



Festival Singers of Wellington

TO THE SEA

Director: Ingrid Schoenfeld

Accompanist: Jonathan Berkahn

St Christopher's Church, 27 Ventnor Street, Seatoun.
7:00pm Saturday 11 May 2024

Programme

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland (1879–1962)

***They that go down
to the sea in ships***

Herbert Sumsion (1899–1995)

Five English Folk Songs

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

The Dark Eyed Sailor
The Spring Time of the Year
Just as the Tide was Flowing
The Lover's Ghost
Wassail Song

INTERVAL

Wade in the Water

Norman Luboff (1917-1987)

Beach Boys Medley

Arr: Steve Delehanty
(altered for SATB by Jonathan Berkahn)

The Seal Lullaby

Eric Whitacre
Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)

Waves roll in

At the Bay
Jonathan Berkahn

Here's a Health to the Company

Traditional
Arr. Heather Easting

Drunken Sailor

Traditional

About the Concert

The first half of our concert celebrates the richness of the English choral tradition, beginning with the genius of John Ireland. Despite rising to prominence as a composer of chamber and orchestral music, Ireland's practical and incisive approach to choral writing has maintained this particular anthem as a core part of the English sacred choral repertoire. The first line of the text is engraved on his headstone: "Many waters cannot quench love."

Herbert Sumsion, a lifelong church musician and cathedral organist, was also friends with Ralph Vaughan Williams. His 39-year tenure as a Gloucester Cathedral organist is reflected in this exquisite organ part. Far from being restricted to a simple choral accompaniment, the organ part is comprised mostly of independent material, and engages in imaginative word-painting throughout, most notably during the text "staggers like a drunken man", where the organ is in a completely different time signature from the choir.

Ralph Vaughan Williams, already a celebrated and successful composer, developed a deep passion for English folksong in his early thirties. He worked closely with Cecil Sharp, traveling and collecting examples of English folksong. There were two main schools of thought regarding preserving the English folksong tradition – one consisted mostly of direct recordings, and the other of turning them into usable and performable works of art, on a continuum from simple voice and piano arrangements to huge orchestral fantasies. This collection falls somewhere on the middle of the continuum – these are concert pieces with a significant degree of complexity in the arrangement, but the original folk melodies shine through.

The second half of our concert encompasses a broad range of nautical influences, starting with Luboff's fantastically vigorous arrangement of the traditional spiritual "Wade in the Water".

Famous for their infectious melodies and syncopated beats, the Beach Boys owed much of their success to the compositional and musical genius of Brian Wilson. On top of his production skill, his incredible ear for harmony created timeless hits that are highly effective in a choral setting.

Eric Whitacre's homage to Rudyard Kipling's evocative story, in which a mother seal sings her baby to sleep, has become a choral favorite worldwide for its gentle melodies and the lush choral textures.

Jonathan Berkahn's association with the Breaker Bay choir led to the creation of *Waves Roll In* and *At the Bay*. The choir themselves worked together to create a huge list of associations to do with Breaker Bay, and what it means to be part of that community. From this word-cloud of memories and images, Jonathan wrote these lyrics and crafted the poignant melody of *Waves* and the infectious bounce of *At the Bay*.

Of course, no sea-themed concert would be complete without a shanty or two. *Health to the Company* is a drinking song, while *Drunken Sailor* is a shanty in the traditional sense of being a work-song, but fear not – you can drink to both.

We particularly want to thank the St Christopher's Trust for generously making this lovely venue available for our concert tonight without charge. We look forward to returning here in December for our annual Christmas Charity Concert in support of the Wellington City Mission.

Greater Love Hath No Man

Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.
Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends.
Who his own self bare our sins
in his own body on the tree,
that we, being dead to sins,
should live unto righteousness.
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified,
ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Ye are a chosen generation,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
that ye should show forth the praises of him
who hath called you out of darkness
into his marvellous light.
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,
that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice,
holy, acceptable unto God,
which is your reasonable service.

