

**Thanks as ever to the vicar and congregation for their support and forbearance. Thanks also to:**

Front of House	Roy Burton and Julian Stenhouse
Mulled wine	Jenny Shepherd
Box Office	Molly Thomas
Lights	Bernd Gauweiler
Techmeister	David Benny
Lots of things	Karen Benny
Vision Director	Stephanie King
Vision Engineer	Nick King
Cameras	Dawn Slaughter, Gareth Bevan Jane Simpson, Benjy Evans
Additional Tech Crew	Dagmar Gauweiler, Jane Salisbury
Pre-show cartoons	David Marsh

***Future concert***

Saturday 7th June 7pm  
Eugene Onegin  
with West London Sinfonia  
Conductor Philip Hesketh



**St Matthew's Choir**



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# **Choral Concert**

**With music by**

**Rachmaninov, Elgar,  
Tavener and Barber**

**Conductor - Phiroz Dalal  
Organ - Richard Thomas**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 7.00 pm**

**St. Matthew's Church, North Common Road, Ealing,  
W5**

**Valiant-for-truth – Vaughan Williams**

**Agnus Dei - Barber**

**Hymn to the mother of God - Tavener**

**Song for Athene – Tavener**

**Magnificat in B flat – Stanford**

**Nunc Dimittis in B flat - Stanford**

**Lux Aeterna – Elgar**

**All night Vigil (Vespers) op. 37 – Rachmaninov**

Priiditye, Poklonimsia  
(Come, let us worship)

Blagoslovi, dushe moya  
(Bless the Lord, O my soul)

Blazhen muzh  
(Blessed is the Man)

Svete Tihiy  
(Glad some light)

Nine Otpushchayeshi  
(Lord, now lettest Thou)

Bogoroditse Devo  
(Rejoice, O Virgin)

Shestopsalmiye  
(The six psalms)

GLADSOME LIGHT of the holy glory of the Immortal One, the Heavenly Father, holy and blessed, O Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God. Thou art worthy at every moment to be praised in hymns by reverent voices. O Son of God, thou art the giver of life; therefore all the world glorifies thee.

LORD, NOW LETTEST THOU thy servant depart in peace, according to thy Word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared before the face of all people. A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people, Israel.

REJOICE O VIRGIN , Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, for thou has borne the Saviour of our souls.

THE SIX PSALMS

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men. O Lord, open thou my lips and my mouth shall proclaim thy praise.

4. SVETE TIKHYI svyatyya slavy, Bezsmertnago, Otsa Nebesnago,  
Svyatago Blazhennago, lisuse Khriste!  
Prishedshe na zapad solntsa, videvshe svet vechernii, poyem Otsa,  
Syna i Svyatago Dukha, Boga!  
Dostoin esi vo vsya vremena pet byti glasi prepodobnymi,

Syne Bozhii, zhivot dayai, temzhe mir  
Tya slavit.

5. NYNE OTPUSHCHAYESHI raba Tvoego, Vladyko,  
po glagolu Tvoyemu s mirom:  
yako videsta ochi moi spaseniye Tvoye,  
ezhe esi ugotoval pred litsem vsekh lyudei,  
svet vo otkrovenie yazykov,  
i slavu lyudei Tvoikh Izrailya.

6. BOGORODITSE DEVO, raduisya, Blagodatnaya Mariye,  
Gospods Toboyu.  
Blagoslovenna Ty v zhenakh, i blagosloven plod chreva Tvoyego,  
yako Spasa rodila esi dush nashikh.

7. SHESTOPSALMIYE  
Slava v vyshnikh Bogu, i na zemli mir, v chelovetsekh blagovoleniye.  
Gospodi, ustne moyi otverzeshi, i usta moya vozvestyat khvalu  
Tvoyu.

