

ETCetera is a new choir with members coming mainly from the Departments for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra); Transport (DfT); and Communities & Local Government (CLG).

Since mid-January the group has met for an hour each Thursday lunchtime to learn the choral work performed today. Members range from those who cannot read music and who have never sung before, through to experienced choral singers.

We very much hope that ETCetera will develop as a regular and strongly supported singing group in our Departments, and we should like to thank you, our audience, for supporting us today.

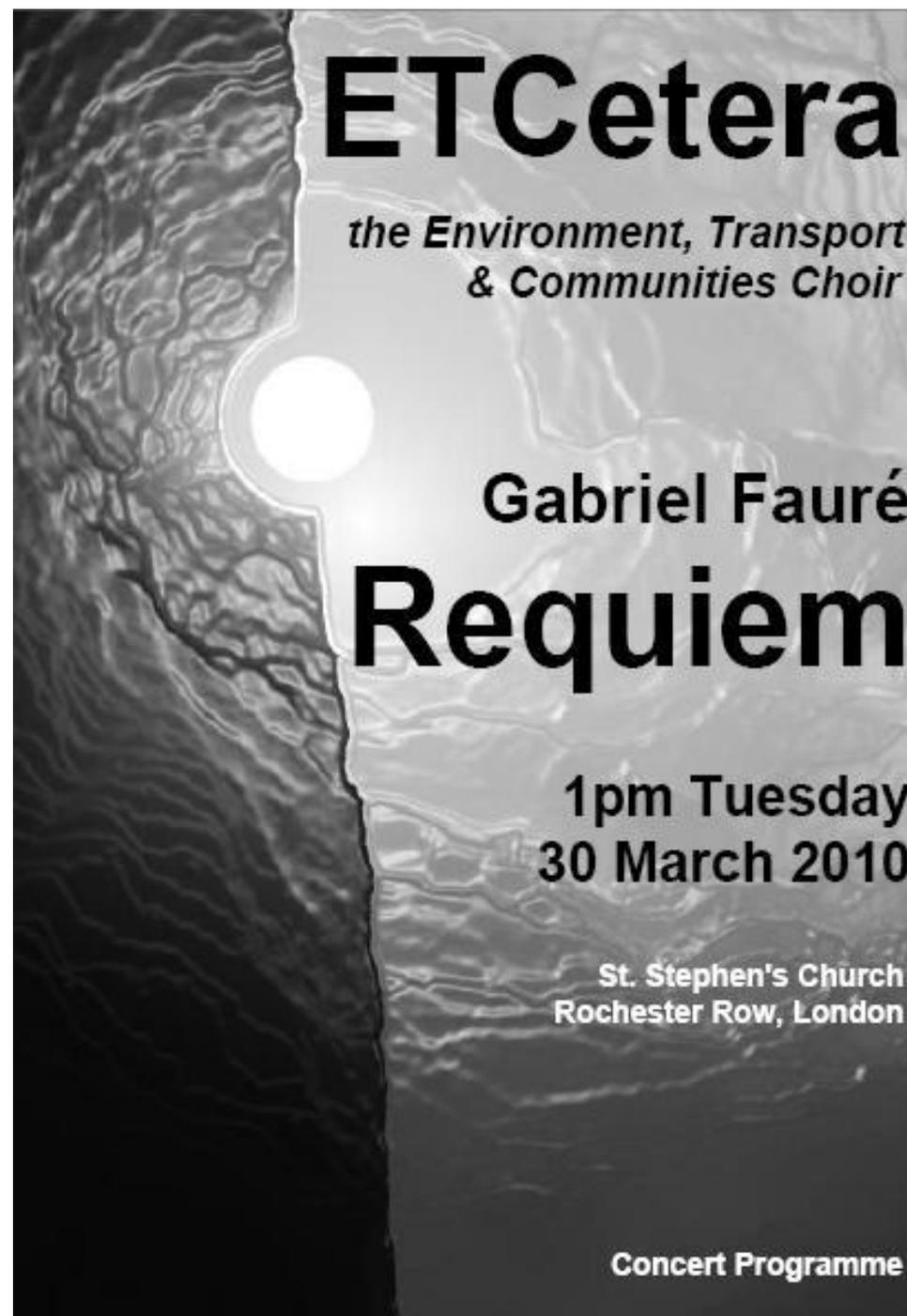
We are extremely grateful to Rev. Philip Welsh and the Verger of St. Stephen's for generously hosting our concert, and we particularly acknowledge the long association between St. Stephen's and the Choral Societies that preceded ETCetera.