They that go down to the sea in ships

They that go down to the sea in ships;
And occupy their business in great waters;
These men see the works of the Lord:
and his wonders in the deep.

For at his word the stormy wind ariseth:
Which lifteth up the waves thereof.
They are carried up to the heav'n,
And down again to the deep:
Their soul melteth away because of the trouble.

They reel to and fro and stagger
like a drunken man:
And are at their wits' end.
So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble:
He deliv'reth them out of their distress.

For He maketh the storm to cease:
So that the waves thereof are still.
Then they are glad because they are at rest:
And so He bringeth them up
Unto the haven where they would be.

Five English Folk Songs

The dark-eyed sailor

It was a comely young lady fair,
Was walking out for to take the air;
She met a sailor all on her way,
So I paid attention to what they did say.

Said William, "Lady, why walk alone?
The night is coming and the day near gone."
She said, while tears from her eyes did fall,
"It's a dark-eyed sailor that's proving my downfall.

"It's two long years since he left the land;
He took a gold ring from off my hand,
We broke the token, here's part with me,
And the other lies rolling at the bottom of the sea."

Then half the ring did young William show,
She was distracted midst joy and woe.
"O welcome, William, I've lands and gold
For my dark-eyed sailor so manly, true and bold."

Then in a village down by the sea,
They joined in wedlock and well agree.
So maids be true while your love's away,
For a cloudy morning brings forth a shining day.

The spring time of the year

As I walked out one morning,
In the springtime of the year,
I overheard a sailor boy,
Likewise a lady fair.
They sang a song together,
Made the valleys for to ring,
While the birds on spray
And the meadows gay
Proclaimed the lovely spring.

Just as the tide was flowing

One morning in the month of May,
Down by some rolling river,
A jolly sailor, I did stray,
When I beheld my lover,
She carelessly along did stray,
A-picking of the daisies gay;
And sweetly sang her roundelay,

3 Just as the tide was flowing.

O! her dress it was so white as milk,
And jewels did adorn her.
Her shoes were made of the crimson silk,
Just like some lady of honour.
Her cheeks were red, her eyes were brown,
Her hair in ringlets hanging down;
She'd a lovely brow, without a frown,
Just as the tide was flowing.

I made a bow and said, Fair maid,
How came you here so early?
My heart, by you it is betray'd
For I do love you dearly.
I am a sailor come from sea,
If you will accept of my company
To walk and view the fishes play,
Just as the tide was flowing.

No more we said, but on our way
We'd gang'd along together;
The small birds sang, and the lambs did play,
And pleasant was the weather.
When we were weary we did sit down
Beneath a tree with branches round;
For my true love at last I'd found,
Just as the tide was flowing.

Well met, well met, my own true love

Well met, well met, my own true love;
Long time I have been absent from thee;
I am lately come from the salt sea,
And 'tis all for the sake, my love, of thee.

I have three ships all on the salt sea,
And one of them has brought me to land,
I've four and twenty mariners on board,
You shall have music at your command.

The ship wherein my love shall sail
Is glorious for to behold,
The sails shall be of shining silk,
The mast shall be of the fine beaten gold.

I might have had a King's daughter,
And fain she would have married me,
But I forsook her crown of gold,
And 'tis all for the sake, my love, of thee.

Wassail song

Wassail, Wassail, all over the town,
Our bread it is white and ale it is brown;
Our bowl it is made of the green maple tree;
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his right eye,
Pray God send our master a good Christmas pie,
A good Christmas pie as e'er I did see.
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his right horn,
Pray God send our master a good crop of corn,
A good crop of corn as e'er I did see,
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Here's a health to the ox and to his long tail,
Pray God send our master a good cask of ale,
A good cask of ale as e'er I did see,
In the Wassail bowl we'll drink unto thee.

Come, butler, come fill us a bowl of the best;
Then I pray that your soul in heaven may rest;
But if you do bring us a bowl of the small,
May the Devil take butler, bowl and all!

Then here's to the maid in the lily white smock,
Who tripp'd to the door and slipp'd back the lock;
Who tripp'd to the door and pull'd back the pin,
For to let these jolly Wassailers walk in.

