



Festival Singers

Director: Rosemary Russell

&

Wellington Organists Assn



Present

French Delights

Vierne ~ Messe Solennelle

and other French romantic works

Featuring organists

- Paul Rosoman

- Jonathan Berkahn

2.30 pm Sun. 9 Sept. 2012

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Hill Street, Wellington



Programme

Paul Rosoman – Organ

Praeludium Festivum, from Sonata No. 1, Op. 40

Rene Becker (1882–1956)

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**Choir • Jonathan Berkahn – Organ**

• *Ave Maria*

• *Tantum Ergo*

Louis Vierne

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Paul Rosoman – Organ

4 Pieces en Style Libre, Op. 31:

• *No. 4 Epitaphe*

• *No. 19 Berceuse*

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

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**James Adams – Tenor**

*Si mes vers avaient des aïeles*

Reynaldo Hahn (1874–1947)

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En ferment les Yeux from Manon

Jules Massenet (1842-1912)

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**Jonathan Berkahn – Piano**

*Suite Bourguignonne, Op.17*

• *Légende Bourguignonne*

• *Aubade*

Louis Vierne

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Paul Rosoman – Organ

Scherzo, from Organ Sonata No. 5 in C Minor, Op. 80

Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)

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**Interval - 10 mins.**

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Jonathan Berkahn – Organ

from Pieces de fantaisie:

• *Sicilienne, op.53 no. 2*

• *Intermezzo, op.51 no. 4*

Louis Vierne

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**Linden Loader – Contralto**

*3 Songs Op. 7:*

• *Après un rêve*

• *Fleur Jetée*

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

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Choir • Paul Rosoman – Organ

• **Jonathan Berkahn – Organ**

Messe Solennelle Op 14

Louis Vierne

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# About this Concert

The Festival Singers and the Organists have collaborated several times before, performing Masses for two organs and choir by Saint Saens and Widor. In each case the organists have been Jonathan Berkahn who is the accompanist for Festival Singers and Paul Rosoman who is currently President of the Wellington Organists Association as well as a busy concert organist.

The *Messe Solennelle Op 14 in C# Minor* was written by Vierne, a pupil of Widor and played by them together for his audition to become the organist at Saint-Sulpice in Paris. Vierne was

given the job and later became organist at Notre Dame in Paris.

The five movement work (no Credo) is romantic, with smooth and soaring vocal lines and warm chromatic accompaniment. Interesting textural changes are a feature of the work. The parts are shared between the Grand and Petit Orgue, as they are between the vocal lines with attractive solo lines for each of the choir's parts interspersed throughout the work.

## Louis Victor Jules Vierne (1870–1937)

Vierne was nearly blind from birth due to congenital cataracts. His family moved to Paris in 1873. Vierne entered the Paris Conservatory in 1889 at the invitation of César Franck.

From 1892, Vierne served as an assistant to the organist Charles Marie Widor at the church of Saint-Sulpice in Paris. On Widor's recommendation, Vierne was appointed as interim organist at Notre-Dame Cathedral in 1900, and became titular organist there when the old organist died a few weeks later.

Vierne's life was physically and emotionally very difficult, and his music reflects this. He was deeply affected by his divorce from his wife. He lost both his brother René and his son Jacques during World War I. A street accident in Paris in 1906 caused him to badly fracture his leg. His recovery, and the task of completely re-learning his pedal technique, took a full year.

In 1916 & 1918 Vierne's glaucoma was treated – unsuccessfully – in Lausanne. On his return to Paris in 1920 Vierne found the organ at Notre-Dame-de-Paris in alarming condition. In 1927 he undertook a concert tour of North America to raise money for the restoration of the Notre-Dame Cathedral.

Vierne suffered either a stroke or a heart attack towards the end of his 1750th organ recital at Notre-Dame de Paris on the evening of 2 June 1937. He suddenly pitched forward, and fell off the bench as his foot hit the low E pedal of the organ. He lost consciousness as the single note echoed throughout the church. He had thus fulfilled his oft-stated lifelong dream – to die at the console of the great organ of Notre-Dame.



