

# The Scottish Chamber Choir

Directed by Michael Harris



## 'THE ROMANTIC MASS'

Saturday 5th June 2004

St Giles' Cathedral  
High Street  
Edinburgh

# The Scottish Chamber Choir

with The St Giles' Wind Ensemble

Director: Michael Harris

Organist: Peter Backhouse

JOSEPH JONGEN  
(1873–1953)

MASS OP. 130

KYRIE

GLORIA

CREDO

CHANT DE MAI (ORGAN)

SANCTUS

BENEDICTUS

AGNUS DEI

SOPRANO: ALISON BISHOP

CONTRALTO: MYRA BROWN

TENOR: ANDREW MORLEY

BASS: HAMISH MARTIN

INTERVAL  
of 15 minutes

ANTON BRUCKNER  
(1824–1896)

MASS IN E MINOR

KYRIE

GLORIA

CREDO

SANCTUS

BENEDICTUS

AGNUS DEI

## PROGRAMME NOTES

### Joseph Jongen

*Mass Op. 130*

Joseph Jongen was born in 1873 and died in Sart-lez-Spa in 1953. He studied at the Liège Conservatoire, and established himself as a virtuoso organist. By 1894 he was already winning prizes for his compositions and in 1897 won the coveted Prix de Rome, following which he spent four years travelling across Europe, but eventually returning to Brussels in 1902. A year later, he was appointed Professor of harmony and counterpoint at the Liège Conservatoire. After spending the First World War with his family as refugees in England, he returned to Belgium, and by 1925 was Director of the Brussels Conservatoire, a post he held until 1939. Jongen was a prolific composer for a wide variety of instruments, but much of his music remains unknown.

The Mass Op. 130 was written in the summer of 1945, and first performed in Liège Cathedral in June 1946. Subsequent performances in Mechelen and Brussels in 1948 were followed by nearly forty years of obscurity, until the unpublished score was taken from the library of the Belgian Centre for Music Documentation and performed by Brussels Choral Society.

Jongen scored the work for organ and brass, though he never scored the *Credo*; the version of the *Credo* heard here is arranged by Scott Whiteley. Tonight's performance follows the format of the first Brussels performance, where Jongen's organ miniature, *Chant de Mai*, was played by Flor Peeters, inserted before the *Sanctus*.

### Anton Bruckner

*Mass in E minor (1882 version)*

The 1860s were Bruckner's first great productive period in terms of composition. At the same time as establishing himself as a symphonic composer, he wrote the E minor and F minor Masses. The Mass in E minor is highly contrapuntal, drawing on the reforms of the Cecilian Movement, which was encouraging the reform of Catholic church music. Composed in 1866, the work was revised in 1882 (the version in this performance) and first performed at diocesan celebrations in Linz in 1885.

The expansive palette that Bruckner makes use of is evident from the opening bars of the *Kyrie*, written for eight-part unaccompanied chorus, with occasional brass interjections. The imposing sonorities of the brass and wind instruments are first heard at the *Laudamus te* in the *Gloria*. This movement is much more reliant on chordal and antiphonal effects, but returns to some complex polyphony for the final *Amen*. The settings of the *Credo* and *Sanctus* are both affirmative in nature, with the former relying on unison writing employed antiphonally to characterise the affirmation of faith. The *Benedictus* is a much more finely woven movement, with the wind solos intertwining themselves among the choral parts.

Programme notes by Michael Harris

## MASS TEXT AND TRANSLATION

### Kyrie

*Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.*

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

### Gloria

*[Gloria in excelsis Deo] et in terra pax  
hominibus bonae voluntatis.*

Glory be to God in the highest and in earth  
peace to men of good will.

*Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te,  
glorificamus te.*

We praise thee, we bless thee, we adore thee,  
we glorify thee.

*Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam  
tuam, Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.*

We give thee thanks for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father  
almighty.

*Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe,  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,  
qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the  
Father, that takest away the sins of the  
world, have mercy upon us.

*Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.*

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.

*Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.*

Thou that sittest at the right hand of the  
Father, have mercy upon us.

*Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus  
Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,  
cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.*

For thou only art holy, thou only art the  
Lord, thou only art the Most High,  
O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, in the glory  
of God the Father. Amen.

### Credo

*[Credo in unum Deum], Patrem  
omnipotentem, factorem coeli et terrae,  
visibilium omnium et invisibilium, et in  
unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Filium  
Dei unigenitum, et ex Patre natum ante  
omnia saecula:*

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, and of all things  
visible and invisible: and in one Lord Jesus  
Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds:

*Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum  
verum de Deo vero, genitum non factum,  
consubstantialem Patri, per quem omnia  
facta sunt.*

God of God, Light of Light, very God of  
very God, begotten, not made, being of one  
substance with the Father, by whom all  
things were made.

*Qui propter nos homines et nostram  
salutem, descendit de coelis; et incarnatus est  
de Spiritu Sancto, ex Maria Virgine, et homo  
factus est.*

Who for us men, and for our salvation, came  
down from heaven, and was incarnate by the  
Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was  
made man.