Tonight's concert brings together a collection of choral works for mainly unaccompanied choir. They date from 1879 to 1993, and contrast and complement each other very well. Two of the pieces were originally for instruments: *Agnus Dei* comes from the second movement of Barber's string quartet No. 1, opus 11, more commonly known as *Adagio for Strings*, and *Lux Aeterna* is the 9th and most widely known of Elgar's *Enigma variations*. Rachmaninov's *All Night Vigil* and Stanford's *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* are both settings of the evening service - two quite different evening services. There is a closer similarity between the Rachmaninov and the Taverner in style. Vaughan-William's setting of John Bunyan's text, *Valiant-for-truth* opens the concert, with characteristic Vaughan-Williams harmonies and flowing lines.

We will be performing the first 7 of the Vespers forming the *All Night Vigil*. They are based on ancient Russian chants, which have a range of between 3 and 5 notes, in stepwise movement. These chants have been developed, and layered into the *Vigil*, and expanded to the extent that some phrases span pages of the score. The opening of the vespers is an exclamation of worship, before *Blagoslovi, dushe moya*, a setting of psalm 104. This vesper uses the chant, with depictions of heaven and earth woven around it. The third movement, fittingly sets texts from the first three psalms, between which is a threefold alleluia, and ends with three threefold alleluias. *Svete Tihiy* is a musical evocation of eternal light, with a shimmering backing to the ancient Kievan chant. Having encountered the saviour, the light of the world, there is an almost lullaby setting of the text we know as *Nunc Dimittis*. Rachmaninov chose this movement to be sung at his funeral. After praising God, the Orthodox church pay homage to the Virgin Mary. *Bogoroditse Devo*, regularly performed, not just at St Matthews, is a simple here note motif repeated and developed as a chant would have been. The final movement in tonight's concert begin with the verses depicts the ringing of bells, set to the verses 'Glory to God in the highest', and 'O Lord, open thou my lips'.

1. PRIIDITE, POKLONIMSYA Tsarevi nashemu Bogu.

Priidite, poklonimsya i pripadem Khristu Tsarevi nashemu Bogu.

Priidite, poklonimsya i pripadem Samomu Khristu Tsarevi i Bogu nashemu.

Priidite, poklonimsya i pripadem Emu. Amin.

2. BLAGOSLOVI, DUSHE MOYA, GOSPODA,

blagosloven esi, Gospodi.

Gospodi Bozhe moy, vozvelichilsya esi zelo.

Blagosloven esi, Gospodi.

Vo ispovedaniye i v velelepotu obleklsya esi.

Blagosloven esi, Gospodi.

Na gorakh stanut vody. Divna dela Tvoya, Gospodi.

Posrede gor proydut vody. Divna dela Tvoya, Gospodi

Vsya premudristiyu sotvoril esi.

Slava Ti, Gospodi, sotvorivshemu vsya.

3. BLAZHEN MUZH, izhe ne ide na sovet nechestivyykh.

Alliluya.

Yako vest Gospod put pravednykh, i put nechestivyykh pogibnet.

Alliluya.

Rabotaite Gospodevi so strakhom i raduitiesya Emu s trepetom.

Alliluya.

Blazheni vsi nadeysushchisya Nan. Alliluya.

Voskresni, Gospodi, spasi mya, Bozhe moy. Alliluya.

Gospodene est spaseniye, i na lyudekh Tvoikh blagosloveniye

Tvoye. Alliluya.

Slava Otsu, i Synu, i Svyatomu Dukhu,

i nyne i prisno i vo veki vekov. Amin.

Alliluya. Slava Tebe, Bozhe.

COME, LET US WORSHIP God, our King.

Come let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before him. Amen.

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL,

blessed art thou, O Lord.

O Lord my God, thou art very great.

blessed art thou, O Lord.

Thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

Blessed art thou, O Lord.

The waters stand upon the mountains.

Marvellous are thy works, O Lord.

In wisdom hast thou made all things.

Glory to thee, O Lord, who hast created all.

BLESSED IS THE MAN who walks not in the counsel of the wicked.

Alleluia.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous but the way of the wicked will perish. Alleluia.

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in him with trembling.

Alleluia.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him. Arise, O Lord! Save me,

O my God! Alleluia.

Salvation is of the Lord; and thy blessing is upon thy people.

Alleluia.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia. Glory to thee, O God.