A celebration of Henry Purcell

Conductor
Peter Coulson

Organist
Mark Mawhinney

with a period instrument ensemble

Lewis Cullen, counter-tenor
Philippe Durrant, tenor
Matthew Asquith, bass

Jesmond United Reformed Church,
Burdon Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne
Friday 16th March 2018
Programme

Remember not, Lord, our offences (Z 50)
Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei (Z 135)
Thy word is a lantern (Z 61)

Music for a while (from the incidental music for Oedipus)

I was glad (Z 19)
O God, the King of glory (Z 34)

Chacony in G minor (Z 730)

Rejoice in the Lord alway (Z 49)

Interval of 10 minutes

Funeral Sentences (Z 27, 17, 58C)
Hear my prayer, O Lord (Z 14)
Lord, how long wilt thou be angry? (Z 25)

An Evening Hymn (Z 193)

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts (Z 58B)
O God, thou art my God (Z 35)
O sing unto the Lord (Z 44)

Period instrument ensemble:

Edward Cross, Pauline Brandon violins
Fiona Allinson viola
Amélie Addison cello
All the music for this concert is by Henry Purcell (1659-1695) who is generally recognised as being one of the greatest English composers, the star of the early baroque period who began composing at the age of 9 or 11 while still a chorister in the Chapel Royal. As his skill grew, he developed his own particular style of music, which delighted a great many in his short lifetime and continues to do so up to the present day. In addition to a large body of sacred music, he wrote copiously for the theatre and opera. He died of an unknown cause at the age of 35 or 36, at the height of his career, and was mourned as “a very great master of music”.

We are performing 11 anthems and one motet which Purcell composed between 1672 and 1695, the year of his death. The earliest piece, *O God, the King of glory*, is a remarkable product of his early teenage, and the latest, *Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts*, was written (to complement the incomplete setting of the Funeral Sentences by Thomas Morley) for the funeral of Queen Mary II. Purcell’s full setting of the graveside Funeral Sentences (a separate item) dates from his early years, but the remaining items are all from the 1680’s. The Latin motet, *Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei*, was one of several composed for Catherine of Braganza, the Catholic queen of Charles II.

We are fortunate to have with us an ensemble of period instruments which will enable us to perform two of Purcell’s symphony anthems, *Rejoice in the Lord alway* and the magnificent *O sing unto the Lord* which concludes our concert. This anthem with its accomplished instrumental scoring exemplifies the very best that this brilliant young man achieved.

In between the choral items we will be treated to two vocal solos, *Music for a while* and *An Evening Hymn* *Now that the sun hath veiled his light*; and the instrumental piece *Chacony in G minor*. 
Remember not, Lord, our offences

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers: neither take thou vengeance of our sins, but spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever. Spare us, good Lord.

_from the Litany_

Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei

_Chorus:_

Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei, quam multi insurgunt contra me!
Quam multi dicunt de anima mea, non est ulla salus isti in deo plane.

_Tenor solo:_

At tu, Jehovah, clypeus es circa me: gloria mea, et extollens caput meum.

_Chorus:_

Voce mea ad Jehovah clamanti respondit mihi e monte sanctitatis suæ maxime.

_Ego cubui et dormivi, ego expergefeci me, quia Jehovah sustentat me._

_Bass solo:_

Non timebo a myriadibus populi quas circum disposuerint metatores contra me.
Surge, Jehova, fac salvum me Deus mi, qui percussit omnes inimicos meos maxillam, dentes improborum confregisti. 

Chorus:
Jehova est salus super populum tuum: sit benedictio tua maxime.

Ps. iii

Thy word is a lantern

Trio: Thy word is a lantern unto my feet: and a light unto my paths. I have sworn, and am steadfastly purposed to keep thy righteous judgements. I am troubled above measure: quicken me, O Lord, according to thy word. Chorus: Quicken me, etc.

Trio: Let the free will offerings of my mouth please thee, O Lord: and teach me thy judgements. The ungodly have laid a snare for me: but yet I swerved not from thy commandments. Thy testimonies have I claimed as mine heritage for ever: and why? they are the very joy of my heart.

Chorus: Alleluia.

