

In common with other Cathedrals and Churches across the globe, the season of Advent and Christmas is a time when Portsmouth Cathedral welcomes large numbers of people to services or concerts.

All the music on the disc was sung at cathedral Christmas carol services in 2008 and 2009 with one exception - 'In Your image' is not strictly a Christmas carol, but it speaks of the incarnation and of humanity's relationship with God our Father through Christ His Son. The 'Advent Responsary' is often sung at the start of Advent or Christmas carol services and this version weaves the advent hymn 'Sleepers Wake' within its textures. 'Once in Royal' adorns most churches' celebrations and we use Sir David Willcock's familiar harmonies and descant made famous by the King's College Cambridge Carol of Nine Lessons and Carols. 'Veiled in Darkness' is a haunting carol speaking of the Advent hope of Christ's Coming into the world whilst 'Let us Light a Candle' unveils the joy of the Child's birth in Bethlehem.

'Away in a Manger', here arranged by David Hill (during his time as Organist of Winchester Cathedral) continues the story of the new born babe and is followed by Estonian-born Arvo Pärt's highly stylised Hymn to the Virgin Mother. The promise of Mary, Mother of Jesus as foretold in the Old Testament is set to music by Howells with a beautiful bass solo line.

Franz Grüber's famous 'Silent Night' returns to its simple origins through Christine Gymnn's gentle setting and is followed by the more boistrous Good King Wenceslas. The disc concludes with the magisterial medieval hymn, 'Of the Father's heart begotten' followed by a fresh and jaunty arrangement of 'Ding Dong merrily on high'

The recording business is very different from ten years ago. Finances and time are as ever in short supply, and we are grateful to Adrian Green and Convivium Records for undertaking this project on the minimum of recording sessions.

Dr David Price *Organist, and Master of the Choristers*



PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL

CHOIR is made up of twentyfour boy choristers and fourteen gentlemen (made up of seven lay-clerks and up to seven choral scholars) who contribute to the pattern of daily cathedral worship, singing for at least five services every week. The Choir also sings at various special services and events both locally, in the Cathedral and the Diocese of Portsmouth internationally on tour to Belgium, Holland, Sweden, France and, more recently, Estonia, Denmark

and The French Alps. The Choir was involved in the 60th Anniversary of DDay commemorations during which the choir sang two BBC Radio broadcasts, a concert in Caen with the London Mozart Players and the International Service of Remembrance at Bayeux in the presence of HM The Queen, The President of France and the Prime Minster. Subsequently the choir took a role in Trafalgar200 performing at the International Drumhead Ceremony and at events aboard HMS Victory during

Trafalgar Week (three BBC radio and TV broadcasts). The Choir has also made a number of recordings, including a reconstruction of music from Admiral Lord Nelson's Funeral year and 'I look from afar' - a recording of Advent and Christmas carols closely followed by 'Portsmouth Remembers'. More recently we recorded Harvey Brough's DDay 60 cantata 'Valete in Pace' with The Britten Sinfonia, Clare College Choir, Cambridge, Mark le Broq and Andrew Parrott.

IN YOUR IMAGE Portsmouth Cathedral Choir

Organist and Master of the Choristers *Dr David Price* Cathedral Sub-Organist *Marcus Wibberley* Produced by *Adrian Green* Assistant Producer Martin Cawte Engineered by Kevin Hodgson Mastering by Adaq Khan

Combined Members of Choir July 2009 and July 2010 -

Treble

Harry Boorman,* Elliott Chubb,† Oliver Chubb,* Thomas Cleary,* Charlie Cresswell-Hogg, Henry Cresswell-Hogg, Harry Davis-Marks†, Adam Dixon, Louie Duncan, Henry Elphick-Smith, Freddie Fenton,† William Forrest, Sam Gibb, Rory Greenwood, Charlie Haestier,* Isaac Hillier,† Theo Hornsey, Ben Ireland,* Joseph Kooner-Evans†, Jack o'Leary, Elias Lederer, James Liller,† Oliver Lilley,† Adam Mactoom, Finley McBride, Oliver Nash,† Guy Snowball,* Hugh Summers, Gulliver Trim,* Robert Weekes, James Willcocks

Alto

George Barrett, John Bretheron,* Oliver Carpenter, Alasdair Forbes†, John Mitchell, Nick Pepin

Tenor

David Alcindor,* John Austin,* Martin Cawte, Adrian Green, Bryn Hughes, Trevor Owen, Edmund Woodhouse[†]

Bass

Harry Bennett, Brian Dodd, William Drakett, Jonathan Hedges, John Holland-Avery*, Isaac Knight, Richard Walshe*, James Wilder

*2009 only, †2010 only

- With sincere thanks to -

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