# Messe Solennelle

## Kyrie

Kyrie eleison.  
Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison.

## Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo  
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.  
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam  
gloriam tuam.  
Domine Deus, rex coelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens,  
Domine Fili unigenite. Jesu Christe.  
Domine Deus, agnus Dei, Filius Patris  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis;  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram;  
qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.  
Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.

## Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

## Kyrie

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

## Gloria

Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to men of good will.  
We praise you. We bless you.  
We adore you. We glorify you.  
We give you thanks for your great glory.  
  
Lord God, king of heaven,  
God the Father almighty,  
Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,  
Lord God, lamb of God. Son of the Father,  
you who take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you who take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you who sit at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you only are holy. You only are Lord.  
You only are most high, Jesus Christ.  
With the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## **Benedictus**

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

## **Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata  
mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata  
mundi, dona nobis pacem.

## **Benedictus**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## **Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, you who take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, grant us peace.

# **Tantum Ergo**

Tantum ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui:  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui:  
Praestet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et jubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedictio:  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio.

Amen.

Therefore let us venerate such a sacrament  
with bowed heads  
and let the ancient practice  
give way to a new rite:  
let faith provide a supplement  
for the failure of our senses.

To the begetter and the begotten.  
let there be praise and rejoicing  
salvation, honour, virtue  
and blessing:  
to the one proceeding from Both  
let there be equal praise.

Amen

# **Ave Maria**

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum:  
benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.  
Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you:  
you are blessed among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

## **Paul Rosoman - Organist**

International Concert organist Paul Rosoman recently returned from a highly successful tour in United Kingdom, Germany and Poland, where he also performed at the opening concert of the 13th International Organ Festival of Pelplin. He is currently planning a 2012 Australian tour and a return tour of the Baltic states in 2013.

A graduate of Victoria University, studying with Betty Stewart, Paul is currently President of the Wellington Organists' Association and NZ Organ Preservation Trust and Director of Music at St Luke's Anglican Church. He has broadcast on Radio New Zealand as a performer, a reviewer and has often appeared on Upbeat.

Since 2004 Paul has performed solo concerts in many of New Zealand's fine cathedrals and venues and has collaborated with many brass bands and choirs. He was also principal organist at the consecration of Taranaki Cathedral of St Mary, the first cathedral consecration in the worldwide Anglican Church in 80 years. His debut CD recording *Great Organ*, which is on sale tonight, was recorded on the newly restored William Hill organ at St Peters in Wellington.

## **Jonathan Berkahn - Organist**

Festival Singers' deputy conductor and accompanist Jonathan Berkahn, came to Wellington in 1990 to study at Victoria University. Since then he has acquired a B Mus in composition, a B Mus (Hons) in performance (organ, harpsichord, and fortepiano), and a PhD in music history.

He currently teaches theory and analysis at the New Zealand School of Music, freelances as a performer and composer, and is Director of Music at St Barnabas' Anglican Church, Khandallah.

In his spare time he sings and plays accordion at the Kitty O'Shea's Irish session. He has been with Festival Singers since 2000.

## **Linden Loader - Mezzo-Soprano**

Linden Loader, a Wellington based Mezzo Soprano and winner of the 1981 Mobil Song Quest, is a frequent performer on the opera and oratorio platforms around New Zealand. After her performance B. Mus., she studied at the Guildhall in London. She has recently completed a performance Masters from Waikato University.

Linden is a recording artist for Radio New Zealand and has recorded several CDs. She has a particular interest in New Zealand composed music. Currently heading the Classical Singing section of the Wellington School of Music Young Musician's Programme, she has tutored on the NZSM vocal programme and regularly adjudicates throughout New Zealand.

