paragon singers

> conductor Sarah Latto

het Le likoor

conductor

Jan Joost van Elburg

Spem in alium

A British-Dutch choral collaboration

Saturday 15 June 6pm St Alphege, Bath Sunday 16 June 3.30pm Douai Abbey, Berkshire

MUSIC OF PLACE &

Good evening, and welcome to our concert tonight, which features our wonderful friends from Amsterdam, Het Lelikoor, under the direction of JanJoost van Elburg.

This collaboration follows Paragon's trip to Holland in June 2023, and tonight we are delighted to be presenting the piece that marked the centrepiece of our Amsterdam tour, Spem in alium by Thomas Tallis. Also known as the 40-Part Motet, Tallis's memorable piece is a landmark in the repertoire of Renaissance polyphony. Written for eight choirs of five voices, Tallis was inspired by his Italian counterpart Striggio, who had written a mass for 40 voices a few years before. It is believed that the two composers met in London and in the wake of this encounter the Duke of Norfolk challenged Tallis to write a work for similar forces.

As well as the monumental Spem, Paragon Singers and Lelikoor will join forces to perform the Requiem Aeternam I movement from Herbert Howells' Requiem; Love Endureth by the contemporary composer Roxanna Panufnik; and Miserere mei by the Dutch composer Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck.



Sweelinck's Misere mei manuscript

To begin the concert, Lelikoor will bring us some Dutch and Flemish pieces, including Salve Regina by Jacob Obrecht. Paragon's set is focused around the concept of place, and the different buildings and locations that have inspired composers over the last 400 years to write some of their most abiding pieces.

We hope you enjoy this programme, and the cultural results of a friendship and collaboration across borders.

Miserere mei (a round) (1618)* Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621) Myn hert altyt heeft verlanghen (1504) Pierre de la Rue (c1452-1518) Salve Regina à 4 Jacob Obrecht (c1457-1505) Gaudete omnes "Cantiones Sacrae" Amsterdam (1619) Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1561-1621) Salve Regina (1923) Anton Verheij (1871-1924) Chanson d'automne (1897) Alfons Diepenbrock (1862-1921) Psaume 121 (1962) Daan Manneke (b.1939) Requiem Aeternam I from Requiem (1932)* Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

short interval

Love Endureth (2012) *
Roxanna Panufnik (b.1968)

Ubi caritas (1960) Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Locus Iste (1869)
Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)
Versa est in Luctum (1602)
Alonso Lobo (1555-1617)
Paisible domaine (1571)
Orlande de Lassus (1532-1594)

Versa est in Luctum (2022) Richard Barnard (b.1977) Shenandoah (1971) traditional arr. James Erb (1926-2014)

A Quiet Night (2022) *
Natalia Tsupryk

Deep River (2000)
arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Spem in Alium (c.1570) * Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

^{*} sung jointly by Het Lelikoor and Paragon Singers

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

Miserere mei Sweelinck

Miserere mei, Domine, et exaudi orationem meam.

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, and listen to my prayer.

Myn hert altyt heeft verlanghen de la Rue

Myn hert altyt heeft verlanghen naer u, die alderliefste myn. U liefde heeft my ontvanghen, u eyghen vrij wil ick zijn Voor al de weerelt ghemeene. Soe wie dat hoort oft ziet, hebdij myn hert alleene. Daerom, lief, en begheeft my niet. My heart has always longed For you, my most beloved. Your love has captured me; I wish to be your own. In all the world, For all to hear or see, You alone have my heart; Therefore, Love, do not fail me.

Salve regina Obrecht

Salve Regina, mater misericordiae:
Vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exsules, filii Hevae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle.
Eia ergo, Advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes
oculos ad nos converte.
Et lesum, benedictum
fructum ventris tui,
nobis, post hoc exsilium ostende.
O clemens: O pia:
O dulcis Virgo Maria.

Hail Queen, mother of mercy:
our life, sweetness, and hope, hail.
To thee do we cry, poor banished
children of Eve.
To you we sigh, mourning and
weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, our advocate,
those merciful eyes toward us.
And Jesus, the blessed
fruit of thy womb,
after our exile, show us.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.

