

## Welcome

Dear Friends

We were overjoyed to begin live rehearsals on 7th September 2021 for our 65th season, after an 18-month break. Covid-19 forced us to cancel 55 rehearsals, 7 concerts, 2 choir tours and a Singing Day (although that still went ahead virtually – twice!). All the performing arts have been hit hard by the pandemic, but the Choir is vaccinated, tested and raring to go. Our return to live music brings you a season of concerts with the WOW factor!

Our first concert is a joyful return to singing with music covering nearly 500 years, from Byrd to Tormis: music to bring a smile to your face and joy in your heart. Music shared live with each other – again!

*Carols by Candlelight* welcomes in the Christmas season with festive music. The *Symphony of Psalms*, our Singing Day music, is arguably one of the most deeply moving and spiritual pieces Stravinsky wrote. Come to Poynton for the day to work with Neil on this amazing and rewarding music – but apply early. We usually sell out!

Few classical works have the urgency and dramatic immediacy of Bach's *St John Passion*, which takes you on an emotional roller-coaster, swept in by the beauty of the opening chorus, racked by haunting solos, frightened by vicious crowd scenes and soothed by sublime music of gentle reflection and meditation.

By contrast, Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* is astonishingly vivid and colourful, now established as one of the pinnacles of 20th-century choral music. It's so good in fact, that we are performing it twice – you can be enthralled by it at Huddersfield Town Hall and then be delighted by it a second time the following week at Gorton Monastery, in a very different environment.

2021–22 promises a season of wonderful music which we hope to share again with you, our audience. I look forward to seeing you all.

*John Smith, Chair*

## Programme 2021–22

*This programme is subject to change in accordance with the UK government Covid-19 restrictions. Please visit our website ([www.st-georges-singers.org.uk](http://www.st-georges-singers.org.uk)) for up-to-date concert, social distancing and other information for audience attendees.*

### **Saturday 13 November 2021, 7.30pm** ***Sing Joyfully!***

A concert to celebrate the return of live singing, with music by Copland, Britten, Tormis – plus our 'lockdown favourites' St George's Church, Stockport

### **Saturday 11 December 2021, 7.30pm** ***Carols by Candlelight*** St George's Church, Stockport

### **Saturday 22 January 2022** ***Singing Day: Stravinsky Symphony of Psalms*** St George's Church, Poynton

### **Saturday 26 March 2022, 7.30pm** ***Bach St John Passion*** with Baroque In The North Royal Northern College of Music

### **Saturday 18 June 2022, 7.30pm** Huddersfield Town Hall, conductor Neil Taylor *and*

### **Sunday 26 June 2022, 7.30pm** Gorton Monastery, conductor Benjamin Ellin

### **Walton *Belshazzar's Feast*/Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs*/Williams *Penillion*/ *Ives The Unanswered Question*** with Slaithwaite Philharmonic Orchestra and baritone Peter Savidge *Pre-concert talk on Belshazzar's Feast at 6.30pm before each concert*

## Tickets

Concert	No of tickets required		Total cost
	Full price	Students/ children	
<b><i>Sing Joyfully!</i></b> 13 November 2021 £12/£7			
<b><i>Carols by Candlelight</i></b> 11 December 2021 £12/£7			
<b><i>St John Passion</i></b> 26 March 2022 £16/10			
<b><i>Belshazzar's Feast</i></b> 18 June 2022 £5–£19	<i>Tickets for this concert are available from Slaithwaite Philharmonic Orchestra's website (<a href="http://www.spo.org.uk">www.spo.org.uk</a>) or tel 01484 223200/225755</i>		
<b><i>Belshazzar's Feast</i></b> 26 June 2022 £16/£10			

There are four ways to buy tickets for our concerts:

- Order tickets **online** using PayPal or credit card at our website: [www.st-georges-singers.org.uk](http://www.st-georges-singers.org.uk).
- **Telephone** the Ticket Hotline on 01663 764012.
- **Email** your requirements to [tickets@st-georges-singers.org.uk](mailto:tickets@st-georges-singers.org.uk).
- Complete the application form above and overleaf, and **post** to the Ticket Secretary, 11 The Ridgeway South, Disley, Stockport, Cheshire SK12 2JG.

### **SINGING DAY**

Please see the separate Singing Day brochure for information about participant and audience tickets.

### **REFUND POLICY**

In the event of concerts being cancelled by St George's Singers, the venue or the government to comply with Covid-19 regulations, tickets will either be refunded in full or a credit will be held in your account for use against future concerts.

## Registration

To apply for tickets by post, please complete this form, tick the appropriate boxes, and detach along the dotted line. Then post to:

Ticket Secretary, 11 The Ridgeway South, Disley, Stockport, Cheshire SK12 2JG

Title ..... First Name .....

Surname .....

Address .....

.....

.....Postcode .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

### MAILING LIST REGISTRATION

Please include me on your mailing list (please tick)

I agree to my details being stored on the Choir's database and used for publicity relating to St George's Singers only (please tick)

I understand my details will not be divulged to third parties (please tick)

I would prefer to receive information by (tick one):  
post  email

*NB: to reduce our costs, please consider receiving information by email.*

Please remember to complete the ticket booking form overleaf.

### FRIENDS

I am interested in joining St George's Singers Friends scheme. Please contact me with details.

## St George's Singers

### President

Marcus Farnsworth, MA ARAM

### Vice-Presidents

Sasha Johnson Manning, Singer and Composer  
Stephen Threlfall, Conductor and Educationalist  
Stephen Williams, Director of Music, Shrewsbury School

### Musical Director

Neil Taylor

### Accompanist

Peter Durrant

## Contacts

### General enquiries

01625 875437

### Ticket hotline

01663 764012

### Online ticket booking

[www.st-georges-singers.org.uk/tickets](http://www.st-georges-singers.org.uk/tickets)

### Email ticket booking

[tickets@st-georges-singers.org.uk](mailto:tickets@st-georges-singers.org.uk)

St George's Singers is a Registered Charity, No 508686, and a member of Making Music, the National Federation of Music Societies



[www.st-georges-singers.org.uk](http://www.st-georges-singers.org.uk)



## St George's Singers

2021-22 SEASON

# Friends Reunited!

