

MUSIC AT MILTON KEYNES CITY CHURCH

300 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, MK9 2ES. 01908: 246486
www.cornerstonemusicmk.co.uk

September 2009 – July 2010

Welcome to an exciting season of Music at Milton Keynes City Church. Once again we play host to a glittering array of top international soloists and chamber musicians. We also continue our commitment to showcase the very best musical talent in our local area. Significant composer anniversaries are marked both in special concerts and in our ongoing monthly series, Musical Milestones. Great Masters of the Twentieth Century feature in our Thursday series, Exploring Music. The Cornerstone Chamber Orchestra offers superb programmes of Baroque and Romantic music. Meanwhile Summer 2010 brings a veritable Choral Festival with concerts by Polymnia. The Clerks and The Sixteen as well as our own Choirs. We hope you will join us regularly to enjoy fine music-making in the lovely ambience and beautiful acoustic of Milton Keynes City Church.

Adrian Boynton
(Director of Music)

BOOKING

Pre-booking is available (and advised) for concerts on

Saturday 24th October (Anything Goes) ~ Sunday 8th November (Anniv Celeb)

Sunday 17th January (Grieg/Dvorak) ~ Sunday 28th March (Bach B Min Mass)

Saturday 8th May (GUS Band) ~ Sunday 23rd May (Baroquefest)

Sunday 6th June (Polymnic) ~ Saturday 19th June (The Clerks)

Friday 2nd July (The Sixteen) ~ Sunday 18th July (Rutter Fest)

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IN PERSON: Church Kiosk at Milton Keynes City Church

POST: Mrs J Boynton: The Music Office, MK City Church
300 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, MK9 2ES

For all other events pre-booking is not required & admission is by programme at the door

Saturday 19th September 12 noon

FRANCES BLYTHE (clarinet) DANIEL SMITH (piano)

POULENC: Clarinet Sonata BAERMANN: Adagio
BRAHMS: Sonata in Eb, Op 120 HOROWITZ: Sonatina
GIAMPIERI: Carnival of Venice Variations

Frances achieved both Grade 8 distinction and a silver medal for the Trinity Performer's Certificate by age 13. Last year she was awarded the Dip ABRSM with distinction. As a student at the RCM Junior Department she won the Sally Wainwright Woodwind Prize. She is currently a member of the National Youth Chamber Orchestra. Daniel Smith teaches at the Royal College of Music and Purcell School and is recognized as one of the UK's leading accompanists. Francis and Daniel made a distinguished contribution to our masterclass earlier this year with Berlin Philharmonic clarinetist Karl Leister.

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Monday 21st September 7.45pm

MICHAEL GRANT (clarinet) ORFEO MANDOZZI (cello)
CAROLINE CLIPSHAM (piano)

BEETHOVEN: Piano Trio in Bb, Op11 (Gassenhauer)
FRÜLING: Trio in A minor
ROTA: Trio for Clarinet, Cello & Piano
BRAHMS: Piano Trio in A minor, Op 114

"Fascinating musical personalities... Bewitching beauty of tone"

[Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung]

Michael Grant made his television solo debut on BBC1's Blue Peter at the age of 12 before gaining a scholarship to the Royal College of Music and Guildhall School. Winner of numerous prizes and a BBC Young Musician semi-finalist, he is now forging an international career. Swiss-born Orfeo Mandozzi was a multiple prizewinner at Julliard School, New York and Vienna University where he was awarded degrees with 'summa cum laude' and Mention of Honour. He has appeared in the world's finest concert halls (Carnegie, Wigmore, Lincoln Centre, Vienna Musikverein) and made several acclaimed recordings. Carolin Clipsham gained the prize for highest final recital marks at Guildhall School before accepting a scholarship to study at the Banff Centre in Canada. She has appeared at international festivals around the world, recorded for Radio 3 and made a television documentary playing Chopin's original piano. Tonight's recital features the beautiful romantic trio of Karl Fröling alongside great works by Beethoven and Brahms.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Thursday 24th September 7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters
BENJAMIN BRITTEN (i) Early Years to 1945

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton BA ADCM FRCO LRAM
One of the most remarkable musicians of the Twentieth Century, Britten had written a symphony, six string quartets, ten piano sonatas and over fifty songs by the time he was sixteen. Great works of his student years and subsequent journeyman period in North America include the 'Sinfonietta', 'Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge', 'Sinfonia de Requiem', Piano Concerto, 'Ceremony of Carols', 'Hymn to St Cecilia', 'Rejoice in the

Lamb', and the outstanding song cycles 'Les Illuminations' and 'Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings'.

Admission £4 (students £1) at the door

Monday 28th September 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: 350th Anniversary Celebration

HENRY PURCELL (1659-95)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Purcell's range was wide. In a remarkably short life he composed everything from bawdy catches to impassioned prayers, intimate chamber music to ceremonial court odes, lively dances to elegant laments. His command of melody was exceptional for its freedom, its readiness to fashion rhythm from the sound and sense of words. He raised the English anthem, accompanied by the new sound of a modern string orchestra, to a pinnacle of achievement. Above all, he wrote 'Dido and Aeneas', one of the first and greatest of English operas.

Admission £4 (students £1) at the door.

Saturday 3rd October 12 noon

A CELEBRATION OF OUTSTANDING YOUNG MUSICIANS featuring

BEN WESTLAKE (clarinet) JOHN FISHER (piano)

FUNDRAISING

SENIOR STUDENTS OF MILTON KEYNES MUSIC SERVICE

CONCERT FOR

Programme to include

MUSIC AT THE

BACH: Partita No 2 in C minor

CITY CHURCH

MOZART: Larghetto from Clarinet Concerto in A

BEETHOVEN: Sonata in C minor (Pathetique)

WEBER: Fantasy on Themes from 'Der Freischutz'

Music at the City Church needs to raise additional funds for the purchase of new equipment (not least two new concert piano stools costing between them the best part of £1,000) and for refurbishment to piano and organ to maintain their high quality as recital instruments. Today's special concert features outstanding senior musicians from Milton Keynes Music Service, several of whom are about to take up or are working towards places at the UK's top conservatoires and universities. Special guests include 16 year old Ben Westlake, a finalist in BBC2's Classical Star 2007 and John Fisher, a frequent prizewinner in MK Festival of the Arts who represented Bucks in the National Federation of Music Festivals 75th Anniversary celebrations. Please support the event, bring all your friends, help to raise funds for the Music Department and enjoy some wonderful music! (There will be a minimum admission charge, but you are invited to give more if you feel able. We would also welcome donations from those unable to attend.)

Minimum admission £6.50 (conc £6, child £1) at the door

Wednesday 7th October

7.45pm

ALEA STRING QUARTET

Florence Cooke (violin)

Amanda Lake (violin)

Clare Fox (viola)

Sophie Rivlin (cello)

HAYDN:

Quartet in G minor, Op 20, No 3

MAXWELL DAVIES:

Naxos Quartet No 10

MENDELSSOHN:

Quartet in D Op 44, No 1

"I rarely jump up and down and wave a flag but I was very impressed by a young Quartet playing Haydn and Schubert today. I did not blink much as I was fixed in watching and hearing the feelings and sensitivity of the music they played... and no better than Cornerstone for their playing."