Gaudate omnes Sweelinck

Gaudete omnes, et laetamini, quia ecce, desideratus advenit. Introite in conspectu eius in exultatione. Scitote quoniam ipse est expectatio nostra. Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, all of you for behold he for whom you longed comes. Enter into his presence with singing. Know that he is our hope. Alleluia!

Salve regina Verheij

Salve Regina, mater misericordiae:
Vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus,
exsules, filii Hevae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle.
Eia ergo, Advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes
oculos ad nos converte.
Et lesum, benedictum
fructum ventris tui, nobis,
post hoc exsilium ostende.
O clemens: O pia:
O dulcis Virgo Maria.

Hail Queen, mother of mercy: our life, sweetness, and hope, hail. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you we sigh, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, our advocate, those merciful eyes toward us.
And Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb, after our exile, show us.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.

Chanson d'automne Diepenbrock (Tr. Richard Stokes)

Les sanglots longs Des violons De l'automne Blessent mon cœur D'une langueur Monotone.

Tout suffocant
Et blême, quand
Sonne l'heure,
Je me souviens
Des jours anciens
Et je pleure;

Et je m'en vais Au vent mauvais Qui m'emporte Deçà, delà, Pareil à la Feuille morte. With long sobs The violins Of autumn Wound my heart With languorous Monotony.

All choking
And pale, when
The hour sounds,
I remember
Departed days
And I weep;

And I go Where ill winds blow, Buffeted To and fro, Like a Dead leaf.

Psaume 121 Manneke

Je lève mes yeux vers les montagnes...
D'où me viendra le secours?
Le secours me vient de l'Éternel,
Qui a fait les cieux et la terre.

I lift up my eyes to the hills.. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Eternal One, who made heaven and earth.



Psaume 121 Manneke cont.

L'Éternel te gardera de tout mal, Il gardera ton âme; L'Éternel gardera ton départ et ton arrivée, Dès maintenant et à jamais. Que la Gloire soit au Père, au Fils, au Saint-Esprit. Comme il était à l'origine, maintenant et toujours, Et pour les siècles des siècles. Amen. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your soul.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Requiem aeternam I Howells

Requiem aeternam dona eis. Et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.

Rest eternal grant unto them. And may light perpetual shine upon them. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

Love Endureth Panufnik

Praise the Lord, for He is good: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
Praise ye the God of Gods: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
Praise ye the Lord of lords: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
Who alone doth great wonders: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
Who made the heavens in understanding: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
Who established the earth above the waters: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
Who made the great lights: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
The sun to rule over the day: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.
The moon and the stars to rule the night: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.

Ki L'olam chasdo, Ki L'olam chasdo ("For forever His mercy")
Who smote Egypt with their firstborn:
Who brought Israel from among them:
With a mighty hand and a stretched out arm:
Who divided the Red Sea into parts:
And brought out Israel through the midst thereof.
And overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea:

Praise the Lord, for He is good: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.

Praise ye the God of Gods: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.

Praise ye the Lord of lords: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.

Give glory to the God of heaven: for His steadfast love endureth for ever. Give glory to the Lord of lords: for His steadfast love endureth for ever.

Uhi caritas Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where charity and love are, God is there. We are gathered in one love of Christ Let us rejoice in Him and be glad. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love. Where charity and love are, God is there.

Locus Iste Bruckner

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum; irreprehensibilis est. This place was made by God, an inestimably holy place. It is without blame.

Versa est in luctum Lobo

Versa est in luctum cithara mea, et organum meum in vocem flentium. Parce mihi Domine, nihil enim sunt dies mei. My harp is turned to grieving and my organ to the voice of those who weep. Spare me, Lord, for my days are nothing.

Paisible domaine de Lassus

Paisible domaine, Amoureux verger, Repos sans danger, Justice certaine, Science hautaine, C'est Paris entier. Peaceful domain, Amorous orchard Rest without danger, Certain justice, Haughty science It's all in Paris.

Versa est in luctum Barnard

Versa est in luctum cithara mea, et organum meum in vocem flentium. Parce mihi Domine, nihil enim sunt dies mei. My harp is turned to grieving and my organ to the voice of those who weep. Spare me, Lord, for my days are nothing.

Shenandoah Traditional. arr. Erb

Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you And hear your rolling river Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you 'way, we're bound away Across the wide Missouri.

I long to see your smiling valley And hear your rolling river I long to see your smiling valley 'way, we're bound away Across the wide Missouri.