Charity Collection

After the basic costs of letting us use the building, half of the collection will go to St. Stephen's for its work in the parish and beyond. The other half will go to the Cardinal Hume Centre on Horseferry Road. The Centre works with homeless young people and badly housed families, helping them to obtain employment and break out of the cycle of homelessness and social exclusion.

The Centre provides accommodation, practical and emotional support, healthcare and counselling, education, training and employment advice all on one site. The services do not just help with practical needs, but help people find their futures.

Please give generously.



ETCetera
*the Environment, Transport
& Communities Choir*

Gabriel Fauré
Requiem

1pm Tuesday
30 March 2010

St. Stephen's Church
Rochester Row, London

Concert Programme

Gabriel Fauré – *Requiem in D minor Op. 48*

All the text is in Latin (except for the Kyrie, which is Greek). The work is divided into seven movements. Please reserve applause until the end.

I. Introitus

Requiem aeternam dona eis,
Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in
Jerusalem.
Exaudi orationem meam;
ad te omnis caro veniet.

*Rest eternal grant them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine on
them.
To thee praise is due, O God, in
Zion, and to thee vows are
recited in Jerusalem.
Hear my prayer;
unto thee all flesh shall come.*

Kyrie (in Greek)

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

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

II. Offertorium

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex
gloriae,
libera animas defunctorum
de poenis inferni,
et de profundo lacu.
Libera eas de ore leonis,
ne absorbeat eas tartarus,
ne cadant in obscurum.

*Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
deliver the souls of the dead
from punishment in the inferno,
and from the infernal lake.
Deliver them from the mouth of
the lion, lest the abyss swallow
them up, lest they fall into the
darkness.*

Solo baritone: Richard Longman

Hostias et preces tibi,
Domine, laudis offerimus.
Tu suscipe pro animabus illis
quarum hodie memoriam
facimus.

*Sacrifices and prayers to thee,
O Lord, we offer with praise.
O receive them for the souls of
those whom today we
commemorate.*

Logos of earlier Departmental choral societies



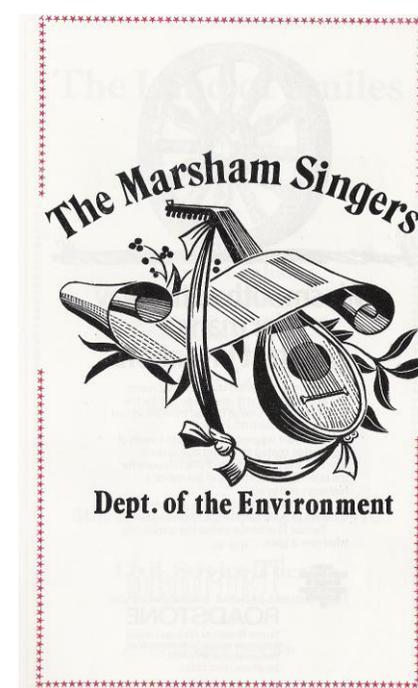
St. Christopher Singers

(1964-1972)

Ministry of Housing & Local
Government Choral Society

(1957-1972)

(from a 1971 performance programme]



Marsham Singers

(1972-1997)

(from a 1976 performance programme)

Claire Hunter – soprano soloist

Claire works in Corporate Finance in CLG. Claire was a founder member of the Hallé Youth Choir, performing regularly with the Hallé Orchestra in the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester and the Proms. In 2005 she went up to read Music at St. Hilda's College, Oxford. Whilst there she sang with Schola Cantorum, performing a diverse range of music from Handel to a jazz evensong for BBC Radio 3. She was a member of St. John's College Chapel Choir and was a lay clerk at Harris Manchester College.

Richard Longman – baritone soloist

Richard works in CLG.

Peter Stean – baritone soloist

Peter works in CLG's Digital Inclusion Team. For 8 years he sang with the London Gay Men's Chorus and sang in major venues in London and on tour to the US and Australia, as well as providing backing vocals on a spectacularly unsuccessful single by the group 'Fat Les', celebrating England's football efforts during the 2000 European Cup. Prior to the LGMC, Peter spent several years singing with the black country-based Rock Foundation gospel choir and with Bilston Operatic Society.

Acknowledgements

Very grateful thanks are due to Richard Longman, Ian Boddington, and Robert Bradburne for accompanying rehearsals on the piano and for other musical support, and to other committee members: Wendy Back (Secretary), Kendall Harding (Treasurer) and Catherine Sackey. Thanks to SPARTA and Defra SSA for help in promoting the concert. Thanks to Westminster and Merton Libraries for loan of the choral scores. Poster and programme written and typeset by Stephen Hall.

Solo baritone: Peter Stean

Fac eas, Domine,
de morte transire ad vitam,
quam olim Abrahae promisisti,
et semini eius.

