

Choir News

Pentland Singers

June 2017

Edition 3

Summer Concert Feedback- Making Music It's Official – the concerts were a success!

“The choir gave a sterling performance...you all made a lovely sound...it was a very cleverly balanced programme...the transition from the cathedral through the Humming Chorus to the Rogers & Hammerstein, was a great choice... the finale with various solos from the choir was really entertaining ... the final number of “When you walk through a storm” was particularly moving... your soloists were outstanding...the pianist is a wonderful player and had us all marvelling at her virtuosity...the Junior Singers have improved greatly and are growing in confidence and

precision...they gave a very entertaining performance.”

Convenor's News

We look forward to the coming year with new music to learn and a varied and exciting repertoire to master.

.....

We hope to have an audio recording made of us in the coming months, to show us off at our best – more about that later.

.....

Thanks to all of you for making our recent concerts so successful.

Running the choir

Autumn term is AGM time and this year we are looking to appoint a new Convenor and a Treasurer. We also need some new committee members. If you would be interested in taking a more active role in helping the choir run smoothly, please contact any of the committee for more information.

Thanks to:

Rowena for being librarian

Ruth for being the best ticket seller

Russell for representing the Pentland Singers on the Balerno Music Festival committee

Glynis for putting up the banner each week

Sara for designing our tickets, posters and programmes

Grant for coordinating the staging

A Word from Michael

Brahms Ein Deutsches Requiem

You will see from the music list below that one of the exciting works we have planned for the coming year is Brahms A German Requiem. This was requested by a number of our members in our recent repertoire questionnaire. In learning this new work throughout the year, and in performing it in our summer 2018 concert, we can build upon the success of the Puccini Messa di Gloria. We have sung a number of Latin requiems in recent memory but this will be our first large-scale choral work in the German language. Neither Ailsa nor I have performed the

Brahms Requiem before, and there will undoubtedly be exciting challenges for us all along the way. We are in the happy position of having the different strengths and areas of expertise in our midst to allow us to really make the piece a success. Ailsa's wonderful accompanying skills will make light work of Brahms' orchestral keyboard reduction, and we also have an expert German language coach in Beate Dennis, who has kindly agreed to guide us in the text and pronunciation. Jessica has reminded me that she has sung Brahms Requiem at the BBC

Proms before, and I've no doubt that she would make a fine soloist in our performances. Musically, I hope that you will find the Brahms Requiem to be a beautiful and rewarding work to sing. In many ways it is more straightforward to learn and sing than the Puccini. Like the Puccini though, we will take our time and get to know the piece over the course of the year. If you get the chance, please do listen to it over the summer — you won't regret it!

Music for 2017/18

BMF Come and Sing Beatles (7 October 2017)

All you need is love; Hey Jude; When I'm 64; Twist and Shout; Sgt Pepper / With a little help from my friends; Hello Goodbye

PLUS guest appearance solos and ensembles

Christmas Concert: Christmas around the world

An international programme of carols and Christmas music including:

Vaughan Williams Fantasia on Christmas carols (England); Bullard Scots Nativity (Scotland); Wexford Carol (Ireland); Arr. Christopher Who would imagine a king (America); Magaru (Namibia);

Betelehemu (Nigeria); Arr. Rutter Il est né le divin enfant (France) ; Bach Zion hört die Wächter singen + chorale (Germany) ; Tu scendi dalle stelle (Italy)

Spring 2018: St Giles at Six concert – to be confirmed

Programme potentially to include Puccini Messa di Gloria

Summer Concert 2018

Brahms Deutsches Requiem