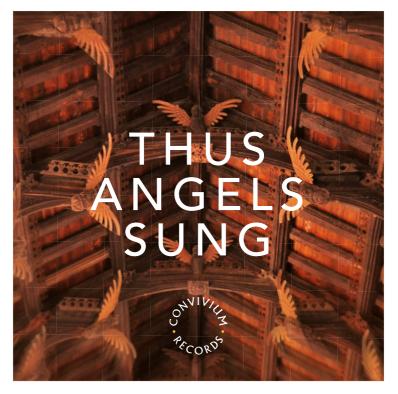
JAMES BOWMAN



MALCOLM ARCHER

There is absolutely no rhyme or reason behind the selection of pieces on this recording, and this is intentional. Every piece was chosen at random, simply because I happened to like them and wanted to record them.

I have been lucky enough to have had a recording career that started over forty-five years ago, having made my first recording for His Master's Voice, with King's College Choir in 1967. Since then I have made some 180 recordings, stretching from black discs through tape cassettes, to CDs. Actually, I made my original demo recording on a wax disc, and this was sent to David Willcocks in Cambridge for his approval.

At the end of a recording career there are always pieces lurking at the bottom of the barrel that you wanted to record, but somehow they never seemed to fit into the scheme of things. So here are those 'Odds & Ends' and I have to admit they make a very disparate collection. The only pieces actually written for counter-tenor are the three songs by Malcolm Archer and the little Grace before Dinner by Christopher Moore. Other pieces have been transposed and rearranged to suit my voice.

I've always loved Elgar, but he wrote nothing for counter-tenor, so I've taken the liberty of including the lovely 'Where corals lie' from *Sea Pictures*. I wonder what Dame Clara Butt would make of this. Similarly, having been brought up as a cathedral chorister in Ely Cathedral on Stanford's church music, I wanted to include him, and the little song from *Twelfth Night* seemed ideal.

I'm sure Vaughan Williams would have written for counter-tenor had he lived longer. After all, he loved all things Elizabethan and the Tallis tune that he immortalised in his Fantasia would have been sung by an all-male choir I remember singing Dirge for Fidele as a boy treble. Obviously, Britten had to be represented, as this recording was made in his Anniversary Year, but who would think of including Thomas Attwood? Once again, I hark back to my chorister days, when I sang both pieces, probably not very well. Attwood studied with Mozart, who bullied him, but there's something.

of the Master in his music, and the result is quite touching.

The mediaeval world, apparently, believed that angels sang in the Alto register, so it seems appropriate to use the title *Thus Angels Sung* for such a collection.

To me, the choice of venue for a recording is most important. I detest singing in an anonymous, dreary studio, although I exempt the EMI Abbey Road Studios from this stricture.

A church is always infinitely preferable, away from traffic and aircraft noise. I don't mind if it's old and damp as long as there is some sort of atmosphere. Blythburgh church in Suffolk is ideal. When this recording was first proposed, I had reservations about recording in Portsmouth Cathedral It was not a building that I knew and I imagined a lot of intrusive noise from the docks and shipping in general. But it has proved a wonderful place to record, with perfect acoustics and its own very special atmosphere. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to work in this friendly place.

JAMES BOWMAN

Malcolm Archer's Three Songs were later performance by the same performers in Winchester College and this is the first recording of these songs, which work together as a cycle.

The first song, When Jesus Christ was yet a child sets a translation of a Russian text by Pleshcheev, the second, Drop, drop slow tears sets words by Phineas Fletcher to an original tune, rather than the more familiar one by Gibbons, and the third sets traditional English words in The Bellman's Song.

Sion's Daughter uses a translation of a Dutch text, and this carol

comes from Malcolm Archer's work Noel! Noel! (published by RSCM publications). Written for upper voices, the work was commissioned by Badminton School in Bristol and the Director of Music. Matthew Bale, and received its première in St. George's Church, Brandon Hill, Bristol on the occasion of the school's 150th anniversary.

The complete work is a cycle of nine carols designed to be sung either liturgically or in concert, accompanied by either piano or orchestra.