Ps. cxix, vv 105-108, 110-111

Music for a while

Music for a while
Shall all your cares beguile.
Wondering how your pains were eased
And disdaining to be pleased
Till Alecto free the dead
From their eternal bands,
Till the snakes drop from her head,
And the whip from out her hands.

from Oedipus by John Dryden (1668-1701)
I was glad

I was glad when they said unto me: We will go into the house of the Lord. For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord: to testify unto Israel, and to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord. For there is the seat of judgement: even the seat of the house of David.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls: and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end, Amen.

Ps. cxxii, vv 1, 4-7

O God, the King of glory

O God, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph into heaven: we beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place where our Saviour Christ is gone before us. Amen.

Collect for Sunday after Ascension

Chacony in G minor

Rejoice in the Lord alway

Trio: Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Chorus: Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Trio: Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Chorus: Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Philippians iv, 4-7
An interval of 10 minutes

Funeral Sentences

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down, like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and ne’er continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may we seek for succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?
Yet, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall away from thee.

Book of Common Prayer: the order for the burial of the dead.

Hear my prayer, O Lord

Hear my prayer, O Lord: and let my crying come unto thee.

Psalm cii, 1.

Lord, how long wilt thou be angry?

Lord, how long wilt thou be angry: shall thy jealousy burn like fire for ever?

O remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: for we are come to great misery.

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: O deliver us, and be merciful unto our sins, for thy name’s sake.
So we, that are thy people, and the sheep of thy pasture, shall give thee thanks for ever: and will alway be shewing forth thy praise from one generation to another.

Psalm lxxix, vv 5,8,9 &14.

**An Evening Hymn**

Now that the sun hath veiled his light  
And bid the world goodnight;  
To the soft bed my body I dispose,  
But where shall my soul repose?  
Dear God, even in Thy arms,  
And can there be any so sweet security!  
Then to thy rest, O my soul!  
And singing, praise the mercy  
That prolongs thy days.  
Hallelujah!

*William Fuller (1608-75)*

**Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts**

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee. Amen.

*from the Funeral Sentences*

**O God, thou art my God**

*Chorus:* O God, thou art my God: early will I seek thee.

*Trio:* My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee: in a barren and dry land where no water is.
Chorus: Thus have I looked for thee in holiness: that I might behold thy power and glory. For thy loving-kindness is better than life itself: my lips shall praise thee. As long as I shall live will I magnify thee on this manner: and lift up my hands in thy Name. Because thou hast been my helper: therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Alleluia.

Ps. lxiii, vv 1-5, 8

O sing unto the Lord

Bass solo: O sing unto the Lord a new song.
Chorus: Alleluia.

Bass solo: Sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.
Chorus: Alleluia.

Sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name: be telling of his salvation from day to day.

Bass solo: Declare his honour unto the heathen: and his wonders unto all the people.
Chorus: Glory and worship are before him: power and honour are in his sanctuary.

Duet: The Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised: he is more to be feared than all the gods. As for the gods of the heathen, they are but idols: but it is the Lord that made the heavens.

Quartet and chorus: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Bass solo and chorus: Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King: and that it is he who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved; and how that he shall judge the people righteously.

Quartet and chorus: Alleluia. Amen.

Ps xcvii, vv 1-6, 9, 10

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Peter Coulson is a Bass Lay Clerk at Durham Cathedral. After graduating from Durham University, he moved to the south to take up the post of Lay Clerk at Guildford Cathedral. He was also appointed Conductor of the Chantry Singers in Guildford. He studied singing with David Wilson-Johnson and Colin Baldy. He has sung as soloist with numerous choirs, including the London Philharmonic Choir in a performance of Fauré's Requiem. He was a soloist in the première of John Tavener's Let's begin again in Norwich Cathedral. On the operatic stage, he has appeared with Morley Opera and the Mayer-Lismann Opera Centre: and performed the role of King George III in Peter Maxwell Davies' Eight Songs for a Mad King with Durham University New Music Group.

Peter has been Musical Director of Tynemouth Choral Society since January 2016. We are pleased to have him as conductor, during Simon Lee’s absence in the USA.