Wade in the water

Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water.
God's a gonna trouble the water.

1. See that host all dressed in white,
God's a gonna trouble the water.
The leader looks like the Israelite.
God's a gonna trouble the water.
2. See that band all dressed in red,
God's a gonna trouble the water.
Looks like the band that Moses led.
God's a `gonna trouble the water.
(Ev'rybody)

Beach Boys Medley

Here are some songs from a gang you all remember, songs that the Beach Boys sang...

Wouldn't it be nice if we were older,
then we wouldn't have to wait so long.
And wouldn't it be nice to live together
in the kind of world where we'd belong
Though it's gonna make it that much better
when we can say good night and stay together
Wouldn't it be nice if we could wake up
in the morning when the day is new
and after that to spend the day together,
hold each other close the whole day through.
Happy time together we'd be spending.
I wish that ev'ry kiss was never ending
Wouldn't it be nice, oh, so nice.

Ba Ba Ba Ba Barb'ra Ann, you got me
rockin' and a rollin', rock in' and a reelin',
Barb'ra Ann, Ba Ba Ba Barb'ra Ann.
Went to a dance, lookin' for romance,
saw Barb'ra Ann, so I thought I'd take a chance.
Oh, Bar b'ra, Ba Ba Ba Ba Bar b'ra Ann,...
I'm rockin' and a rollin', rock in' and a reelin'
Bar b'ra Ann...

Little surfer, little one,
made my heart come all undone.
Do you love me, do you, surfer girl,
my little surfer girl?
I have watched you on the shore,
standing by the ocean's roar.
Do you love me, do you, surfer girl, surfer girl?
We could ride the surf together,
while our love would grow
In my woody I would take you ev'ry where I go
So I say from me to you,
I will make your dreams come true.
Do you love me, do you, surfer girl.

Well, east coast girls are hip
I really dig those styles they wear.
And the southern girls with the way they talk,
they knock me out when I'm down there.
The mid west farmers' daughters
really make you feel alright.

And the northern girls, with the way they kiss,
they keep their boyfriends warm at night...
I wish they all could be California girls...

Well, she got her daddy's car, and she cruised
through the hamburger stand, now.
Seems she forgot all about the library
like she told her old man, now.
And with her radio blatin' goes cruisin'
just as fast as she can, now.
And she'll have fun, fun, fun
till her daddy takes the T'bird away.
Well, the girls can't stand her, 'cause she walks,
looks and drives like an ace, now.
She makes the Indy Five Hundred look like a
Roman chariot race, now.
A lotta guys try to catch her,
but she leads 'em on a wild goose chase, now.
And she'll have fun, fun, fun
till her daddy takes the T'bird away.

'Round, 'round, get around, I get around.
Get around, get around, I get around.
I'm a real cool head,
I'm making real good bread
I'm gettin' bugged drivin' up and down
the same ol' strip, I gotta find a new place
where the kids are hip.
My buddies and me are gettin' real well-known
Yeah, the bad guys know us,
and they leave us alone...

"I Get Around" was our final song.
Those were some classic songs
from the Beach Boys,
songs that ev'ryone enjoys.
We love, we love all those Beach Boys' songs,
all the Beach Boys' songs!

The Seal Lullaby

Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us
And black are the waters that sparkled so green
The moon, o'er the combers,
looks downward to find us
At rest in the hollows that rustle between.

Where billow meets billow, then soft be thy pillow
Oh weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease
The storm shall not wake thee,
nor shark overtake thee
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!

Waves roll in

Waves roll in, waves roll out,
Night and day, day and night.
Tide comes in, tide goes out,
and we find ourselves together on this shore.

I only came here yesterday,
I may be gone tomorrow;
but I am here, I am here,
I am here for today, with you now

I think of those who've left us here,
of those we'll leave behind;
but we are here, we are here,
we are here for today, here with each other.

At the bay

At the Bay, down in Breaker Bay,
In the wind and salt and spray,
At the Bay, down in Breaker Bay,
this is where I mean to stay.