MALCOLM ARCHER

written for James Bowman, and first performed by James at a concert in Stogursey Church in Somerset, accompanied by the composer. There was a

- 1 THE SONG OF ANGELS [1:18]
- 2 OCULI OMNIUM [1:21]
- ³ HIDE NOT THOU THY FACE [1:47]
- 4 SION'S DAUGHTER [2:05]
- 5 THE HOLY BOY [2:43]
- MY LITTLE SWEET DARLING [1:27]
- 7 I SAW A MAIDEN [3:03]
- ⁸ LULLABY [2:59]
- 9 SWEET AND LOW [1:59]
- 10 WHEN JESUS CHRIST WAS YET A CHILD [2:47]
- 11 DROP, DROP SLOW TEARS [1:55]
- 12 THE BELLMAN'S SONG [2:02]

- 13 EVENFALL [2:10]
- 14 DIRGE FOR FIDELE [3:49]
- 15 THE TREES THEY GROW SO HIGH [3:05]
- 16 THE RAIN IT RAINETH EVERY DAY [2:28]
- 17 HOW SHOULD I YOUR TRUE LOVE KNOW? [1:44]
- 18 WHERE CORALS LIE [3:27]
- 19 O NATA LUX [1:48]
- 20 CORPUS CHRISTI CAROL [2:21]
- ²¹ THE CALL [2:01]
- 22 TURN THY FACE FROM MY SINS [2:57]
- 23 COME, HOLY GHOST [4:30]

JAMES BOWMAN

Counter-tenor

MALCOLM ARCHER

Piano / Organ

INSTRUMENT MAKERS

Estonia — Grand Piano (2012 sessions) Bösendorfer — Grand Piano (2013 sessions) Kenneth Tickell — Chamber Organ John Nicholson / Nicholson & Co. Ltd. — Cathedral Organ

RECORDED

Portsmouth Cathedral 28th, 29th, 31st August 2012 28th August 2013 (tracks 2, 7, 15, 17, 19, 20, 23)

BOOKLET COVER

Photography — Angel roof, St. Wendreda's Church, March Lynne Jayne Jenkins

JAMES BOWMAN

James Bowman has been one of the world's leading counter-tenors for over forty years; his career spans Opera, Oratorio, Contemporary music and solo recitals He began singing as a Chorister at Ely Cathedral and later entered New College, Oxford with a Choral scholarship. After leaving Oxford, he joined the choir of Westminster Abbey.

As the result of an audition, he was invited by Benjamin Britten to sing at the opening concert of the new Queen Elizabeth Hall in London in March 1967, and this marked his London début.

He was soon in demand on both the Opera stage and the concert platform, appearing at the Aldeburgh Festival and Sadlers Wells in 1967 (A Midsummer Night's Dream), at Glyndebourne in 1970 (La Calisto), the English National Opera in 1971 (Semele) and the Royal Opera in 1977 (Taverner).

Among his numerous opera engagements abroad, mention should be made of Paris (L'Opéra, L'Opéra Comigue, Le Théâtre du Châtelet. Le Théâtre des Champs-Elysées), La Scala, Milan, La Fenice, Venice and the Festival of Aix-en-Provence In Australia he has appeared at the Sydney and Melbourne Opera houses and in the USA at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington, as well as Dallas, San Francisco and Santa Fe.

His concert career is equally wide-ranging. In Europe he is well-known as a recitalist, with a large following. He has sung at every major festival >



in France and in 1992 the French government honoured him with admission to 'L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres'. In the same year he was awarded the Medal of Honour of the City of Paris.

James Bowman has made over 150 recordinas with all the major record labels, under such directors as Britten, Harnoncourt, Mackerras, Leppard, Hogwood, Brüggen and Pinnock He has recorded Messiah four times, under Willcocks, Koopman, Dorati and Parrott. Many of his recordings have been for Hyperion, recording all the Purcell Odes. Church music and Solo songs, as well as various solo discs of music by Bach, Handel,

Vivaldi, Pergolesi, Hasse, Domenico Scarlatti and Dowland.

