



Newsletter January 2019

Here we are, a new year and a new term! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and celebrated the new year in style.

In this newsletter:

- Autumn concert review from Phiroz
- Music for this term with notes from Phiroz
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Autumn 2018

Thank you all for a wonderful Autumn term and concert. There was much energy, excitement and commitment evident in the performance, the diction was very clear.

The sound carried well, even in the quiet unaccompanied singing. In the Bogoroditse Devo, the alto tune was wonderfully strong while the sopranos and tenors floated above; as the basses joined the crescendo they created an impressive climax to the piece. I really enjoyed the Pergolesi (or Durrante), but for me the highlight was the real legato singing and the waves of sound in the second movement of the Vivaldi. A performance we should all be proud of.

I had a note from Orpheus saying that all the players enjoyed the concert, and we have had good feedback from members of the audience, which is very encouraging. The audience size was impressive too, so a big thank you to everyone for bringing their friends and families. As always, many thanks to our octet, Karen, Dagmar, Dunja, Danniella, Henry, Ken, Tom and Tony, who made an excellent sound together, and special thanks to Ken for his work in rehearsals, swelling the tenor ranks, and his excellent continuo playing.

Spring 2019

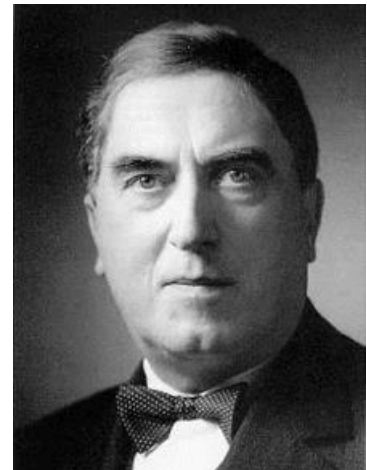
This term we are doing both **Durufié Requiem** and **Lauridsen Lux Aeterna**.

As this is a short term, we will be having sectional rehearsals, but it would be very helpful if you could do some homework by listening to the pieces with your score to ensure we don't have to spend too much time learning notes. Last term's attendance was good - averaging over 70% - but as this term is shorter than usual, so please try to make every rehearsal and, if you do miss one, please try to go over the material we covered. Please agree absences with Alison and note planned absences on the register for your section. Thanks.



What I could say about **Lux Aeterna** can probably be summed up with the following quote: *"The serenity and the uncomplicated and lyric style of the O Magnum Mysterium are continued in Lux Aeterna (Light Eternal), which is fashioned on texts from several different Latin sources, including the Requiem mass, with each movement containing a reference to 'light.' This is an intimate work of quiet serenity centered around a universal symbol of hope, reassurance, goodness, and illumination at all levels."*

We last did the **Durufié** in 2010 and we did it well (link below). The prominent characteristic is that it is based around plainchant, both in the choir and organ parts, which is developed and embellished in both. As such there are a lot of beautiful long legato phrases, which develop into powerful climaxes, a beautiful trio for organ, cello and mezzo and a serene In paradisum.



[Durufle Requiem : smce : Internet Archive](#)

Rehearsal dates

The rehearsal dates are always shown on our [home page](#). Please always work from these rather than any other dates you may have been notified.

Rehearsal links

<p>Lux Aeterna</p> <p>Recording</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmCBWGDXLf0</p> <p>Rehearsal tracks</p> <p>http://www.cyberbass.com/Major_Works/Lauridsen_M/lux_aeterna.htm</p> <p>Practice track with score - O Nata Lux (movement 3)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/user/DisciplesChorus/search?query=lauridsen</p>	<p>Durufié Requiem</p> <p>Recording (with organ)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3z75lcd9sop643YZWLpwgJ7zneK2_UKAD</p> <p>Rehearsal tracks</p> <p>http://www.cyberbass.com/Major_Works/Durufle/durufle.htm</p> <p>ECC performance from 2010</p> <p>https://archive.org/details/DurufleRequiem/</p>
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Subs

Subs are unchanged at £40 and due at the beginning of term, please. A reminder that Tanja Mladenovic is our new membership secretary and will be collecting payments. If possible, please pay by BACS (Internet banking). If paying by cheque, please make payable to Ealing Common Choir.

Thanks to Colin, our previous membership secretary, for his sterling efforts!

Next concert - Saturday March 16th

A reminder that our Spring concert will be on **Saturday**, not our traditional Sunday.



We're delighted that **Douglas Tang** will be our organist for this concert.

Douglas is a freelance British conductor and keyboardist. Previously Assistant Director of Music of St Mary's Cathedral Sydney and Chapel Organist of the Old Royal Naval College Greenwich, he has also held posts at various other cathedrals and institutions - most notably that of Organ Scholar of King's College, Cambridge.

Douglas has performed and toured extensively around the world in venues such as the Royal Albert Hall, Birmingham Symphony Hall, the Esplanade in Singapore, Sydney Opera House, Washington National Cathedral and Prague Cathedral to name but a few. He has also played with many of the world's finest ensembles including the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Academy of Ancient Music, the Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Britten Sinfonia, the London Sinfonietta and the London Mozart Players. More details on his website <https://www.douglastang.co.uk/>

If you know of any good singers who would like to get involved, please put them in touch with Alison. As you know, we could especially use more sopranos and tenors, so please ask your singing friends to join us!

See you on Thursday!

Phiroz & Alison

5 January 2019