'Tis seven long years since last I seen you
And hear your rolling river
'Tis seven long years since last I seen you
'way, we're bound away
Across the wide Missouri.

Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you And hear your rolling river Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you 'way, we're bound away Across the wide Missouri.

A Quiet Night Tsupryk

It is us who sing in the quiet of the night when the inner town is silent burying the seeds of our sighs in the breath of black earth

from The History of Snow by Serhiy Zhadan (trans. Sasha Dugdale, Oksana Maksymchuk)

Our land was sown with bullets and shells No enemy was able to take root here No shackles can bind our free spirit We are free people who have their own path

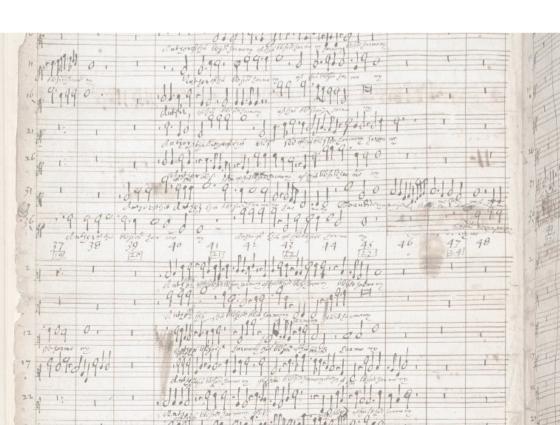
from President Volodymyr Zelensky's speech on the Day of Victory of Nazism in World War II (9 May 2022)

Deep River arr. Hogan

Deep River, my home is over Jordan,
Deep River, Lord I want to cross over into campground.
Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast
That promised land where all is peace?
Deep River, Lord I want to cross over into campground.

Spem in alium Tallis

Spem in alium nunquam habui praeter in te Deus Israel qui irasceris et propitius eris et omnia peccata hominum in tribulatione dimittis Domine Deus Creator coeli et terrae respice humilitatem nostram. I have never put my hope in any other but in You, O God of Israel who can show both anger and graciousness, and who absolves all the sins of suffering man Lord God, Creator of Heaven and Earth be mindful of our lowliness.



Sarah Latto is conductor of Paragon Singers, and conductor and co-artistic director of the young professional ensemble Echo.

Sarah studied music at the University of Cambridge, where she held a choral scholarship with Sidney Sussex College.

Her professional training has included working with the Brighton Early Music Festival and a Fellowship with Yale University. Sarah also trained with The Sixteen's young artist programme and has worked as an associate conductor with Ex Cathedra since 2019.

Described as 'sparkling, poised and subtly powerful' (The Arts Desk) her group Echo made its debut in 2017 at St John's

Smith Square, London, and have since performed at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, as Ensemble-in-Residence at Ryedale Festival and live on BBC Radio 3. Its debut album will be launched this summer with a concert at London's Wigmore Hall.

Paragon Singers is a highly accomplished chamber choir of around 24 voices that specialises in Renaissance, Baroque and contemporary music.



Sopranos

Gill Clarke, Julia Draper, Annia Grey, Mary Henderson, Josephine Herrlinger, Jane Hunt, Stephanie Lockhart

Tenors

Will Ashworth, Alex Gray, Mike Gumbley, James Henderson, Marc Horobin

Altos

Arabella Butler, Lizzie Davies, Margaret Graham, Kate Petty, Gemma White

Basses

Stewart Harcourt, Tony Shield, Nicholas Stuart

Guest singers for Spem in alium Rémi Castaing, Neil Moore, Jamie Robson, Joe Sidders, Simon Taylor JanJoost van Elburg (b.1962) finished his studies in choral conducting in 1991. He studied with Barend Schuurman

 one of the leading conducting teachers in Holland at the Conservatory of Rotterdam. Besides that he studied singing with Jelle Drayer (of the Dutch Chamber Choir), Margreet Honig, and with Ghislaine Morgan in England.

JanJoost concluded highly successful tenures directing The Renaissance Singers (London, UK), and The Reading Bach Choir (Reading, UK), he currently conducts The Bartholomew Consort (Oxford, UK),

The Lelikoor and the Westerkerkkoor (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) and Kamerkoor

Doetinchem. Twice he was guest conductor for the Nonsuch Singers in London, and has directed Blackdowns Early Music Festival events each year since 2004, including the biannual GRAND BAROQUE series in Exeter Cathedral.