1. Can you hear the wild waves,
calling from the shore?
Can you feel the wild wind,
tangled in your hair?
Can you see the ragged rocks
where breakers roar?
Can you taste the smell of home
in the salty air?
2. Can you see the ferry lights,
passing in the night?
Can you see the yellow moon,
big, and low and bright?
Can you feel the quiet sea, cradlings us all?
Can you hear the little choir
singing in the hall?

3. So you leave the city streets,
the concrete and the grey,
out beyond the airport
as you travel to the Bay,
through the pass of Branda,
where the wind is blowing strong,
down toward the breakers
where you know that you belong.

Here's a Health To The Company

1. Kind friends and companions,
come join me in rhyme,
Come lift up your voices in chorus with mine,
Come lift up your voices all grief to refrain,
For we may or might never all meet here
again.

Here's a health to the company
and one to my lass
Let us drink and be merry all out of one glass
Let us drink and be merry all grief to refrain
For we may or might never all meet here again.

2. Here's a health to the dear lass
that I love so well
For her style and her beauty,
sure none can excel,
There's a smile on her countenance
as she sits on my knee,
There's no girl in this wide world
as happy as me.
3. Our ship lies at anchor, she's ready to dock,
I wish her safe landing, without any shock,
If ever I should meet you by land or by sea,
I will always remember your kindness to me.

Drunken Sailor

What will we do with a drunken sailor?...
Earlye in the morning!

Hooray and up she rises...
Earlye in the morning!

Put him the scuppers with a hosepipe on him...
Earlye in the morning!

Put him in the long boat till he's sober...
Earlye in the morning!

Festival Singers

Musical Director: Ingrid Schoenfeld

Accompanist: Jonathan Berkahn

Sopranos:

Robyn Bridge, Heather Garside,
Mary McGlone, Anne Neal, Zoe Rothbaum,*
Jo Rothbaum,* Helen Sharpe,
Helen Willberg

Altos:

Rosemary Biss, Anne Carnus,
Heather Easting, Cathy Edge,
Karen Espersen, Kenda Kittelty,
Wendy Nelson, Margaret Seconi,
Helen Tripp, Rita Urry

Tenors:

Neville Carson, Joe Fecteau,* Martin Haua,*
Paul Kilford

Basses:

Jean-Michel Carnus, Robert Easting,
Philip Garside, Timothy Hanlon, Alex Jeune,
Ian Livingstone

* *Soloists*

Drum:

Joe Fecteau

• • •

Sing with Festival Singers in 2024

We rehearse from
7-9pm on Monday nights
from February to early December
at Newlands Christian Assembly,
126 Newlands Road.

All singers welcome.

Learn a wide variety of sacred
& secular music and expand
your musical horizons.

Joining is easy. No formal audition is
required. Come to 3 rehearsals without
obligation, to try us out.

We're an affordable choir.
We know you will make new friends
in our supportive greater Wellington
community choir.

For more details contact:

Ingrid Schoenfeld (Musical Director)
ingrid.s@outlook.co.nz, 027 240 6669

or

Philip Garside (Secretary)
sales@philipgarsidebooks.com
home 475 8855

• • •

**Keep up-to-date with Festival Singers
on our website:**

www.festivalsingersnz.org

&

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/FestivalSingers

Festival Singers' Recordings

Special offer tonight

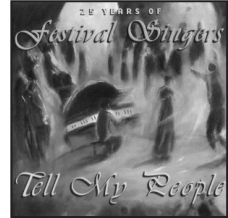
CDs \$15 each or \$30 for all three



CD (2015)
Usually \$20



CD (2007)
Usually \$20



CD (2000)
Usually \$20



Digital Album (2020) \$10
Please order online

Visit our website to buy your recordings online:
www.festivalsingersnz.org/cds



Programme and poster design donated by Philip Garside Publishing Ltd.

Visit our website for Christian books, music and resources
from Aotearoa and overseas:

www.philipgarsidebooks.com