Recent performances include: *Opera in the Bull -Ring*, a recording of the last movement of the *Life Quartet* by Alfred Hill, a selection of Mahler songs with the Wellington Chamber Orchestra and a scene for an opera by Gareth Farr.

Critics have said of recent performances:

"The quality of Linden Loader's voice suits the *Messiah*. . . her rich low register bloomed in *He was Despised*." *Dominion Post*

"Linden Loader's beautifully produced voice flattered the music." *Dominion Post*

"...our very own diva...was her gorgeous self." *Wanganui Chronicle*

"...Loader's voice was so even throughout its range." *Wanganui Chronicle*

## **James Adams - Tenor**

James Adams' recent performing highlights include "Chris" in the Hamilton and Dunedin seasons of *Miss Saigon*, "Mark" in *Rent*, and being featured artist in Canberra's *Opera by Candlelight*.

James performed with the Festival Singers last year in *The Seasons* by Haydn. He is delighted to join them again for today's concert.

## **Rosemary Russell - Musical Director**

Rosemary (B.A. LRSM, Dip Tchg) enjoys the life of a musician/teacher. She has directed the Festival Singers for nine years through a range of music from the Messiah and Haydn's Seasons through recently composed NZ art music to folk music from around the world. She sings in both the Orpheus Choir and Nota Bene, doing some accompanying and leading with them and is having singing lessons with Lesley Graham at present.

Currently Rosemary is working with university graduates training to be secondary school music teachers. The convention in July for the NZCF Association of Choral Directors that she organised, was very successful, attracting over 120 choral conductors from around NZ.

A recent musical foray has been into the world of violin, playing in a string trio. Rosemary also plays the piano, sings and leads worship at Titahi Bay Community Church and is currently writing some children's songs.

## **Introducing the Choir**

Festival Singers is a Wellington-based community choir of around 40 members, established in 1976. Our repertoire ranges from larger classical works with orchestra through to smaller art and folk songs.

We like to seek out music that is not often performed e.g. the masses for choir, soloists and two organs by Saint Saens and Widor and last year, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*. Most years we have collaborated with another choir - last year the Wainuiomata Choir, exposing some rarely heard works by Salieri.

We also believe our local composers are very important. In 2009 we commissioned Jonathan Berkahn to write a Cantata, *The Third Day*, for the choir. In 2011 we presented this 50 minute work for choir, soloists and band again, in Palmerston North and Waikanae, along with varied folk songs from around the world.

Our members joined the NZ Choral Federation workshop on 11 & 12 May this year to learn and sing Verdi's *Requiem*.

The Festival Singers has a Christian basis and particularly enjoys singing music of a spiritual nature, although not exclusively of course. The choir is available to sing at weddings, funerals and in local churches.

If you are currently missing out on the joy of regular singing and musical friendship and would like to join an energetic, interesting choir, please email the Director, Rosemary Russell on [jororussell@ihug.co.nz](mailto:jororussell@ihug.co.nz)

# Festival Singers

## Sopranos

Christine Austin  
Janie Elrick  
Heather Garside  
Sylvie Gentry  
Barbara Gillon  
Diana Helen  
Carol Inge  
Anne Keen  
Audrey Misipeka\*  
Pam Southey  
Judith Urry  
Brenda Vale  
Wendy Wilson  
Pauline Woolley

## Altos

Jennifer Armstrong  
Rosemary Biss  
Heather Collins  
Heather Jones\*  
Adrienne Leuchars  
Margaret Pearson\*  
Jill Peel  
Shelley Richardson  
Margaret Seconi  
Irene Swadling  
Rita Urry  
Libbie Wride

\* On leave

## Tenors

Evan Dumbleton  
Joe Fecteau  
Alan Spinks  
Robin Willink

## Basses

Philip Garside  
Bill Gebbie  
Ian Livingstone  
Tom Lumb  
Brian Patchett

## Special Thanks to

Paul Rosoman  
The Big Picture  
Access Radio  
Sacred Heart Cathedral

Epworth  
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