Sic tu post
Birdum Munde secunde venis.
[Mundy (literally 'moon day')/ As the light of the sun is closely
followed by the light of the moon/ Thus you, Mundy, come second
after Byrd.]

Beati immaculati in via: qui ambulant in lege Domini.

Beati qui scrutantur testimonia ejus: in toto corde exquirent eum.

Non enim qui operantur iniquitatem in viis ambulaverunt.

Tu mandasti mandata tua custodire nimis

Blessed are the undefiled in the way who walk in the law of the Lord.

Blessed are they who keep his testimonies and seek him with their whole heart.

They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

You have commanded us to keep your precepts diligently.

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Jebusalem Trad. Arr. Elliott

Utinam dirigantur viae meae ad
custodiendas justificationes tuas.

Tunc non confundar cum perspexero in
omnibus mandatis tuis.

Trio: Confitebor tibi in directione cordis in
eo quod didici judicia justitiae tuae.

Justificationes tuas custodiam, non me
derelinquas usqueaque. Amen

Psalm 118 (119): 1–8

O that my ways were directed to your
statutes!

Then I would not be ashamed when I look
into all your commandments.

I will praise you with righteousness of heart,
when I learn your righteous judgements.

I will keep your statutes. O do not forsake
me utterly. Amen.

Unto thee lift I up mine eyesJohn Mundy (c1555-1630)

Little is known of the life of John Mundy (c.1555–1630), William Mundy's elder son. He was organist at St George's Chapel, Windsor. He graduated BMus at Oxford in 1586 and DMus in 1624. The dedication of his *Songs and Psalmes* (1594) which includes 'To your delight, I consecrate my duties, and offer up my nights' labours for your days' pleasures', suggests that he had secured the patronage of its dedicatee, Robert Devereux, second Earl of Essex. His surviving works are mainly sacred but some madrigals are also extant.

A solis ortus cardineMichael Praetorius (1571 – 1621)

Although performed here as an instrumental work, the first verse of the Christmas-inspired text follows with broad translation!

A solis ortus cardine
adusque terrae limitem
Christum canamus Principem
natum Maria Virgine.

From lands that see the sun arise,
to earth's remotest boundaries,
the Virgin-born today we sing
the Son of Mary, Christ the King

Ecce DominusHieronymus Praetorius (1560 – 1629)

Ecce, Dominus veniet
et omnes sancti ejus cum eo,
Et erit in die illa lux magna.
Et exhibit de Jerusalem
Sicut aqua munda.

Behold, the Lord will come
and all his saints with him
and on that day there will be great light.
And out of Jerusalem
like flowing water.

Et regnabit Dominus
In aeternum super omnes gentes.
Alleluia.

And the Lord will reign
Forever, over all people.
Alleluia.

Richard Runciman Terry (1865–1938), organist, choirmaster, composer and editor, was one of several musicians in the late nineteenth century who did much to rescue Tudor church music from obscurity. His *Twelve Christmas Carols* were published in 1912 with the intriguing dedication 'To my wife (In

memory of Christmas, 1909)'. Terry's melodies are like many traditional folk tunes andwassailing songs – a demonstration of his skill at writing in a style in keeping with his texts.

Tryste Noel: a song for Christmastide . Richard Runciman Terry (1865-1938)

Joseph and the Angel R R Terry

Christ was born on Christmas Day R R Terry

The King's birthday R R Terry

Säbeltanz & Paso Doble..... Dietrich Schnabel (b.1968)

Dietrich Schnabel is a German conductor, composer and friend of the Scottish Recorder Orchestra. These two dances were written in August of this year and have become an instant favourite with the orchestra. The Säbeltanz (Sabre dance) takes no prisoners. It is full of the rhythmic drive you'd expect from its eastern European influences and requires some serious dexterity in the larger instruments. The Paso Doble will have you looking around for the bull!

Ecce Novum Gaudium..... Trad. arr. Elliott

Another Christmas melody from John Forbes *Songs and Fancies*.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to the congregation of St Columba's Church, Stirling for hosting our concert tonight, Jean MacDonald for the advertising artwork, the front of house team and to all those who have contributed behind the scenes – you are all appreciated!

A retiring collection will be made after the concert in aid of a local Stirling Charity.

Scottish Recorder Orchestra

www.sro.org.uk

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Cathures

www.cathures.org