[Peter Smith, email to Cornerstone, Sept 08]

The Alea Quartet is one of England's most accomplished young string quartets. Originally formed at the Royal College of Music in 2003, it won the Connell and Sacconi prizes, represented the RCM at the British Library's festival, 'Mozart – Then and Now', recorded Hurlstone's Quartet in E minor and appeared at Aberystwyth International Festival. The Quartet has just won the Shuttleworth Scholarship to study at Canterbury University with the Maggini Quartet, and will shortly play Mendelssohn's Octet with them in Canterbury Festival. Tonight's concert features a compelling 75th birthday tribute to Maxwell Davies, plus anniversary composers Haydn and Mendelssohn at their very best.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 11th October 6pm

CHORAL CELEBRATION 'What Diamonds are equal to mine eyes.'

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH, director Adrian Boynton

Celebrating the life and works of Thomas Treherne.

Free will offering

Monday 12th October 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: 250th Anniversary celebration

HANDEL (i) Early Years

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Handel travelled widely in Germany and Italy before settling in England. His music reflects his cosmopolitan life, and the taste of the public for whom he composed. Important works of the early years are 'Dixit Dominus', 'Utrecht Te Deum', 'Chandos Anthems', 'Coronation Anthems' (including 'Zadok the Priest'), 'Birthday Ode for Queen Anne', 'Water Music', Harpsichord Suites (including the 'Harmonious Blacksmith' Variations), the pastoral 'Acis and Galatea' and operas 'Rinaldo', 'Radamisto', 'Ottone' and 'Julius Cesar'.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Thursday 15th October 7.45pm

HARUKO SEKI (piano)

BEETHOVEN: Sonata in C minor, Op 13 (Pathetique)

CHOPIN: Nocturne in C minor, Op 48 / Scherzo No 2 in Bb minor

SAINT SAENS: Valse Langoereuse / Valse Nonchalante

DEBUSSY: Images Book 1

LISZT: Un sopiro / Liebestraume No 3

LISZT: Hungarian Rhapsody No 2 in C# minor

"bathed in tonal beauty... her vivid colouristic strokes took one off into a world of serene enchantment" [The Times]

Haruko Seki won first prize in the USA's St Charles Illinois International Piano Competition before launching on a career which has taken her across America, Europe and the Far East. She has played in all the major UK venues and recorded for the BBC and German television. With an earlier degree in English literature, she takes inspiration from the relationship between music and poetry in her performance of romantic repertoire.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Thursday 22nd October

7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC:

20th Century Masters

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

(ii) *The Post-War Era 1945-1959*

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

7th June 1945 was a momentous day for Britten and English music: The emphatic success of the premiere of 'Peter Grimes' stamped Britten as the most gifted musical dramatist since Purcell, and began a new 'golden age' of British opera. The following years were amazingly prolific, with such works as 'Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra', 'St Nicolas Cantata', 'Spring Symphony' and 'Prince of Pagodas' (influenced by Balinese sonorities of the Far East) appearing alongside more outstanding operatic scores – 'Albert Herring', 'Billy Budd' and 'Turn of the Screw'.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Saturday 24th October

7pm for 7.30pm

ANYTHING GOES

AN EVENING OF MUSICAL MAGIC AND MERRIMENT

GUYATHRIE PEIRIS (soprano) JOHN MACDOMNIC (trumpet)

MICHAEL KEEP (piano) Hosted by ADRIAN BOYNTON

HANDEL – HAYDN – SCHUBERT – MENDELSSOHN – DVORAK – ROSSINI

PUCCINI – GERSHWIN – BERNSTEIN – PORTER – KERN

7pm Sparkling Wine Reception 7.30 Gala Concert

8.45 Buffet Supper 9.30 Cabaret

Music, Magic and Merriment offers a complete evening of high quality musical entertainment. After a Sparkling Wine Reception guests enjoy a Gala Concert mingling instrumental and vocal music from the baroque, classical and romantic eras (including opera), and exploring a wide range of moods and emotions. A delicious hot supper is then served against the ambient background of a gentle piano interlude. To end the evening, a sparkling Cabaret sequence offers upbeat dance numbers, theatre songs and romantic ballads from popular music's 'Golden Age'. A bar is available throughout the evening. The incomparable Guyathrie Peiris, fresh from an acclaimed Australian tour, is joined this year by virtuoso trumpeter John MacDomnic and versatile pianist Michael Keep. It promises to be a memorable evening. Parties of six or more are invited to reserve a table. Please note that, while late bookings may be considered, we can only guarantee to provide supper for bookings made by Monday 19th October. Please advise in advance of any special dietary requirements.

Full tickets with Supper £17 (conc £16.50) [inc Reception, Concert, Supper, Cabaret]

Full tickets without Supper £11.50 (conc £11) [inc Reception, Concert, Cabaret]

Concert only tickets £8.50 (conc £8) [inc Reception & Concert only]

Book by telephone: 01908: 246486, email Cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person from City Church Kiosk, or at the door

Sunday 1st November 6pm

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR ALL SAINTS DAY

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton

Freewill offering

Tuesday 3rd November 7.45pm

GRACE FRANCIS (piano)

BRAHMS: Piano Sonata No 1 in C
PROKOFIEV: Sarcasms
RACHMANINOV: Moments Musicaux, Op 16
LISZT: Sposalizio (Annees de Pelerinage)
Valée d'Obermann
Mephisto Waltz No 1

“Grace Francis is a phenomenon. Technically there seems to be nothing she can't play. But more than that, there is a force in her, a compulsion that gives her performances uncommon fire and energy.” [David Cairns, Senior Music Critic, Sunday Times]

Grace Francis studied with Irina Zaritskaya at the Royal College of Music, where she gained the Chappell Gold Medal, the highest award for pianists. She was winner of the Negrada Heferer Award and EPTA International Competition in Zagreb. Grace's numerous recitals in the UK have included regular appearances at the Barbican, Purcell Room and Wigmore Hall. Her repertoire is wide but she has a special affinity with the Romantic works of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Admission £8 (conc £7.50, child £2) at the door

Sunday 8th November 7.30pm

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PURCELL: SONATA FOR TRUMPET & STRINGS

HANDEL: DIXIT DOMINUS

MENDELSSOHN: STRING SYMPHONY IN C

HAYDN: NELSON MASS

THE CORNERSTONE CHAMBER CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Adrian Boynton Solo Trumpet: John MacDomnic

This very special concert celebrates the achievements of all four of this year's special anniversary composers. Purcell's Sonata for Trumpet and Strings is followed by the extraordinary brilliance and daring of 'Dixit Dominus', which Handel wrote in Italy before coming to English shores. Then comes the wonderfully inventive String Symphony in C, the finest of several such works that Mendelssohn wrote in his teens while absorbing the influences of Handel and Haydn. And to end, one of Haydn's late, great works, the most splendid of all his Mass settings. Don't miss this wonderful celebration, marking the climax of our music-making in 2009.