James Bowman has aiven the world première of many important contemporary compositions, including works by Beniamin Britten, Michael Tippett, Peter Maxwell Davies. Richard Rodney Bennett, Robin Holloway, Geoffrey Burgon, Michael Nyman, Alan Ridout and Tarig O'Regan, In May 1996 he received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Music from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and was made CBE in the 1997 Queen's Birthday Honours. He is also an Honorary Fellow of New College, Oxford and in

October 2000 became a Gentleman of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace.

More recently, James has been a member of the Jury for the Kathleen Ferrier Awards, and during 2009 he was President of the Festival de Wallonie in Belgium. In 2010 he was presented with 'A Lifetime Award for Services to Early Music' by the York Early Music Festival. In May 2011 he made his farewell to the London concert platform with a sold-out recital at London's Wigmore Hall, singing Purcell and Handel, However, he still appears occasionally at venues away from the capital.

MALCOLM ARCHER

at St. Paul's Cathedral

he directed the choir for several State services including the Tsunami Malcolm Archer is one of the world's leading Memorial Service, the church musicians. London Bombings and has enjoyed a Service and the 80th distinguished career in Birthday Service for cathedral music. which HM The Queen, for which he was invited has taken him to posts by Buckingham Palace at Norwich, Bristol, Wells Cathedrals and to compose a special then Director of Music anthem, performed at St. Paul's Cathedral live on BBC1. His in London. He is now many broadcasts and Director of Chapel Music recordings from Wells at Winchester College, and St. Paul's have where he is responsible received critical acclaim. for the College's ancient and his CD of Christmas choral foundation: music from St. Paul's conducting the Chapel was voted Editor's number one choice in Choir and teaching the organ. During his time The Daily Telegraph.

Malcolm is much in demand as a choir trainer and choral and orchestral conductor. and he has directed concerts, workshops, courses and summer schools in various parts of the globe, as well as working with several leading orchestras. He is also the Musical Director of the Jean Langlais Festival in France. As an organ recitalist he has played in nine European countries, the USA and Canada, and his CDs include repertoire as diverse as J.S. Bach and Olivier Messiaen, as well as his own music >



As a composer, Malcolm receives regular commissions from both sides of the Atlantic, and he has many published works. Recently he has composed works for the Southern Cathedrals Festival. St. Paul's Cathedral the Festival of the Sons of the Clergy and an anthem for the enthronement service of the Bishop of Winchester He has also jointly edited two books for Oxford University Press: Advent for Choirs and Epiphany to All Saints for Choirs His compositions are widely performed and greatly enjoyed for

their approachable nature and singability. He is not exclusively a church composer and has also written instrumental music and works for the theatre.

He has been an adjudicator for the BBC Radio 2 Young Chorister of the year competition, and for four years was a judge for the BBC Songs of Praise School including chairing the judging panel for two of those competitions. He is also a frequent contributor to that programme as both interviewee and musical arranger.

He has recently been a judge for the British Composer Awards.

Malcolm has served as council member of the Royal College of Organists, and he is a member of the council of the Guild of Church Musicians from whom he was recently awarded the Fellowship for his services to church music over many vears. In 2009. he was awarded the FRSCM (Fellow of the Royal School of Church Musicl for his work in three cathedrals. and as a composer of church music.

malcolmarcher.com

JAMES BOWMAN / ANDREW KING / MALCOLM ARCHER

Constant of the local division of the local

100000

text Song 34 Hymnes & Songs George Wither (1588-1667) music Orlando Gibbons

ONE THE SONG OF ANGELS

Thus angels sung, and thus sing we: To God on high all glory be; Let Him on earth His peace bestow, And unto men His favour show.