Mark Mawhinney was born in Northern Ireland and educated at Regent House School in Newtownards. He studied at St Andrews University, Durham University, and the Royal College of Music. He taught music at Hurstpierpoint College in Sussex, Durham School, Christ’s College in Canterbury, New Zealand, and was Director of Music at Barnard Castle School in County Durham from 2003-2015.

He recently completed a postgraduate diploma in Theology at the University of Oxford while training for ministry in the Church of England at St Stephen’s House. He was ordained to the diaconate in Durham Cathedral in July 2017, and is serving his title as Assistant Curate in the Benefice of Seaham on the east Durham coast.
Lewis Cullen is a third year music student at Durham University. He started his musical education as a chorister at St. Paul’s Cathedral before being awarded a music scholarship to The King’s School, Canterbury. Before coming to Durham he sang with the cathedral choirs of Canterbury and Gloucester. At Durham he sings as a choral scholar with the Cathedral Choir and is a member of the University Chamber Choir. Recent solo performances include Mozart’s Requiem, Handel’s Messiah and Bach’s St. John Passion and Easter Oratorio. Future engagements include Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater with Dunelm Consort & Players and a staged production of Purcell’s Come ye Sons of Art & Blow’s Venus and Adonis with Samling Academy.

Young British tenor Philippe Durrant is in his third and final year as a choral scholar at Durham Cathedral, where he studies voice with Miranda Wright. Phil is a member of Waterperry Opera Festival’s 2018 Young Artist Programme, where he will play the role of Bill in Samuel Barber’s A Hand of Bridge. Recent opera roles include Don José in Georges Bizet’s Carmen with Durham Opera Ensemble. Recent solo engagements include Stainer’s Crucifixion at Ushaw College. Upcoming solo engagements include Bach’s John Passion (Evangelist) at Durham Cathedral with the Avison Ensemble.

Matthew Asquith began his singing studies aged 7 when he became a chorister at Winchester Cathedral under Andrew Lumsden. Having toured internationally and performed at numerous national events, highlights of which included performances at the Handel Festival in Germany and the launching of the Cunard Liner Queen Victoria, he left Winchester and continued to study singing at secondary school. As a broken voice, Matthew has studied with Brian Gordon and more recently with Miranda Wright and Austin Gunn. While at university in Durham, he sings in the Cathedral Choir as a choral scholar and is a member of the University Chamber Choir.
**Cappella Novocastriensis** was founded in 1960 by Dr Frederick Hudson to specialise in singing music for worship. It has about 40 members, and often sings unaccompanied.

Cappella sings in churches throughout the North East, as well as giving several major concerts each year, and periodically gives performances of early music with Newcastle Baroque playing on period instruments, or renaissance sackbut and cornett ensembles such as QuintEssential. Monteverdi’s *Vespers of 1610* has been performed on two occasions in Durham Cathedral.

In 1999, with the aid of the Lottery Fund, the City of Newcastle, the Sir James Knott Trust and individual subscriptions, a chamber organ was commissioned from Neil Richerby of Lammermuir Pipeorgans.

The choir has also appeared on Tyne Tees Television’s *With Voices Raised*, and has produced two CDs of Christmas music, which have been featured on BBC Radio 3’s *The Choir*, and Classic FM’s *The Full Works.*

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E-mail our Chair: patrighaz@googlemail.com
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We welcome new members who would like to join the choir. Any voice is welcome. If you are interested, perhaps just to come along to a trial rehearsal, please contact our Chair by email. His address is patrighaz@googlemail.com

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If you would like to support the choir in some way, please consider becoming a Friend. The scheme is currently under review, but help of any sort is welcome. For details contact Helen Bartlett at camphoroil101@gmail.com

Website www.cappellanovocastriensis.com

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If you would like to be on our electronic mailing list, please fill in a form which you can find on our display board. As yet we do not have an angelic mail service. Cappella’s website address is www.cappellanovocastriensis.com

Forthcoming events by Cappella

Saturday 30th June at 7.30 pm
St Peter’s Church, Monkwearmouth
The glories of 20th century England

Saturday 10th November at 7.30 pm
a concert in St Ann’s Church.
Breamish St, Newcastle upon Tyne