Tickets £12.50 (conc £12), £10.50 (conc £10) child £5 telephone 01908 246486, email Cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person from Church Kiosk or at the door

Monday 9th November 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: 200th Anniversary Celebrations

HANDEL: (ii) Mature Years

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

In 1711 Handel composed the first Italian opera written specially for an English audience. For the next 30 years he became immersed in the ups and downs of operatic activity in London, producing over 40 works. Then, as public interest in opera declined,

he brought fresh creative energy to oratorio, producing more than 20 magnificent works rich in choral drama and orchestra colour. Tonight we savour great moments from the opera 'Rodelinda', 'Partenope', 'Ariodante and Alcina', and oratorios 'Israel in Egypt', 'Samson', 'Solomon', 'Semele' and 'Messiah'. Other important works of the mature years include the Concerto Grossi Op 3, the Organ Concerti and 'Music for the Royal Fireworks'.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door.

Saturday 14th November 12 noon

MICHAEL KEEP & ADRIAN BOYNTON (piano duet)

MOZART:	Sonata in B flat	DEBUSSY:	Petite Suite
SCHUBERT:	Rondo-Fantasia	DVORAK:	Slavonic Dances
BIZET:	Jeux D'Enfants		

Michael Keep and Adrian Boynton return in a programme of popular works from the piano duet repertoire guaranteed to entertain. Michael graduated with distinction from the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester in 2007 and returned to his native Bletchley where he has been much in demand as soloist, accompanist and teacher. He was recently invited to accompany violinist Nicola Benedetti in recitals in Scotland.

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Thursday 19th November 7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters

BENJAMIN BRITTEN (iii) The Final Years

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

The two outstanding works of the early 60s were the opera 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and the 'War Requiem', written to celebrate the consecration of the new Coventry Cathedral: they marked a new peak in Britten's esteem with the general public. Another important element of this final period was his artistic partnership with Rostropovich which produced the Cello Sonata, Cello Symphony and three solo Cello Suites. And there were two more great operas – 'Owen Wingrave', written specially for television, and 'Death in Venice', which provided Peter Pears with his last and most challenging role.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Monday 23rd November 7.45pm

MARINA NADIRADZE (piano)

SCARLATTI:	Sonatas	HAYDN:	Sonata in B minor
RAVEL:	Miroirs	CHOPIN:	Sonata in B minor

"The power and beauty of such exquisite artistry was the kind of heavenly experience to make you feel better about the world around you. [The Herald]

Marina Nadiradze's playing has been compared to that of the great Mitsuko Uchida. She gained the Postgraduate Diploma and MMus degree, both with distinction, at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. She took 1st prize in the highly prestigious LASMO Staffa Award and Silver Medal in the Scottish International Piano Competition, 2001. She has performed widely in Europe and the Far East, and made an acclaimed Wigmore Hall debut in 2007. Recently she appeared with Milton Keynes City Orchestra.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 29th November **6pm**

THE ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH Directed by **Adrian Boynton**

The atmosphere of Advent – season of hope and expectation – is wonderfully evoked in this beautiful candlelit service featuring passages of scripture, poetry and prose and musical settings from five centuries.

Freewill offering

Thursday 3rd December **7.45pm**

FELICITY VINCENT (cello)

OLIVER DAVIES (piano)

BEETHOVEN: Variations on ‘Bei Männern’ from ‘Magic Flute’

MENDELSSOHN: Sonata No 2 in D, Op 58

SCHUMANN: Fantasiestücke, Op 73

PFITZNER: Sonata in F# minor, Op 1

“Fine playing which really caught the attention” [The Times]

Felicity Vincent was a prizewinner at the Royal Academy of Music before joining the Halle Orchestra, and later the Israel Philharmonic and Toronto Symphony Orchestras. She has given numerous recitals on both sides of the Atlantic (recently Chicago Cello Festival) and performed all the Bach Cello Suites in London. She was singled out for recommendation by Making Music in the 2005-06 season. Oliver Davies was until recently Piano Professor and Head of Performance History at the Royal College of Music. His performing career has covered a wide range, including several British premieres. He has partnered Murray Perahia, James Galway and the Chilingirian Quartet, broadcast frequently and made five CDs with clarinettist Colin Bradbury. Tonight’s recital reflects the anniversaries of Mendelssohn and Schumann and features the evocative Pfitzner Sonata, which has one of the most eloquent slow movements in the entire repertoire.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Thursday 10th December **7.45pm**

EXPLORING MUSIC: **20th Century Masters**

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG (1874-1951)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Schoenberg stems out of the Viennese past: Beethoven’s Quartets, Brahms’ piano writing and the orchestral sonorities of Bruckner and Mahler are his models. His early Romantic works – ‘Verklarte Nacht’ and ‘Gurrelieder’ - are deeply tinged with the Wagnerian idiom. ‘Die gluckliche Hand’ and the extraordinary ‘Pierrot Lunaire’ abolish the distinction between dissonance and consonance, leading to the revolutionary serial work of the 1920s – ‘Serenade’ and ‘Variations for Orchestra’. In his final (American) phase, tonal elements co-exist with serial technique in the brilliant Piano Concerto and cantata ‘A Survivor from Warsaw’, while works such as ‘Suite for Strings’ and the impressive ‘Kol Nidre’ abandon serialism and return to the tonal style of the composer’s youth. Join us as we reveal the greatness of one of the most influential figures in the history of music.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Saturday 12th December 11.30am

A CHRISTMAS CRACKER with THE NEW ENGLISH SINGERS

& Special Guests. Directed by Adrian Boynton

A highlight of the seasonal calendar! The New English Singers capture the true spirit of Christmas in a well balanced and carefully crafted programme of carols old and new. Instrumental solos offered by our special guests provide further opportunity for celebration and reflection. It promises to be a joyous and heart-warming occasion. Following the music, seasonal refreshments will be served.

Admission (inc. refreshments) £5.50 (conc £5, child £1.50) at the door

Sunday 20th December 6pm

THE CORNERSTONE CAROL SERVICE 'Immanuel, God with us'

THE CITY CHURCH CHOIR & CORNERSTONE BRASS

Directed by Adrian Boynton

A joyful celebration of the Saviour's birth in words and music, with familiar carols for all to sing, magnificent choral offerings from the choir and lively contributions from Cornerstone Brass. Do join us, and bring your friends.

Freewill offering

Monday 21st December 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES Special

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FROM BAROQUE TO THE PRESENT DAY

A talk illustrated with fine CD recording by Adrian Boynton

As a sequel to last years exploration of the Carol, Adrian plunders the rich repertoire of extended settings on a Christmas theme, featuring Schutz's Christmas Story, Bach's Christmas Oratorio, Scarlatti's 'Cantata Pastorale', Charpentier's 'Messe de Minuit', Berlioz's 'L'enfance du Christ', Saint Saens' 'Oratorio de Noel', Messiaen's 'La Nativite du Seigneur', Vaughan Williams' 'Hodie', Finzi's 'Dies Natalis' and 'In terra pax', Britten's 'Ceremony of Carols' and Macmillan's 'Veni, veni Emmanuel'. Seasonal refreshments will be served.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Wednesday 6th January 7.45pm

NATHANIEL ANDERSON-FRANK (violin)

CARLISLE ANDERSON-FRANK (violin)

BACH: Chaconne in D
BEETHOVEN: Violin Sonata in F (Spring)
SCHUMANN: Piano Sonata No 2 in G minor
YSAYE: Sonata for Solo Violin No 4
ELGAR: Violin Sonata in E minor
KREISLER: Recitative and Scherzo

Nathaniel Anderson-Frank graduated with honours from the Cleveland Institute, before winning a place at the Royal Academy of Music, where he won the Florence Hooten Beethoven Concerto prize and was very Highly Commended for performance of Solo Bach. His brother Carlisle was a scholarship student at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. He became the youngest ever finalist in the Royal Overseas League Competition, and was awarded Best Canadian Musician. He recently appeared at the

prestigious Banff Festival. Nathaniel and Carlisle have performed as a duo in venues across America, Canada and the UK.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 10th January 6pm

THE EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE *'Immanuel God with us'*

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH Directed by Adrian Boynton

The third and last of our annual carol services gives us the opportunity to explore more deeply our seasonal theme 'God with us', as we celebrate the revelation of Christ to people throughout the world. Join us for some inspirational words and music.