TWO OCULI OMNIUM

Oculi omnium in te sperant, Domine: The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord, Et tu das illis escam in tempore opportuno. And Thou givest them their food in due season. Aperis tu manum tuam,

text Grace before Dinner Psalm 145 vv15-16 music Christopher Moore (1948-)

Thou openest Thine hand Et imples omne animal benedictione. And fillest all things living with plenteousness. Alleluia

Alleluia

THREE HIDE NOT THOU THY FACE

text Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556) music Richard Farrant

text trad. Dutch. trans.

music Malcolm Archer

Percy Dearmer

Hide not Thou Thy face from us, O Lord, And cast not off Thy servant in Thy displeasure. For we confess our sins unto Thee. And hide not our unrighteousness. For Thy mercy sake deliver us from all our sins.

FOUR SION'S DAUGHTER

O Sion's daughter, where art thou? Good news have I to tell thee. A greater joy I bring thee now Than ever yet befell thee. A maiden hath brought forth a son; Great was the gift she gave us: In Bethlem was that life begun Of Him who came to save us As through a casement light will flood That darkness may be ended, So through her maiden motherhood The child of God descended. Upon her lap He lay so fair, She kissed Him and caressed Him Great was the love she did Him bear. As to her heart she pressed Him.

FIVE THE HOLY BOY

piano solo music John Ireland (1879-1962)

SIX MY LITTLE SWEET DARLING

My little sweet darling, my comfort and joy. Sing lullaby lully. In beauty surpassing the princes of Troy. Sing lullaby lully. Now suck child and sleep child, thy mother's sweet boy. Sing lullaby lully. The gods bless and keep thee from cruel annoy, Sing lully, lully, lully. Sweet baby, lullaby lully.

SEVEN I SAW A MAIDEN

I saw a maiden sitten and sing: She lulled her child, a little lording.

Lullay my dear son my sweeting, Lullay my dear son, my own dear darling.

This very Lord, He made all things, And this very God, the King of all kings.

There was sweet music at this child's birth, And heaven filled with angels, making much mirth.

text 15th century, adapted music Basque melody, arr. Edgar Pettman (1866-1943) Heaven's angels sang to welcome the child Now born of a maid, all undefiled.

Pray we and sing on this festal day That peace may dwell with us alway.

text anon. music attrib. William Byrd (1543-1623)





JAMES BOWMAN / MALCOLM ARCHER

FEATURE FROM ORGAN CASEWORK - PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL

EIGHT LULLABY

piano solo **music** Cyril Scott (1879-1970) transcribed for piano - Robert Elkin (pub. 1927)

NINE SWEET AND LOW

Sweet and low, Wind of the western sea, Low, low, breathe and blow, Wind of the western sea. Over the rolling waters go, Come from the dying moon, and blow, Blow him again to me, While my little one, while my pretty one, sleeps.

Sleep and rest, Father will come to thee soon, Rest on mother's breast, Father will come to thee soon. Father will come to his babe in the nest, Silver sails all out of the west Under the silver moon.

Sleep, my little one, sleep, my pretty one, sleep.

text Aleksei Nikolaevich Pleshcheev (1825-1893) trans. attrib. Geoffrey Dearmer (1893-1996) music Malcolm Archer (1952-)

TEN WHEN JESUS CHRIST WAS YET A CHILD

When Jesus Christ was yet a child He had a garden small and wild, Wherein He cherished roses fair, And wove them into garlands there.

Now once, as summertime drew nigh, There came a troop of children by, And seeing roses on the tree, With shouts they plucked them merrily.

"Do you bind roses in your hair?" In scorn they cried to Jesus there. The boy said humbly: "Take, I pray, All but the naked thorns away."

Then of the thorns they made a crown, And with rough fingers press'd it down, Till on His forehead fair and young Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

text Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) music no.4 of Six English Lyrics (1966) Malcolm Williamson (1921-2002)

ELEVEN DROP, DROP SLOW TEARS

Drop, drop slow tears, And bathe those beauteous feet, Which brought from Heav'n The news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes His mercies to entreat, To cry for vengeance, Sin doth never cease.

text Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650) **nusic** Malcolm Archer (1952-) In your deep floods Drown all my faults and fears, Nor let His eye see sin, But through my tears.