*Crucifixus etiam pro nobis: sub Pontio  
Pilato passus et sepultus est.*

He was crucified also for us: He suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, and was buried,

## The Scottish Chamber Choir

*Et resurrexit tertia die secundum scripturas; et ascendit in coelum; sedet ad dexteram Patris;*

*et iterum venturus est cum gloria iudicare vivos et mortuos; cujus regni non erit finis.*

*Et in Spiritum Sanctum Dominum et vivificantem, qui ex Patri Filioque procedit, qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur; qui locutus est per Prophetas.*

*Et unam sanctam catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam. Confiteor unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum, et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.*

### Sanctus

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

### 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.*

and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of the Father.

And He shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.

And (I believe) in the Holy Ghost, the Lord the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke through the prophets.

And (I believe) in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Since its formation in 1968, the **Scottish Chamber Choir** has performed throughout Scotland and Northern England to great acclaim. Each season the choir presents four concerts in Edinburgh, climaxing with an appearance at the Festival Fringe. These are usually supplemented by a Christmas concert and guest appearances at local Music Societies and Festivals throughout the year, keeping members quite busy!

The choir sings both shorter items from the chamber choir repertoire and more extended works, such as the Bach B minor Mass at our Festival Fringe concert in 2001. Whilst some concerts are given *a cappella*, at others we are joined by a variety of instrumental forces, making possible an exceptional freedom of programming and great interest for both participants and audience.

The choir's hallmark has always been its breadth of repertoire, encompassing a wide range of music from the 16th century to the present day, with music by living composers featuring in programmes during most seasons. Often there is a thread linking a series of concerts, encouraging regular attendance. The highly successful and critically praised Silver Jubilee season, for example, concentrated on 20th century British music, and was recognised by an Enterprise Award from the Performing Rights Society – one of only three such awards in Scotland.

From time to time, vacancies occur in all sections of the choir. Any singer interested in obtaining further details should contact Bill Wood, the President, on 0131 339 7663. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings in the Ian Tomlin School of Music at Napier University's Craighouse campus.

**Michael Harris** received his earliest musical education as a chorister of Gloucester Cathedral. He was Organ Scholar of St Peter's College, Oxford, and continued his studies at the Royal College of Music. He studied organ with Nicholas Danby, and has taken part in Masterclasses given by, among others, Nicolas Kynaston, Daniel Roth and Piet Kee.

He has been Organist and Master of the Music of St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, since November 1996; he is also a Lecturer at the Ian Tomlin School of Music in Napier University, Edinburgh. Prior to moving to Edinburgh he held posts as Sub-Organist of Leeds Parish Church and, from 1986, Assistant Organist of Canterbury Cathedral.

His work has involved him in numerous recordings and broadcasts, for both television and radio. As Organist of St Giles' Cathedral he hosts many organ concerts on the famous Rieger organ (built 1992) and has made a number of CD recordings with the instrument.

Elsewhere he has given recitals at St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Canterbury Cathedral, Winchester Cathedral, Ripon Cathedral and Leeds Town Hall. He has given many recitals in Germany, including on the historic Silbermann organs in Freiberg (Dom) and Dresden (Hofkirche), and in 1999 was a member of the Jury for the International Gottfried Silbermann Organ Competition in Freiberg.

Since 1998 he has been Musical Director of the Scottish Chamber Choir. He is also much involved in the work of organ education in Scotland and is Director of the Edinburgh Organ Academy, an annual springtime course founded in 1998.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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## The Scottish Chamber Choir

Sopranos	Alison Bishop	Pauline McC
	Rebecca Caskie	Julie Morric
	Susie Flett	Sasha Salina
	Lorraine Fraser	Erica Schwa
	Jenny Mackenzie	Adriana Ska
	Anne McAlister	Milda Zinku
Contraltos	Jean Brodie	Susan Oliver
	Myra Brown	Sheila Rober
	Emma Forbes	Susan White
	Louisa Morley	
Tenors	Robin McLeish	James Verge
	Andrew Morley	Bill Wood
	Andrew Polson	
Basses	Mike Arthur	Hamish Mar
	Wilf Krause	Andrew O'N
	Frank Lucas	Martin Tarr

## The St Giles' Wind Ensemble

Oboe	Julian Appleyard	Horn
	Mary Muir	
Clarinet	Neil Hamilton	Trombone
	Cathy Hirschmann	
Bassoon	Simon Rennard	
	Derek MacLeay	
Trumpet	Alistair Douglas	Tuba
	Ceri Heaney	

We hope that you have enjoyed the concert and will wish to hear the choir in our next concert

8:00pm

Sunday 15th August 2004

St Mary's Cathedral  
Palmerston Place, Edinburgh

Festival Concert

*J S Bach St John Passion*

The Scottish Chamber Choir brings Bach's classic interpretation of the Passion Story from St John's Gospel to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe

with

The St Giles' Chamber Ensemble

Evangelist	David Revels
Jesus	Roderick Bryce
Soprano	Emma Lewis
Countertenor	Will Wood
Tenor	Ben Alden
Baritone	Mark Wood

Tickets available from the Festival Fringe Box Office, from McAlister Matheson Music, 1 Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, or from choir members

Details from choir members or from the President,  
Bill Wood, on 0131 339 7663