Freewill offering

Monday 11th January 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: *50th Anniversary Tribute*

ERNEST BLOCH (1880-1959)

Bloch's early romantic works are strongly influenced by Strauss, Mussorgsky and Debussy. His search for a musical identity finds fulfilment in his 'Jewish cycle'; in these emotional and passionate works, springing from a deep spiritual impulse, he paints sweeping musical canvasses with a rich and diverse orchestral palette. Tonight's musical feast features the Symphony in G# minor, Violin Concerto, 'Shelama' for Cello and Orchestra, 'Baal Shem' From Jewish Life, 'Israel Symphony', Symphony for Trombone and Orchestra, 'Sacred Service', Cello Suites and String Quartets.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Sunday 17th January 7.45pm (*pre-concert talk 7pm*)

BEETHOVEN: OVERTURE LEONORA No 3

GRIEG: PIANO CONCERTO IN A MINOR

DVORAK: SYMPHONY No 8

THE CORNERSTONE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Michael Keep (piano) Adrian Boynton (conductor)

This magnificent orchestral feast opens with the finest of Beethoven's four overtures for his opera 'Fidelio'. The noble heart of the unjustly held prisoner positively leaps for joy as he is released in a blaze of triumph and light. Dramatic gesture, 'Sturm und Drang' rhetoric, beautiful folk-like melody, assertive rhythm and picturesque orchestration are some of the qualities that have endeared Grieg's Piano Concerto to generations of pianists and concertgoers, and earned the composer the sobriquet 'the Chopin of the North'. We are delighted to welcome back brilliant young soloist Michael Keep, who give an unforgettable performance of Rachmaninov's Paganini Variations here in 2006. The Symphony No 8 in G is one of Dvorak's most refreshing, joyous works, abounding in Czech feeling. The spirit of improvisation hovers, guiding the composer into byways far from the classical norms. The finale conjures both the peace of the countryside and fun of the fair and ends in an uninhibited romp.

Tickets £12.50 (conc £12), £10.50 (conc £10), child £5: telephone 01908 246486, email cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person from Church Kiosk, or at the door.

Saturday 23rd January 12 noon

THE LUNDONIA STRING QUARTET

Margaret Miller (violin) Chris Brody (viola)

Catherine Fox (violin) Alex Barnes (cello)

HAYDN: 'Sunrise' Quartet in B flat, Op 76 No 4

BORODIN: Nocturne from String Quartet No 2 in D

SCHUBERT: 'Rosamunde' Quartet in A minor

The Lundonia String Quartet formed to play on a Saga cruise in June 2009. They gave three recitals per week to a captivated and loyal audience. Whilst on board they studied quartets by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Dvorak and many more. So enriched were they by this experience that they decided to continue giving recitals once back on land. Today's programme features one of Schubert's finest quartets.

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Tuesday 26th January 7.45pm

RUDENS TURKU (violin) OLIVER SCHNYDER (piano)

MENDELSSOHN: Sonata in F PROKOFIEV: Sonata No 2 in D

DVORAK: Sonatina GRIEG: Sonata No 3 in C minor

"A gifted violinist with a gorgeous sound. His playing is unfailingly elegant and optimistic". [Fanfare Magazine, USA]

Rudens Turku studied at Munich gaining his Master Diploma with distinction before embarking on a career which has taken him to many parts of the world. In 2002 he was invited to perform for US President Clinton. He has played in several international festivals, given numerous radio and television broadcasts, and made two highly acclaimed CD recordings. During this season he makes his debut at Carnegie Hall. Since his debut recital at the Kennedy Center, Oliver Schnyder has appeared regularly as a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician throughout Europe, North and South America, Israel, Japan and China, from London's Wigmore Hall to Moscow's Great Hall.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Thursday 28th January 7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters

ALBAN BERG (1885 – 1935) ANTON WEBERN (1883-1945)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Testimony to Schoenberg's powers as a teacher shines forth in the music of Berg and Webern. It was Berg's achievement to 'humanize' the abstract procedures of serial technique and to reconcile them with expressions of feeling and emotion. We hear his early String Quartet, the extraordinary 'Altenberg Songs', 'Lyric Suite', the beautiful Violin Concerto (which quotes J.S. Bach) and the compelling operas 'Wozzeck' and 'Lulu'. Webern's music is rooted in classical (and earlier) forms, but in his preoccupation with timbre and colour he belongs very much to the Romantic tradition. We enjoy his amazing Op 1 Passacaglia, the sensitive vocal writing of 'Das Augenlicht', movements from three fine quartets and the Symphony Op 21, inspired by the sights and sounds of the Austrian Alps.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Sunday 31st January 6pm

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR CANDLEMAS

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton. Freewill offering

Monday 8th February 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: 200th Anniversary Celebrations

SCHUMANN: (i) Early years to 1841

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

If a single composer had to be selected to represent the features of Romanticism, Schumann would be a splendid choice. Images of literature pervade his music, he was preoccupied with self expression, he was a miniaturist with a strong lyrical and harmonic gift, and his own life embodied Romantic events in abundance. Tonight we explore the outstanding piano works of the 1830s – ‘Abegg’ Variations, ‘Papillons’, ‘Carnival’, ‘Fantasiestücke’, ‘Etudes Symphonique’, ‘Kreisleriana’ – the great song cycles ‘Frauenliebe und leben’ and ‘Dichterliebe’, and the joyous ‘Spring Symphony’.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Saturday 13th February 12 noon

PHILIPPA MURRAY (soprano) ~ DANIEL TURNER (tenor)

ADRIAN BOYNTON (piano) A Recital for Valentines Weekend

HANDEL: Arias from Partenope MOZART: Despina’s Aria (Cosi fan Tutte)

STRAUSS: Leider, Op 10 FAURE: Cinq Chants de Venise

BRUNT: De La Mare Cycle FINZI: Song Cycle ‘O Fair to see’

A former choral scholar at King’s College, London and the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, Philippa Murray won a scholarship to study with Emma Kirkby at Dartington International Summer School and now holds a postgraduate scholarship at Guildhall School. She sings regularly with leading ensembles such as Da Chiese Baroque and the Armonico Consort, and last year made her operatic debut in Mozart’s Magic Flute at Bridgewater Hall. Former St Matthew’s Northampton chorister and Queens College Oxford organ scholar Daniel Turner has sung solo roles with London Handel Players and recently made his debut with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at the Sheldonian, Oxford. He has collaborated with James Bowman in Britten’s ‘Canticles’ and pianist David Owen Norris in Elgar’s songs. Join us for what promises to be a delightful lunchtime programme for Valentine’s weekend.

