

About the Durban Chamber Choir

The Durban Chamber Choir has been in existence for over 20 years. Its first members were mainly choristers from the Errol Slatter Chorale, who needed a new home when the late Errol retired from choral conducting. Rather than appoint a permanent choral director, it was decided to invite a different conductor to prepare a programme for each concert. Henry Moodie was the first conductor to try his hand with the newly formed choir, with great success. The model proved too onerous to sustain, however, and David Smith was appointed musical director in 1994. He remained as choir director for a number of years and was succeeded by, among others, Cameron Upchurch, Markus Detterbeck and Carol Stranex.

In 2015, the Choir proudly welcomed Dr Christopher Cockburn as its new musical director. After studying in Cape Town and London he was appointed as organist and Choir Director at Grahamstown Cathedral, and Lecturer in Music at Rhodes University. For several years he conducted the Rhodes Chamber Choir which toured South Africa as well as Zimbabwe. He currently lectures at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where he earned a PhD in Musicology. Christopher has given organ recitals throughout South Africa and in the UK, and is also a composer. He has directed choral workshops for the Royal School of Church Music in the Eastern Cape, Johannesburg and KwaZulu-Natal, as well as being organist at a number of their National Summer Schools. In 2015 he was made an Associate of the RSCM, an honorary award recognising contributions to church music of national significance.

The choir's repertoire is wide-ranging; from early plainchant to the contemporary choral repertoire, Renaissance to modern, sacred to secular. They sing accompanied by organ, piano and small orchestral ensembles, or else unaccompanied. The Choir gives regular concerts in Durban and Pietermaritzburg / Hilton, and has also visited several smaller towns in KwaZulu-Natal, performing in churches, school halls and retirement homes – wherever they can bring pleasure to lovers of choral music. It is made up of voluntary members of all ages and from all walks of life, united in their love for choral singing.

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To join our mailing list or for more information about the choir, please contact Allison Alan-Brown at 083 270 1726 or secretary@durbanchamberchoir.org.za

DURBAN CHAMBER CHOIR



conducted by Dr. Christopher Cockburn

Ave Atque Vale

Hail & Farewell

Concert Programme

Sunday 10 November 2019, 3pm
Church of the Ascension, Hilton

Programme

William Byrd (1543-1623)

Ave verum Corpus

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine; Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine: Cuius latus perforatum, unda fluxit sanguine; Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine. O dulcis, O pie, O Jesu Fili Mariae, miserere mei, Amen.

Ave Maria

Ave Maria gratia plena, Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus, ventris tui. Alleluia.

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

Ave Maria

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

Ola Gjeilo (1978-)

Soloists: Jenny McCaul

Ave Generosa

Ave, generosa, gloriosa et in tacta puella, tu pupilla castitatis, tu materia sanctitatis, que Deo placuit.

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Ave Maris Stella

Ave, maris stella, Dei mater alma, atque semper Virgo, felix caeli porta, Solve vincla reis: profer lumen caecis, mala nostra pelle, bona cuncta posce. Vitam praesta puram, iter para tutum, ut, videntes Jesum, semper collaetemur. Sit laus Deo Patri, summo Christo decus, Spiritui Sancto; tribus honor unus. Amen.

Gregorian chant – Ave Maris Stella

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Ave Maris Stella (Toccata, Fugue and Hymn)

Organ: Christopher Cockburn

Robert Jones (c1577-c1615)

Farewell, Dear Love

Farewell, dear love, since thou wilt needs be gone; mine eyes do show my life is almost done. Nay! I will never die so long as I can spy. There be many more, though that she do go, there be many more I fear not, Why, then, let her go: I care not! Farewell, farewell! Since this I find is true, I will not spend more time in wooing you, But I will seek elsewhere, If I may find her there, Shall I bid her go? What and if I do? Shall I bid her go, and spare not? O, no no no no no, I dare not.

John Wilbye (1574-1638)

Adieu, Sweet Amaryllis

Adieu, sweet Amaryllis, for since to part your will is, oh, heavy tiding, here is for me no biding. Yet once again, ere that I part with you, Amaryllis, sweet, adieu.

George Gershwin (1898-1937), arr. **Christopher Cockburn**

Love Walked In

Love walked right in and drove the shadows away, love walked right in and brought my sunniest day, One magic moment and my heart seemed to know that love said 'Hello', though not a word was spoken. One look and I forgot the gloom of the past; one look and I had found my future at last. One look and I had found a world completely new, when love walked in with you.

Daniel Elder (1986-)

Soloists: Elizabeth Copley, Thembeke Zungu, Jenny McCaul

Elegy

Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the sky. All is well, safely rest: God is nigh. Falling light dims the sight and a star gems the sky, gleaming bright. From afar, drawing nigh, falls the night. Thanks and praise for our days neath the sun, neath the stars, neath the sky. As we go, this we know: God is nigh.

Christopher Cockburn (1957-)

Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy: the promise he made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children for ever. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Song of Simeon

Soloists: Elizabeth Copley, Thembeke Zungu, Banele Bhengu

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Hail, Gladdening Light

Hail, gladdening light, of his pure glory poured, who is the immortal Father, heavenly blest. Holiest of Holies, Jesu Christ, our Lord. Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest, the lights of evening round us shine. We hymn the Father, Son and Holy Spirit divine. Worthiest art Thou at all times to be sung with undefiled tongue. Son of our God, giver of life alone; Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own.

Please join us for tea and refreshments after the performance.