*Make them, O Lord,
to pass from death to life,
as thou of old hast promised
Abraham and his seed.*

III. Sanctus

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

*Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts.
The heavens and earth are filled
with thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

IV. Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine,
dona eis requiem,
requiem sempiternam.

Solo soprano: Claire Hunter

*Merciful Lord Jesus,
grant them rest,
rest everlasting.*

V. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem,
requiem sempiternam.

*Lamb of God,
who taketh away the sins of the
world, Grant them rest,
rest everlasting.*

Lux aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,
quia pius es.
Requiem aeternam, dona eis,
Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Let light eternal shine on them,
O Lord, with thy saints forever,
for thou art merciful.
Rest eternal grant them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine on
them.*

VI. Libera me

Libera me, Domine,
de morte aeterna,
in die illa tremenda
quando coeli movendi sunt et
terra,
dum veneris judicare
saeculum per ignem

Tremens factus sum ego, et
timeo
dum discussio venerit,
atque ventura ira.
Dies illa, dies irae,
calamitatis et miseriae,
dies magna et amara valde.
Requiem aeternam, dona eis,
Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

VII. In Paradisum

In paradisum deducant te angeli,
in tuo adventu
suscipiant te martyres,
et perducant te
in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere
aeternam habeas requiem.

Solo baritone: Richard Longman

*Deliver me, O Lord,
from eternal death,
on that fearful day
when the heavens are moved
and the earth,
when thou shalt come to judge
the world through fire.*

*I am made to tremble, and I
fear,
when the desolation shall come,
and also the coming wrath.
That day, the day of wrath,
calamity, and misery,
that terrible and exceedingly
bitter day.
Rest eternal grant them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine on
them.*

*May the angels lead you into
paradise, may the martyrs
receive you in your coming, and
may they guide you into the holy
city, Jerusalem.
May the chorus of angels receive
you and with Lazarus once poor
may you have eternal rest.*

*Translated by:
Arnold vander Nat © 1999*

Tenors

Robert Bradburne	Tim May
Jan Gladysz	Cathal Rock

Basses

Solomon Abraham	Andrew Lee	Peter Stean
Mohammad Ali	Hans Libby	Philipp Thiessen
Peter Diggins	Richard Longman	Jonathan Tillson
Warwick Hawkins	Neil Maycock	Edward Tredger

Stephen Hall - conductor

Stephen works in Environment Statistics in Defra. He joined Marsham Singers in 1991, and was chairman of Victoria Singers from 1998. He co-founded *ETCetera* in 2009. He sings with the *English Baroque Choir*, and too many other choirs, in London's major venues, occasionally on television and radio, and once in a centrifuge chamber, and around a nuclear missile and recorded backing vocals with bands *Bloc Party* and *Noah & the Whale*. Today is his debut conducting a major choral work.

Paul Clarkson – organist

Paul works for the Church Commissioners' Payroll Services. He is deputy organist, as well as a Church Warden and a choir member, at St Augustine's Grove Park in South East London. Paul has been the accompanist of the Church House based Deansbank Singers since 2000 and has performed many major choral works with them. He gives concerts elsewhere as both an accompanist and a soloist and will be performing at two lunchtime recitals at St John's Stratford in August.

ETCetera Choir

Sopranos

Anne Beesley	Beverley Howes	Jeya Nadanakumaran
Elizabeth Chrominska	Claire Hunter	Olive Seisay
Sara Eppel	Jackie Jowett	Kate Soley-Barton
Kate Evans	Holly Manktelow	Julie Vindis
Carolyn Foxall	June Mason	Amanda Waller
Kendall Harding	Doreen Mitchell	Clare Williams

Altos

Wendy Back	Sharon Maddix	Abby Rudland
Susan Candlish	Evelyn Mills	Catherine Sackey
Nicola Clarke	Eike Ndiweni-Muller	Barbara Stewart
Catherine Gajewski	Rose Nwoko	Lucy Stewart
Wini Kirby	Rebecca Prestwood	Julia West
Ayoola Ladega	Camilla Reed	Claire Worsdall

Gabriel Urbain Fauré (1845 – 1924)

Gabriel Fauré was a French composer, organist, pianist, and teacher. He was the foremost French composer of his generation, and his musical style influenced many 20th century composers. His harmonic and melodic language affected how harmony was later taught.

At the age of nine he was sent to study at a school which prepared church organists and choir directors in Paris, and continued there for eleven years. He studied with several prominent French musicians, including Camille Saint-Saëns, who introduced him to the music of several contemporary composers, including Robert Schumann and Franz Liszt. In 1870, Fauré enlisted in the army and took part in the action to raise the Siege of Paris during the Franco-Prussian War.