He is much sought after as a vocal coach both in the UK, the US and the Netherlands, a teacher of ensemble technique and training, singing, theory and choral conducting. He is a regular guest conductor of Polyhymnia (NY City, Sept 2016, 2018 & 2020); and at the Royal Conservatoire of the Hague since 2016.

As a singer he has performed with a wide variety of ensembles, including the Tallis Scholars, The Dutch Broadcast Choir, Capella Pratensis, Capella Coloniënsis in Cologne, and his own ensembles on several European tours.

He gives workshops and lectures at home and abroad on invitation, i.e. Summerschools, Conservatoires throughout Europe, and as a guest conductor on such subjects as Renaissance & Baroque music, Madrigals, Flemish polyphony, Tudor music, and choral conducting.

In the past he has presided at the jury for the Dutch National Choral Contest. Since 2002 he was the principal tutor of the highly successful International Choral Conductors' Course. For more than 30 years he has taught at the Summer course of Buitenkunst.

Het Lelikoor (The Lily Choir) is an Amsterdam chamber choir that has existed since 1987. It is a choir of well-trained amateurs with broad experience in choral music. The choir originates from a group of singers from the Amsterdam teacher training program d'Witte Leli. Since its founding, the choir has been led by JanJoost van Elburg.



Het Lelikoor singers

Anna Duijsings, Simone de Jong, Anna Luijmes, Anneke van der Poll, Ros Powell, Sanne Sandfort-Vullings, Martha Scheeren, Kati Visser-Telegdi, Seppie Groot, Connie van Hintum, Josephine Hoegaerts, Petra Hollak, Barbara van Mierlo, Nelleke Scholten, Matthijs Bleij, Walter Heeroma, Wynand Inkelaar, Freek Berrier, Marien van Herpen, Marcel Jansen, Paul Kaspers, Frans Wiering, Leo Wolf, Teun de Vries, Maarten Boelsma, Fokko de Bruine, Johan van Straaten, Eamonn Marshall.

Our choral collaboration comes full circle

In June 2023, Paragon Singers were delighted to spend a life-enhancing few days with JanJoost and Lelikoor in the Netherlands. We joined forces for two wonderful concerts, singing our programme Sweet (Dis)Harmony in the incredible Waalse Kerk, Amsterdam (right) and in the Martinikerk, Doesburg, and enjoyed the most generous hospitality of our hosts. We're delighted to welcome our new-found friends and musical collaborators to Bath this summer for concerts at our home church St Alphege, and the beautiful Douai Abbey in Berkshire.



Friends of Paragon Singers

Our thanks to the Friends of Paragon Singers:

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Ross Thompson
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Judy Wright

Become a Friend

For as little as £30 per annum or £50 joint membership, you will receive the following benefits:

- An invitation to attend and listen to a rehearsal at an annual Friends Evening
- Free glass of wine or soft drink at concerts
- Reserved seats at concerts
- Invitation to occasional choir events
- Acknowledgment of Friends status in the programme

For more information, or to sign up as a Friend, please contact our Friends Secretary, Margaret Graham, on paragonsingers@gmail.com



With thanks to Making Music for supporting and championing voluntary music

Dates for your diary

We have exciting events ahead in 2024 with our conductor Sarah Latto. Join us on:

Saturday 29 June, St Alphege, Bath, 3-4pm Behind-the-scenes: Latin American Baroque

Join us at the end of our workshop day for a glimpse into the world of Latin American Baroque. Hear more from Sarah about this wonderful music alongside snippets of some pieces. Free for Friends of Paragon Singers. £10 for non-FOPS which is redeemable against full FOPS membership.

Saturday 23 November, Holy Trinity, Bradford-on-Avon ¡Ay Andar! Latin American Baroque

Come in from the cold to enjoy a sumptuous feast of 17th and 18th-century music from Mexico, Peru and Bolivia, brought to life with percussion, chamber organ and harp.

Paragon Singers news

Want to hear our latest news? Sign up to our newsletter via our website to receive details about our future events. Visit www.paragonsingers.co.uk or scan the QR code below to find out more.



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