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Thursday 11th February 7.45pm

LIBOR NOVACEK (piano)

HAYDN: Sonata in C (English) CHOPIN: Two Nocturnes Op 48

CHOPIN: Ballade No 1 in G minor DEBUSSY: L’isle Joyeuse

MUSSORGSKY: Pictures at an Exhibition

“Beautifully phrased, subtly coloured, acutely characterized: His command of the keyboard is very impressive, & he aspires to the highest interpretive ideals” [Gramophone 2007]

Prague-born Libor Novacek graduated from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2004 with highest honours and was immediately selected by the Young Concert Artists Trust. He went on to take top prizes in international competitions leading to solo recitals and concert performances in prestigious venues throughout the world. In February 2007 his third CD (of Liszt) was Editor’s Choice in Gramophone Magazine and in June he was awarded a Diploma d’Honneur at the 33rd Liszt International Record Grand Prix in Hungary. Tonight’s compelling programme culminates in the original version of Mussorgsky’s epic cycle.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 21st February 6pm
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton

Freewill offering

Thursday 25th February 7.45pm
EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters
STRAVINSKY (i) Early Years to 1920

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

In terms of both creative accomplishment and influence Stravinsky stands as the dominant figure of the 20th century. His music went through several changes, often startling at the time, but revealing an inner consistency. The early years in Russia find him absorbing influences from his compatriots in Symphony No 1, 'Scherzo Fantastique' and 'Fireworks'. 1910 sees the beginning of his international career with Dyagilev's Ballet Russes in Paris, and the premieries of 'The Firebird', 'Petrushka' and 'The Rite of Spring'. Then come the years of exile in Switzerland during which he completed 'The Solider's Tale', 'Symphonies of Wind Instruments' (in memory of Debussy) and the great ballet score 'Les Noces'.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Monday 1st March 7.45pm
ALEXANDER ARDAKOV (piano)
CHOPIN BICENTENARY RECITAL

Ballade No 1 in G minor	Nocturne in B major, Op 32 No 1
Ballade No 2 in A minor	Nocturne in Bb minor, Op 9 No 1
Ballade No 3 in Ab major	Nocturne in Eb major, Op 9 No 2
Ballade No 4 in F minor	Nocturne in F# minor, Op 48 No 2
Polonaise-Fantasy in Ab major	Nocturne in Db major, Op 27 No 2
Polonaise Op 44 in F# minor	Polonaise in Ab (Eroica) Op 53

"So accomplished technically, he was able to put away all thoughts of difficulty and concentrate on making the music speak its message through his agile fingers."

The great Russian virtuoso returns with a superb all-Chopin programme built around the four great Ballades. Ardakov's recital and concerto performances have taken him all over the world in recent seasons, including Carnegie Hall New York, Coluseo Hall, Portugal (where he performed three romantic concertos in a single evening!) and Symphony Hall, Seattle where he received a standing ovation from the 1500 audience.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Monday 8th March 7.45pm
MUSICAL MILESTONES: 200th Anniversary Celebrations
SCHUMANN (ii) Mature Years from 1842

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

1842 was for Schumann a remarkable year of chamber music which included a Piano Quintet, Piano Quartet and three String Quartets. Several large-scale works followed – the cantata 'Paradise and the Peri', Piano Concerto, Konzertstück for 4 Horns and Orchestra, Cello Concerto, the great opera 'Genoveva' and the evocative 'Scenes from Goethe's Faust'. Join us for a superb evening of Romantic riches.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Fairy's Kiss', Concerto for Piano and Wind, Violin Concerto and the Brandenburg-inspired 'Dumbarton Oaks'. Also from this period come the great opera-oratorio 'Oedipus Rex' and the awe-inspiring Symphony of Psalms. From his American residency (1939-52) we have the Symphony in C, ballet 'Orpheus' and opera 'The Rake's Progress', and from the final years of his life a group of fine choral works using serial techniques. Join us for a most remarkable musical journey.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Sunday 28th March 7.30pm

BACH: MASS IN B MINOR

THE CORNERSTONE CHAMBER CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Leader: Philippa Barton

Conductor: Adrian Boynton

Bach's Mass in B minor, arguably the greatest of Christian musical monuments, is the choice for our traditional Palm Sunday concert. That the composer completed the work apparently without any hope of hearing it performed clearly illustrates the incredible striving for wholeness, fullness and perfection that amazes us in Bach's music. The Mass draws on a wide variety of forms and techniques, some of them belonging to an earlier era, others looking forward to the next. The 'Et Resurrexit' bursts forth with Easter joy, the 'Sanctus' transports us to Heaven itself. The cumulative effect of the whole is magnificent.

Tickets £12.50 (conc £12), £10.50 (conc £10), child £5 by phone 01908 246486, email cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person from Church Kiosk or at the door

Good Friday 2nd April 7.30pm

MUSIC FOR GOOD FRIDAY

THE CHOIR AND INSTRUMENTALISTS OF THE CITY CHURCH

Directed by Adrian Boynton

An opportunity to reflect on the significance of Good Friday as the Choir and Instrumentalists offer a powerful and moving sequence of the finest extended settings of Holy Week texts. Full details of the music programme will appear on our website www.cornerstonemusicmk.co.uk in early March. The reflection will conclude about 9pm.

Retiring collection

Monday 12th April 7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: Anniversary Tributes

JOSEF SUK (1874-1935)

BOHUSLAV MARTINU (1890-1959)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Suk's early works were influenced by Dvorak, and the Czech legend of Raduz and Mahulena with which he strongly identified – it drew from him his most radiant, tender, earnest and abundantly melodic music. He later developed a more complex harmonic and polyphonic style, articulated by his precise aural imagination and superb craftsmanship as an orchestrator. His pupil Martinu composed prolifically in all forms and travelled widely, becoming a figure of international standing. His symphonies, concertos, operas and ballet scores are full of rhythmical energy and evocative colour.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Thursday 15th April 7.45pm

BOBBY CHEN (piano)

BEETHOVEN: Sonata
PROKOFIEV: Visions Fugitives
FOSTER: Voyages
SCHUBERT: Impromptus, Op 90
CHOPIN: Ballades

“A thinking player of complete technique.. a natural Romantic” [International Piano] **“An amazing talent”** [Sir Neville Marriner] **“His playing is truly beautiful”** [Lord Menuhin]

One of the most respected artists of his generation, Malaysian-born Bobby Chen burst on to the scene in 1996 with a sensational season of concerts, which included a British tour with Lord Menuhin in a performance of Beethoven’s Triple Concerto and a Royal Festival Hall recital as part of the South Bank Festival. Since then he has become a household name, performing in leading venues in the UK and across the world. He broadcasts regularly on Classic FM and BBC Radio 3, and has several fine CDs to his name, including an acclaimed ‘Live at Wigmore Hall’.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 18th April 6pm

CHORAL CELEBRATION OF EASTERTIDE

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton

Opportunities for both rejoicing and reflection as the wonderful Easter story is told in words and music. Freewill offering

Saturday 24th April 12 noon

IAN PRIESTLEY (tenor) ADRIAN BOYNTON (piano)

SCHUBERT: DIE SCHONE MULLERIN

Schubert’s magnificent cycle of 20 songs tells, by symbolizing human emotion in terms of nature, a story in which the poet (i.e. the singer) is protagonist: he arrives at the mill, falls in love with the mill-girl, enjoys happiness with her, feels anger and jealousy when she turns to another man, and dies. The babbling of the brook is heard in many songs, and there is much other nature imagery, designed to reflect the emotions of the words. Ian Priestley returns to perform this great work with Adrian Boynton following his beautiful ‘Winterreise’ cycle two years ago. Priestley’s versatility has brought him leading roles with Scottish Opera, Carl Rosa, Sadlers Wells and Buxton Festival as well as a host of oratorio and recital engagements.