TWELVE THE BELLMAN'S SONG

The moon shines bright, the stars give light: A little before it was day, Our Lord, our God, He called on us, And bid us wake and pray.

Awake, awake good people all; Awake and you shall hear Our Lord, our God died on the cross For us whom He loved so dear.

O fair, O fair Jerusalem, When shall I come to thee? When shall my sorrows have an end, Thy joy that I may see?

And for the saving of our souls Christ died upon the cross; We ne'er shall do for Jesus Christ As He hath done for us.

text trad. **music** Malcolm Archer (1952-)

The life of man is but a span And cut down in its flower. We're here today and tomorrow are gone, The creatures of an hour.

THIRTEEN EVENFALL

Breathe, my lute, beneath my fingers One regretful breath. One lament for life that lingers Round the doors of death. For the frost has killed the rose, And our summer dies in snows, And our morning once for all Gathers to the evenfall.

Hush, my lute, return to sleeping, Sing no songs again. For the reaper stays his reaping On the darkened plain; And the day has drained its cup, And the twilight cometh up; Song and sorrow all that are Slumber at the evenstar.

FOURTEEN DIRGE FOR FIDELE

Fear no more the heat o'the sun, Nor the furious winter's rages; Thou thy worldly task hast done, Home art gone and ta'en thy wages. Golden lads and girls all must As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.

Fear no more the lightning-flash Nor th'all dreaded thunder-stone; Fear not slander, censure rash, Thou hast finished joy and moan; All lovers young, all lovers must Consign to thee, and come to dust.

text from *Cymbeline* (IV,ii) William Shakespeare (1564-1616) **music** Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) No exorciser harm thee! Nor no witchcraft charm thee! Ghost unlaid forbear thee! Nothing ill come near thee! Quiet consummation have; And renowned be thy grave!

text Alfred Edward Housman (1859-1936) music Humphrey Clucas (1941-)

FIFTEEN THE TREES THEY GROW SO HIGH

The trees they grow so high and the leaves they do grow green, And many a cold winter's night my love and I have seen. Of a cold winter's night, my love, you and I alone have been, Whilst my bonny boy is young he's a-growing.

O father, dearest father, you've done to me great wrong. You've tied me to a boy when you know he is too young. O daughter, dearest daughter, if you wait a little while, A lady you shall be while he's growing.

I'll send your love to college all for a year or two, And then in the meantime he will do for you. I'll buy him white ribbons, tie them round his bonny waist To let the ladies know that he's married.

I went up to the college and I looked over the wall, Saw four and twenty gentlemen playing at bat and ball. I called for my true love, but they would not let him come, All because he was a young boy and growing.

At the age of sixteen, he was a married man And at the age of seventeen he was father to a son. And at the age of eighteen the grass grew over him, Cruel death soon put an end to his growing.

text trad. Somerset Folk Song music arr. Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

And now my love is dead and in his grave doth lie, The green grass grows o'er him so very, very high. I'll sit and I'll mourn his fate until the day I die, And I'll watch all o'er his child while he's growing.

SIXTEEN THE RAIN IT RAINETH EVERY DAY

When that I was and a little tiny boy, With hey ho, the wind and the rain, A foolish thing was but a toy, For the rain it raineth every day.

But when I came to man's estate, With hey ho, the wind and the rain. 'Gainst knave and thief men shut their gate, For the rain it raineth every day.

But when I came, alas! to wive, With a hey ho, the wind and the rain, By swagg'ring I could never thrive, For the rain it raineth every day.

A great while ago the world begun With a hey ho, the wind and the rain. But that's all one, our play is done, And we'll strive to please you every day.

text from *Twelfth Night* (V i) William Shakespeare (1564-1616) **music** Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

SEVENTEEN HOW SHOULD I YOUR TRUE LOVE KNOW?

How should I your true love know From another one? By his cockle hat and staff, And his sandal shoon.

He is dead and gone lady, He is dead and gone; At his head a grass-green turf, At his heels a stone.

text from Hamlet (IV, v) William Shakespeare (1564-1616) music Roger Quilter (1877-1953) White his shroud as the mountain snow, Larded with sweet flowers, Which bewept to the grave did go With true-love showers.

