

About the Durban Chamber Choir

The Durban Chamber Choir has been in existence for over 20 years. Its first members were mostly 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 continue, however, and David Smith was appointed musical director in 1994. He remained as choir director for several years and was succeeded by, among others, Cameron Upchurch, Carol Stranex, Barbara Trofimczyk, Christopher Cockburn, Andrew-John Bethke and David Smith.

The choir's repertoire is wide-ranging from early plainchant to the contemporary choral repertoire, Renaissance to modern, sacred to secular, accompanied by organ, piano and small orchestral ensembles, or unaccompanied. The choir gives regular concerts in Durban and Pietermaritzburg, and has also visited several smaller towns in KwaZulu-Natal, performing in churches, school halls and retirement homes – wherever it 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.

The choir's conductor is Margrit Deppe. She is the co-principal oboe and *cor anglais* of the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra and a commended organist. She teaches piano at Clifton School and, in 2023, was the church musician and cantor at the Nauen Rathenow Church District in Brandenburg, Germany. She studied Church music in Halle, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany, and holds an honours BA in Choral Directing from the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Our thanks to:

The Lutheran Church of the Cross Hayfields, Pietermaritzburg
St Thomas Anglican Church, Musgrave, Durban
Illa Thompson of Publicity Matters
Pianist, Jacques Heyns
Ronel Perks, vocal coach
Jacomien de Klerk, programme designer
The DCC Committee: Sarah Matter, Gail Robinson, Billi-Jean Parker, Sarah Bartholomew,
Rob Dyer, Margrit Deppe

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To join our mailing list or for more information about the choir, please contact
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DURBAN CHAMBER CHOIR



conducted by Margrit Deppe

Sing Alleluia!



Concert Programme

Sunday, 7 June 2026, 3pm
St Thomas Church, Durban

Alleluia

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Messe Breve

Soloists: Mhlengi Nzuza and Aphiwe Dlamini, Accompanist: Jacques Heyns

Kyrie
Kyrie eleison, Christe 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 caelestis,
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.

Kyrie
God have mercy, Christ have mercy

Gloria
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people 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, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Sanctus
Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

Sanctus
Holy, Holy, Holy
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Agnus Dei
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
grant us peace.

What is Peace?

Accompanist: Jacques Heyns

Peace is not a silent state that comes upon us from within – serene, detached, oblivious
Peace is not a force like rain that comes, unbidden, from above – gentle, enfolding, natural
Peace is fire! Yes, peace is fire! And peace is passion!
Peace requires a strength of will, a certain courage, a heart of iron
A force abiding to fulfil
Peace is not a foregone fate;
For peace, like war, must be waged – mindfully, deliberately, with arms ever ready and eyes wide open.

Kim André Arnesen (1980)

Hey T'hola, T'hola

T'hola, t'hola ngoaname; t'hola t'hola ngoaname
Li pere sera peng 'Rapeng sama hapu
Eitsa li lo tsela tsa ea ngoaname
Ha putsoa ea khaohamo koko l'ngoaname
Ei, ingoaname, Ei, ingoaname,
Ha le so bone konkoti, ha leso bone konkoti.
T'hola, t'hola, hey t'hola.

South African Traditional

Hush, my baby, hush, my baby.
Never mind the wind blowing through the trees.
Once upon a time there was a young little lion,
Take him to the doctor to make him mind me.
Ah, hush, my baby, ah, hush my baby.
Once, on a time, a dove sitting in a tree above, sang –
"T'hola, t'hola", he sang to me.

Plea from Africa

Accompanist: Jacques Heyns

Give a thought to Africa!
'Neath the burning sun, there are hosts of weary hearts waiting to be won.
Many lives have passed away, and in many homes there are voices crying now, to the living God.
Tell the love Jesus, by her hills and waters: God bless Africa, and her sons and daughters
Breathe a prayer for Africa!
God the Father's love, can reach down and bless all hearts, from His heaven above.
And when lips are moved by grace, they so sweetly sing: pray for peace in Africa, from our loving God.

John Knox Bokwe (1855-1922)

Aandgesang

Aan U, O God, my dankgesange, U wil ek in my aandlied prys!
Al kwyn die sonlig teen die hange, U lig, my lig, sal hoër rys.
U het my met guns versadig en as 'n Vader my beskerm;
Met seëninge so milddadig, U dag en nag oor my ontferrm.
Ek weet aan wie ek my toevertrou het, al wissel dan ook dag en nag;
Ek ken die Rots op wie ek gebou het, van wie ek al my heil verwag.

Chris Lamprecht (1927)

To You, O God, my songs of thanks, I want to praise You in my evensong!
Even as the sunlight fades on the slopes, Your light, my light, rise higher still.
You have saturated me with grace, and as a Father sheltered me;
With such abundant blessings, You have shown me mercy day and night.
I know in whom I have placed my trust though day and night may turn;
I know the Rock on which I build, from whom I expect my every salvation.

Congregational Singing – Amazing Grace
Flute: Liesel Deppe

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been here a thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we first begun.

Melody: Early American, Text: John Newton

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor BWV558
Organist: Margrit Deppe

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

I will praise thee, O Lord

I will praise thee, O Lord, with my heart,
I will show forth all thy marvellous works
I will be glad and rejoice in thee.
I will sing praise to thy Name,
O thou most High.

Knut Nystedt (1915-2014)

Hallelujah
Soloist: Mhlengi Nzuza, Accompanist: Jacques Heyns

I've heard there was a secret chord, that David played and it pleased the Lord,
But you don't really care for music, do you?
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth, the minor fall, the major lift.
The baffled king composing "Hallelujah".
Hallelujah
You say I took the name in vain, though I don't even know the name,
But if I did, well, really, what's it to you?
There's a blaze of light in every word, it doesn't matter what you heard,
The holy or the broken Hallelujah
Hallelujah
I did my best, it wasn't much, I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch.
I've told the truth; I didn't come to fool you.
And even though it all went wrong, I'll stand before the Lord of song
With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah.

Leonard Cohen (1934 – 2016)

Baba Yetu
Soloist: Mhlengi Nzuza, Accompanist: Jacques Heyns

Baba yetu, yetu uliye
Mbinguni yetu, yetu amina!
Baba yetu yetu uliye
Jina lako litukuzwe.
Utupe leo chakula chetu
Tunachohitaji, utusamehe
Makosa yetu, hey!
Kama nasi tunavyowasamehe
Waliotukosea usitutie
Katika majaribu, lakini
Utuokoe, na yule, muovu e milele!
Ufalme wako ufike utakalo
Lifanyike duniani kama mbinguni.
Amina.

Christopher Tin (1976-)

Our Father, who art
in Heaven. Amen!
Our Father,
Hallowed be thy name.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us of
our trespasses,
As we forgive others
Who trespass against us
Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from the evil one forever.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
On Earth as it is in Heaven.
Amen.

Please join us for tea and refreshments after the concert!