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Thursday 29th April 7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters

BARTOK (i) Formative Years to 1926

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

“Those days I spent in the villages among the peasants were the happiest of my life. In order really to feel the vitality of this music one must, so to speak, have lived it.” [Bartok]

It was Bartok’s mission to reconcile the folk melody of his native Hungary with the main currents of European music. In the process he created an entirely personal language and revealed himself as one of the major artists of the century. From his Piano Quintet, Op 1 and early Nationalistic tone-poem ‘Kossuth’, we trace his musical development through the Violin Concerto No 1, Romanian Dances, Dance Suite, Piano Concerto No 1,

String Quartets Nos 1 & 2 and a remarkable cycle of theatre pieces: 'The Wooden Prince' (ballet), 'Duke Bluebeard's Castle' (opera) and 'the Miraculous Mandarin' (pantomime). Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Saturday 8th May 7.45pm

THE VIRTUOSO GUS BAND Conductor: John Berryman

ORCHESTRAL CLASSICS ON BRASS

BRAHMS: Academic Festival Overture	BRAHMS: Paganini Variations
ELGAR: Chanson de Matin	WALTON: Crown Imperial
VERDI: Force of Destiny	LISZT: Hungarian Dances
COPLAND: Hoe Down (Rodeo)	GERSHWIN: American in Paris
TCHAIKOVSKY: 1812 Overture	TCHAIKOVSKY: The Swan
SHOSTAKOVICH: Folk Festival	
RIMSKY KORSAKOV: Capriccio Espagnole	

In January 1933 Fred Felton called a newspaper reporter to his factory to tell him: 'We are going to form a band and we are going to aim high'. Over the past 75 years the GUS Band has established a national reputation for outstanding music making. In 2007 the Band was voted 'Most Entertaining Championship Band' in the National Mineworkers Brass Band Championships. In 2008 they were finalists in the National Brass Band Championship of Great Britain at Royal Albert Hall and in 2009 they won through to the finals at the British Open Championships in Symphony Hall Birmingham. Tonight's irresistible programme includes contributions from three fine soloists: James Fountain (cornet), Mark Giles (Euphonium) and Chris Jeans (trombone).

Tickets £11 (conc £10.50), £9 (conc £8.50), child £5: telephone 01908 246486, email cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person from Church Kiosk or at the door

Monday 10th May 7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: Centenary Celebrations

SAMUEL BARBER (1910-81)

WILLIAM SCHUMAN (1910-92)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Barber's music is in the European traditional line rather than specifically 'American'. Conservative in idiom, it is melodic, eloquent and brilliant. His lyricism is best heard in the opera 'Vanessa' and in 'Knoxville: Summer of 1915' (soprano and orchestra) and his romanticism in 'Dover Beach', the Cello Sonata and Symphony No 1. His Piano Sonata, first played by Horowitz, is a bravura work. Schuman's symphonies are a major feature of American culture. His music has a firm melodic basis, with strong contrapuntal elements and motor rhythms, some derived from jazz. Join us for this celebration of American riches.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Saturday 15th May 12 noon

PETER CIGLERIS (clarinet)

YUKI NEGISHI (piano)

SCHUMANN: Fantasiestucke, Op 73	
BEERHALTER: Variations on a German Folksong	
BRAHMS: Clarinet Sonata in Eb, Op 120, No 2	
KALLIWODA: Introduction and Variations	
WEBER: Grand Duo Concertante, Op 48	

Peter Cigleris won the prestigious John Ireland Chamber Music Award while studying at Birmingham Conservatoire. At the Royal College of Music he was awarded the Prix de Fossat and played for Her Majesty Queen of Denmark. Peter has performed in leading venues across Europe and premiered several new works. He took part in the BBC docu-drama 'Eroica'. Yuki Negishi was International Holland Music Series. She is in increasing demand globally, with recent performances in London, Hanover, Tokyo and New York.

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Sunday 16th May

6pm

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR ASCENSIONTIDE

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton

Featuring some of the outstanding repertoire composed for this special season.

Freewill offering

Sunday 23rd May

7.45pm

(Pre-concert talk 7pm)

BAROQUEFEST!

BACH: BRANDENBURG CONCERTO No 3

VIVALDI: RECORDER CONCERTO IN C

HANDEL: CONCERTO GROSSO IN E MINOR, Op 6 No 3

VIVALDI: VIOLIN CONCERTO IN A MINOR, Op 3 No 6

BACH: BRANDENBURG CONCERTO No 4

THE CORNERSTONE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Cristian Grajner-Desa (violin) Elspeth Robertson (recorder)

Adrian Boynton (conductor)

This sparkling Baroque programme features the extraordinary skills of two remarkable young soloists. Elspeth Robertson won the Wind Prize at the Junior Royal Academy of Music before gaining a scholarship to the Royal College of Music in 2008. She was a prizewinner at the National Eisteddfodd in Wales and semi-finalist in BBC Young Musician of the Year. Cristian Grajner-Desa became the youngest ever overall winner of the Bedfordshire Music Festival at the age of 10, and went on to be voted Bedfordshire Young Musician of the Year. He was awarded a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music and, still only 14, is now studying with one of the Academy's leading professors. Elspeth and Cristian perform brilliant solo concertos with the Cornerstone Chamber Orchestra, and join forces for Bach's wonderful Brandenburg No 4. An event not to be missed!

Tickets £12.50 (conc £12), £10.50 (conc £10), child £5 by phone 01908 246486, email cornerstone.music@tesco.net in person from Church Kiosk or at the door

Thursday 27th May

7.45pm

EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters

BARTOK (ii) Mature Years 1926-1945

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Unlike Stravinsky, Bartok did not write works after models from the past, but rather created new structural and technical devices of his own. These are in evidence in the outstanding middle period quartets (3, 4 & 5), the great Piano Concertos 1 and 2, the strongly neo-classical 'Cantata Profana', Violin Concerto No 2 and his most perfectly

formed symphonic piece, 'Music for Strings, Percussion and Celeste'. The brilliant orchestral colouring of the late works, written in America, have undoubtedly played a part in bringing them great public favour; they include the 3rd Piano Concerto and Concerto for Orchestra.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Sunday 6th June 7.45pm

POLYMNIA (Director: John Byron)

Daniella Ganeva (Marimba) Graham Instrall/Andrew Martin (percussion)

VOICES & DRUMS – A CELEBRATION OF WORLD MUSIC

PURCELL:	Hear my Prayer	WHITAKER:	Sleep
MENDELSSOHN:	Hear my Prayer	HATFIELD:	Living in a holy city
HOGAN:	Hear my Prayer	DUBRA:	Oratio
PIAZOLLA:	Verano Porteno	NAPLAN:	Al shlosa D' Varim
UOKALANI:	Ahe Lau Makani	Spirituals/Gospel Songs/Traditional Music	

The dynamic and versatile vocal group Poylmnia, under the spirited direction of John Byron, has established a notable reputation. Its repertoire ranges from Renaissance polyphony to contemporary works and music from various national and folk traditions. The first half of tonight's programme of World Music draws on the Western Christian tradition in works from the UK, USA, Canada and Latvia. Richard Dubra's 'Oratio' is accompanied by world-class marimba player Daniella Gavena, who commissioned the piece. The second half features secular traditional music from Africa, Sri Lanka, Argentina and Peru, accompanied by traditional percussion instruments in the hands of expert performers.