Fauré composed his *Requiem in D minor*, Op. 48 between 1887 and 1890. This choral-orchestral setting of the Roman Catholic Mass for the Dead is the best known of his large works. The most famous movement is the soprano aria *Pie Jesu*. Saint-Saëns said of it, "just as Mozart's is the only *Ave verum Corpus*, this is the only *Pie Jesu*."

Fauré's reasons for composing his Requiem are uncertain. One possible impetus may have been the death of his father in 1885, and his mother's death two years later in 1887. However, by the time of his mother's death he had already begun the work, which he later declared was "composed for nothing ... for fun, if I may be permitted to say so!"

The earliest composed music included in the Requiem is the *Libera Me*, which Fauré wrote in 1877 as an independent work. In 1887–88, Fauré composed the first version of what he called "un petit Requiem". It was first performed in 1888 with Fauré conducting. In 1889, he expanded the work and it was premièred in 1893, again with him conducting.

In 1899–1900, the score was reworked for full orchestra. This version was premiered in 1900. It was the best known version until John Rutter rediscovered the original manuscript of 1889 in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris in the early 1980s. In 1924 the Requiem was performed at Fauré's own funeral. It did not reach England until 1936.

Source: Wikipedia.org (edited)

ETCetera and a choral history in the Departments

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government Choral Society was formed in 1957 and performed an annual charity carol concert on the main staircase of the offices in Whitehall. Its other main productions were the comic operas 'Merrie England' and 'Trial by Jury'. In 1967 the Society combined with the Home Office Musical Society for their 35th anniversary celebrations. From that time close cooperation developed between these two societies – together they performed a concert version of 'Merrie England' in 1970, as well as many shorter concerts of popular music, some of which were held at the Civil Service Sanatorium at Benenden, Kent.

Meanwhile the St. Christopher Singers, a choral and operatic society, was formed in 1964 in the Ministry of Transport at the invitation of the Permanent Secretary, a keen amateur musician, and was so named after its office building, St. Christopher House in Southwark. The society was not long in taking to the stage and by 1965 included a performance in costume of Act II of Mozart's 'The Marriage of Figaro'. Fully staged productions then followed: 'Pirates of Penzance' in 1966, 'The Mikado' in 1967, and 'Die Fledermaus' in 1968.

In 1970 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Ministry of Transport merged to form the Department of the Environment. In 1971, faced with the upheaval of the move to the new headquarters at 2 Marsham Street, and rehearsal difficulties, the St. Christopher Singers joined up with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Choral Society and additionally recruited staff from the Ministry of Public Building and Works to put on a mixed stage show. The Societies collaborated again in Spring 1972, with a lunchtime performance of Fauré's Requiem here in St. Stephen's.

The Marsham Singers came into being soon afterwards, following a formal merger of the two Societies. Although the Department of Transport once again became separate in 1976, it was co-located in 2 Marsham Street, with the Department of the Environment, and the Marsham Singers continued to put on fully staged musical productions at the Civil Service Theatre in Northumberland Avenue, throughout the

1970s and early 1980s. A lunchtime choir was created to give other opportunities for singing besides the musical productions, and the Marsham Singers continued in this form when 'time' was called on putting on stage productions in the latter part of the 1980s.

In 1997 when the Department of the Environment moved to Eland House in Victoria, and the Department for Environment, Transport and the Regions was formed, the choir was renamed Victoria Singers. Falling membership made it difficult to maintain a viable choir, and the Victoria Singers were formally disbanded in 2000. As a last attempt to keep the Society going, a brief merger with the Home Office's own struggling choir resulted in the Victoria and Queen Anne Singers performing the Fauré Requiem, but even the two choirs combined were not viable beyond this one concert. Thereafter, the name Victoria Singers was kept alive by assembling an informal choir to support the inter-departmental Carol Services. Following the carol service in 2008, there was sufficient enthusiasm and enough singers to justify an attempt to bring choral singing back to the Departments.

In September 2009, the first rehearsal of a new choir was attended by just four people, but over the weeks membership grew such that a choir of 25 singers gave its debut concert in November, and ETCetera, the Environment, Transport and Communities Choir, was born. In December, a choir of 30 singers led the Carol Service and the group sang Christmas carols at a Defra event at New Covent Garden Food Market, with the choir subsequently heard on BBC Radio 4's Farming Today; and at a CLG staff event. In January, the choir was formally established at a meeting attended by 45 people, and it has continued to grow, with over 50 singers performing today, and an overall mailing list of over 100 people interested in singing with us.

ETCetera

"open to all - whether up until now only singing
in the shower or an experienced singer"

If you are interested in joining ETCetera please email
the **Secretary: Wendy.Back@communities.gsi.gov.uk**