EIGHTEEN WHERE CORALS LIE

The deeps have music soft and low When winds awake the airy spry. It lures me, lures me on to go And see the land where corals lie.

By mount and mead, by lawn and rill, When night is deep, and moon is high, That music seeks and finds me still, And tells me where the corals lie.

Yes, press my eyelids close, 'tis well; But far the rapid fancies fly To rolling worlds of wave and shell, And all the land where corals lie.

text Richard Garnett (1835-1906) music from *Sea Pictures* Edward Elgar (1857-1934) Thy lips are like a sunset glow, Thy smile is like a morning sky, Yet leave me, leave me, let me go And see the land where corals lie.

NINETEEN O NATA LUX

O nata lux de lumine. O Light born of Light, Jesu redemptor saeculi. Jesus. Redeemer of the world. Dignare clemens supplicum Deign with mercy to receive Laudes preces que sumere. The praise and prayer of those who entreat. Qui carne quondam contegi Thou who once deigned to take fleshly form Dignatus es pro perditis. For the sake of the lost. Nos membra confer effici

With Thy blessed body.

TWENTY CORPUS CHRISTI CAROL

He bare him up, he bare him down, He bare him into an orchard brown. Lully, lullay, the falcon hath borne my make away.

In that orchard there was an hall That was hanged with purple and pall. And in that hall there was a bed. It was hanged with gold so red. Lully, lullay, the falcon hath borne my make away.

In that bed there lieth a knight, His woundes bleeding, day and night. By that bedside kneeleth a may, And she weepeth both night and day. Lully, lullay, the falcon hath borne my make away.

And by that bedside there standeth a stone, Corpus Christi written thereon.

music Benjamin Britten

music Thomas Tallis

Tui beati corporis.

Grant our body to be one

TWENTY-ONE THE CALL

Come my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath: Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a feast: Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

text from The Temple George Herbert (1593-1633) music no.4 of Five Mystical Songs Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move: Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joys in love.

TWENTY-TWO TURN THY FACE FROM MY SINS

Turn Thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God,text Psalm 51 vv9-11And renew a right spirit within me.music Thomas AttwoodCast me not away from Thy presence,
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

text Veni Creator Spiritus attrib. Rabanus Mauras (9th century) trans. John Cosin (1594-1672) music Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

TWENTY-THREE COME, HOLY GHOST

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, And lighten with celestial fire. Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above, Is comfort, life, and fire of love. Enable with perpetual light, The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face, With the abundance of Thy grace. Keep far our foes, give peace at home, Where Thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son, And Thee of both to be but one. That through the ages all along, This may be our endless song:

Praise to Thy eternal merit, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



JAMES BOWMAN

Counter-tenor

MALCOLM ARCHER Piano / Organ

ANDREW KING Producer

ADAQ KHAN Sound Engineer / Mastering

TOM KUGLIN Artist Photography LYNNE JAYNE JENKINS Cover Photography

WITH THANKS The Dean & Chapter of Portsmouth Cathedral

JOHN BEVAN

Creative Director

ADRIAN GREEN Executive Producer



COPYRIGHT

This digital booklet is made freely available through the website www.conviviumrecords.co.uk for personal use and reference only.

Copyright subsists in all recordings, associated artwork and supporting imagery from Convivium Records, including within this digital booklet. It is illegal to copy this / them in whole or in part, for any purpose whatsoever, without permission from the copyright holder, Convivium Records Ltd. Any unauthorized copying, reproduction, distribution, re-recording, broadcasting or public performance of this or any other content provided by Convivium Records Ltd. will constitute an infringement of copyright.

To apply to use any recordings, associated artwork and supporting imagery from Convivium Records, including any content within this digital booklet, for anything other than personal use, please email: hello@conviviumrecords.co.uk

Applications for a public performance licence should be sent to: Phonographic Performance Ltd, 1 Upper James Street, London W1F 9DE. For more on copyright, please visit: www.conviviumrecords.co.uk/copyright