Tickets: £10 (conc £9.50, child £2) by phone 01908 246486, email

Cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person from Church Kiosk or at the door

Thursday 10th June 7.45pm

JUN ISHIMURA (piano)

BEETHOVEN:	Piano Sonata in E major, Op 109		
CHOPIN:	Mazurkas, Op 33	CHOPIN:	Etudes, Op 10, Nos 8-12
SCRIABIN:	Etudes, Op 8	RAVEL:	Gaspard de la nuit

Jun Ishimura made her debut at the age of 8 in a Mozart concerto, and played on Japanese national television two years later. In 2003, aged 15, she performed Chopin's Concerto No2 with Krakow State Philharmonic Orchestra and was a prizewinner at the Moscow Neuhaus Festival of Young Pianists. She won 1st prize in Tokyo International Piano Competition 2007 before taking up an Associated Board International Scholarship at the Royal College of Music. Jun's City Church recital in 2008 was quite stunning; her return is eagerly awaited.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 13th June 6pm

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SEASON OF PENTECOST & THE HOLY TRINITY

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton Freewill offering

Monday 14th June 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: 75th Birthday Celebrations

MAXWELL DAVIES (1934-) NICHOLAS MAW (1935-)

HARRISON BIRTWISTLE (1934 -)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Tonight we pay birthday tributes to three of our most prominent British composers. Peter Maxwell Davies, like Britten, has enjoyed writing for particular performers, and his wide-ranging imagination has devised striking sounds and textures much inspired by the Orkney Islands where he has made his home. Nicholas Maw is perhaps our finest 'modern romantic' whose music, while contemporary in some of its procedures, remains attached to traditional forms and outlook. Birtwistle's early works were stark and ritual in form and expression, but he has gradually developed a more organic technique in which ideas grow and evolve, marked by a genuine lyrical impulse and strong poetic feeling.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Friday 18th June - 9pm to Saturday 19th June 9pm

THE HOURS: A 24 hour collage of sound and live performance from

THE CLERKS (director Edward Wickham) with

THE CHOIRS OF THE CITY CHURCH (director Adrian Boynton)

"The Clerks... one of the most inventive music groups around" [Musical Opinion]

Celebrating worldwide traditions of Worship:

Building on the considerable success in 2008 of their innovative concert programme In Memoria, The Clerks present The Hours – a sound installation that breaks all the usual concert rules by lasting 24 hours. People are often familiar with the sacred music and daily devotions of their own culture or religious upbringing – the celebration of mass, the call to prayer. But how many have experienced the many other hourly rituals of faith and meditation that take place throughout the day across the globe? The Hours brings together these devotional hours from across nations and faiths by highlighting the musical forms these devotions take. Combining pre-recorded and live music, its multi-voiced soundscape reveals some surprising links between different religions as well as celebrating the wonderful diversity of the world's many faiths. Incorporating prayers and meditations that may be recorded during the presentation itself, the performance thus evolves as the hours go by.

The outline of the presentation is as follows:

Friday 9pm: **'The Hours' opens with COMPLINE sung by the Choir of the City Church**

Friday 9.30pm: The Pre-recorded 'panels' begin, connected by recitation of the Psalms and the polyphony of Tavener, Sheppard and other Renaissance masters

Friday Midnight: Church closes, but 'The Hours' continues 'symbolically' through the small hours

Saturday 8am: Church opens as 'The Hours' continues to evolve

Saturday 9am–11.30: Pre-recorded panels alternate with live presentations by members of faith communities in Milton Keynes

Saturday 12.00: LUNCHTIME PRESENTATION OF RENAISSANCE and CONTEMPORARY CHORAL REPERTOIRE by The New English Singers and Choir of the City Church, directed by Adrian Boynton

Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

Saturday 1.30pm-4.30: More pre-recorded panels, interspersed with live presentations from local faith communities

Saturday 5.30pm: 'The Hours' is incorporated into regular Saturday Mass, with Renaissance polyphony for Introit, Offertory, Communion and Recessional

Saturday 7pm – 9pm FINAL PRESENTATION by THE CLERKS. As the final panel takes its course, live elements will be introduced and coalesce into a full performance of TAVENER'S MISSA GLORIA TIBI TRINITAS

Tickets for final presentation £15 (conc £10) telephone 01908 246486, email Cornerstone.music@tesco.net or The National Centre for Early Music 01904 651485, www.ncem.co.uk (Admission at other times free – except lunchtime concert). For more details of contributions from MK faith communities visit our website www.cornerstonemusicmk.co.uk from mid May 10.

Thursday 24th June 7.45pm
EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters
KODALY (1882-1967)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

"If I were to name the composers whose works are the most perfect embodiment of the Hungarian spirit I would answer, Kodaly." [Bartok]

While Bartok travelled in Europe, Kodaly remained in Hungary and continued his preoccupation with nationalistic folk elements. Perhaps because of this his style is more tonally orientated than Bartok's, and possesses far greater melodic orientation. Wonderful choral works and songs dominate his output, including 'Psalms Hungaricus' (written for the 50th anniversary of the unification of Buda and Pest), Budavasi Te Deum, Missa Brevis, and the extended motet 'Jesus and the Traders', a veritable masterpiece. His finest orchestral works include 'Peacock Variations', Concerto for Orchestra, Symphony in C, the famous 'Harry Janos' Suite (extracted From the opera), and brilliant 'Dances of Galanta' Chamber works feature two string quartets and an epic Sonata for Solo Cello. Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Friday 2nd July 7.45pm
THE SIXTEEN Directed by Harry Christophers
A CELEBRATION OF TALLIS, SHEPPARD & BYRD

BYRD: Laudibus in sanctus	BYRD: Domine praestolamir
BYRD: Haec Dies	SHEPPARD: Sacris solemnis
BYRD: Infelix ego	SHEPPARD: Media vita
TALLIS: Miserere nostri	TALLIS: Iam Christus ascendit
TALLIS: Jesu salvator, saeculi redemptis	

"As time goes by, I find Harry Christophers' music-making more & more captivating." [BBC Radio 3]

After 30 years of world-wide performance and recording, The Sixteen is recognized as one of the world's greatest ensembles. The Sixteen's total commitment to the music it performs is its greatest distinction. A special reputation for performing early English polyphony and masterpieces of the Renaissance is drawn from the passions of conductor and founder Harry Christophers. The Sixteen are 'The Voices of Classic FM', TV Media Partner with Sky Arts and Associate Artist of the Southbank Centre. They

were recently featured in the highly successful BBC4 Television Series 'Sacred Music'; a second series has been commissioned for BBC2 in 2010. The Sixteen have toured throughout the world, appeared at the BBC Proms and made 74 CD recordings. Tonight's a cappella programme celebrate the glorious English sacred music of the pre and post Reformation. At the centre is John Sheppard's 'Media Vita', which is a staggering achievement not only in its sheer size but also in its expression which is at times overwhelming.

Tickets £16 and £12 by telephone 01908 246486, email Cornerstone.music@tesco.net, in person at Church Kiosk or at the door

Thursday 8th July 7.45pm

MAGDALENA ZUK (piano)

MOZART: Sonata in A
SCRIABIN: Etudes, Op 8
SZYMANOWSKI: Preludes, Op 1
PROKOFIEV: Romeo and Juliet, Op 75
SCARLATTI: Three Sonatas
CHOPIN: Lento and Tarantella
CHOPIN: Scherzo in B minor, Op 20

Magdalena Zuk was awarded the Première Prix de Perfectionnement by the Conservatoire Nationale de Versailles and later the Advanced Postgraduate Diploma at the Royal College of Music. She officially represented Poland in the 2004 Saison Polonaise and gave an all-Chopin programme at the French premiere of Roman Polinski's film 'The Pianist'. She won the RCM Concerto Competition and was one of the youngest artists to be selected to play in the prestigious Pianists of the World series.

Admission £8.50 (conc £8, child £2) at the door

Sunday 11th July 6pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

THE CHOIR OF THE CITY CHURCH directed by Adrian Boynton
Freewill offering

Monday 12th July 7.45pm

MUSICAL MILESTONES: 50th Birthday Celebrations

JAMES MACMILLAN (1959-) DETLEV GLANERT (1960-)

MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE (1960 -)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

One of the most outstanding and at the same time accessible composers of the 21st century, James Macmillan writes compelling music which reflects both his Scottish roots and his deeply held Catholic faith. Mark Anthony Turnage's eclectic style derives from many sources, including jazz and rock. He enjoys writing for musicians he knows well, so his music invariably reflects a close collaboration between composer and performer. German-born composer Detlev Glanert is renowned for the unashamed Romanticism of his scores: Mahler, Schubert and Shostakovich are his idols. All three of tonight's composers have been regularly featured at the BBC Proms in recent seasons.

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Sunday 18th July 7.30pm
RUTTER FEST! 65th Birthday Tribute

MAGNIFICAT
MASS OF THE CHILDREN
SUITE FOR ORCHESTRA

THE CORNERSTONE CHAMBER CHOIR & ORCHESTRA
GUEST CHILDREN'S CHOIR Directed by Adrian Boynton

For our major Summer concert a glowing 65th birthday tribute to John Rutter in his vibrant and joyful Magnificat (inspired by the example of Bach's setting), and the beautiful Mass of the Children, completed in 2003. Rutter writes "As a boy treble, I was thrilled whenever our school choir took part in major works with children's parts (Mahler Symphony, Britten War Requiem) and I wanted to write something that would give young people a similar opportunity to perform alongside adults." With inspiring orchestral music to complete tonight's programme, a midsummer musical treat is assured!

Tickets £12.50 (conc £12), £10.50 (conc £10), child £5 by phone 01908 246486, email cornerstone.music@tesco.net in person from Church Kiosk or at the door

Thursday 22nd July 7.45pm
EXPLORING MUSIC: 20th Century Masters

HINDEMITH (1895-1963)

A talk illustrated with fine CD recordings by Adrian Boynton

Hindemith's early works are superb examples of neo-classical style, using Bachian counterpoint, Baroque forms and sparkling motor rhythms. His later idiom is softer, more lyrical and smoothly tonal, with flexible structures and a mellower kind of continuity. Tonight we compare his early Kammermusik concertos with the mature concertos of the 1940s. We explore the great operas 'Mathis der Mater' and 'Harmony of the World', the ballet 'Nobilissima Visione' (based on the life of St Francis of Assisi) and the beautiful Requiem 'When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed'. We also savour rare sonatas for double bass and tuba!

Admission £4 (student £1) at the door

Saturday 24th July 11.30am
EMILY HEATHCOTE (clarinet) JASON ANDERSON (piano)

MOZART:	Sonata in A minor, K310	IRELAND:	Fantasy Sonata
CHOPIN:	Etudes Op 10, No 3 and 5	BRAHMS:	Intermezzos Op 118
DEBUSSY:	Premiere Rhapsody	ZUBIRI:	Matud Nila
GIAMPIERI:	Il Carneval De Venezia		

Following studies at the Wells Cathedral and Purcell Schools, Emily Heathcote won scholarships to the Royal College of Music and Guildhall. As a soloist and chamber musician she has performed in Germany, Italy, Poland, Holland, Japan and throughout the UK, including appearances at the Royal Opera House and Purcell Room. She has recently been offered a place on the prestigious Britten Pears Young Artist Scheme. Jason Anderson made his concert debut here at MK City Church at the age of 12. As a student at the Purcell School he performed for the Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace before winning a place at the Royal College of Music. He won the BBC Guardian

Proms Young Composer of the Year competition, and his music has been played at the Royal Albert Hall and on Radio 3. Jason and Emily have recently given recitals at the National Portrait Gallery and Bristol's Colston Hall.
Admission £5 (conc £4.50, child £1) at the door

EMAIL CONTACT: *Please share with us your e-mail address if you would like to receive regular concert information, or if you would like to receive this Season Brochure by email.*

CAN YOU HELP?

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would be willing to help, regularly or occasionally with any of the following:

- Administration of ticket sales
- Co-ordination of 'Friends of Music' subscriptions
 - Distribution of leaflets, brochures, posters
- Assistance with refreshments at concerts and talks
- Stewarding and front of house duties at concerts and talks

*For further information please contact Jill Boynton 01908 569925/246486
Boyntonmusic@tiscali.co.uk*

FRIENDS AND PATRONS OF MUSIC AT THE CITY CHURCH

You can support 'Music at the City Church' by becoming a 'Friend of Music'. Friends enjoy discounts on the cost of *midweek* evening concerts. We recommend a minimum annual donation of **£18**, or **£30** for a couple. To become a 'Patron' a donation of **£50** per person is suggested. The names of patrons are listed in the programmes of our major concerts. Please send your donation to Mrs J Boynton at MK City Church, 300 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, MK9 2ES, marking the envelope 'Friend' or 'Patron' and writing your address on the reverse of the cheque. Cheques payable to **Church of Christ the Cornerstone**. A 'Friend' card will then be issued to you. If you are a tax payer it would be helpful if you could complete a form which allows us to gift aid your donation - these are available at concerts or on request from the above address. If your Friendship has lapsed (i.e. if it is a year or more since you last subscribed), we hope you will take this opportunity to renew your subscription.

Thank you

Jill Boynton
(Administrator/Treasurer)

Friends of the Music at Christ the Cornerstone

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

Please enrol me as a Friend of the Music at the City Church, Christ the Cornerstone.

I enclose: £ _____ Date: _____

(Cheques payable to 'Church of Christ the Cornerstone') send your donation to:

J. Boynton, Christ the Cornerstone, 300 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes. MK9 2ES

Please treat this Donation and all Donations I make from the Date of this Declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid Donations

----- (signature)



