

M The
Mackintosh
Choir

Christmas Concert

Musical Director - Au Arias
Accompanist - Gordon Cree



Sunday 10th December 2023 at 7pm

St John's-Renfield Church

22 Beaconsfield Road Glasgow G12 0NY

 The Mackintosh Choir Glasgow
www.mackintoshchoir.com

The Mackintosh Choir is a registered Scottish Charity No SC049999





The Mackintosh Choir

“Yuletide carols being sung by a choir...”

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a carol concert, and we are delighted to welcome you to our seasonal celebration here in St John's-Renfield Church.

Our programme includes favourites such as “Child of Peace” and “O Holy Night”; traditional pieces such as “Gaudete” and the “Coventry Carol”; songs from Christmas films - and of course, a John Rutter carol or two.

You'll find we've got something for everyone - from soothing lullabies to rousing pieces with lots of Alleluias (and Hallelujahs)!

You may also find the odd mention of bells – some silver, some in Paradise or on sleighs but all jingling a Christmas message.

And you, the audience, are not forgotten, as there will be an opportunity for you to join us in singing two Christmas Carols. We hope there is something for everyone to enjoy and put you into the spirit of the season.

The summer concert next year will be an extra special one – in fact it's a World Premiere - so you won't want to miss it! Keep an eye on our website www.mackintoshchoir.com for updates. The date is Sunday 2nd June 2024 at 7pm, here in this beautiful venue.

As has become our custom at Christmas, tonight we are collecting for the Lodging House Mission, a Glasgow-based charity supported by the parish of St John's-Renfield. The charity gives care through the provision of food, essential facilities, counselling and education to people who are homeless, vulnerable and socially excluded.

The Mackintosh Choir wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.





Au Arias

Au Arias is a Scotland-based music director and composer. Originally born in Argentina, Au Arias has developed an international career in more than five countries (Turkey, South Africa, UK, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina) either from the orchestra podium or by showcasing his compositions in festivals and concerts.

As Musical Director, he has had a wide experience of conducting opera, orchestras and choirs. He made his professional debut in 2014 by premiering his own opera “Gruta de Ninfas” in Argentina with great success. Among other appointments, highlights include his positions as opera director at the Izmir State Opera and the Samsun State Opera (Republic of Turkey) where he conducted more than 70 professional productions.

As Composer, he gained recognition for his choral-orchestral works such as Tango Mass and his opera Gruta de Ninfas. His music has been described as “neo-impressionist”. However, his interests are wider than this, because of his exploration of electro-acoustic resources and other elements of the music of today. Melody, consonance, texture and noise can be found in his works. For Au Arias, Music is not just music, but a way to paint the world we live in.

Au Arias is currently based in Glasgow - where he leads two choirs (InChorus and The Mackintosh Choir). He delivers piano and music tuition at his own studio. He is also a mountain-bike enthusiast who likes going for long rides in the countryside.

www.auarias.com



Gordon Cree

Gordon Cree was born in Ayrshire and was classically trained in piano and singing at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama. In a career that now spans more than two decades, he has achieved a formidable reputation as an entertainer, musician, after-dinner speaker, compere, occasional actor, arranger, orchestrator and occasional conductor for orchestras throughout the world.

As a solo artiste he has appeared in concert, cabaret, pantomime and summer season throughout the world, including three seasons at the Nevele Grande Stardust Room (New York), two summer seasons at the Blackpool Winter Gardens; countless appearances in The Good Old Days at Leeds’ world-famous City Varieties Music Hall. He is also a popular regular “Star Guest Performer” aboard the world’s luxury cruise liners.

In 1990 he was awarded the “Scottish Young Organist of the Year” title; in 1997 he won the Sir Hugh S. Robertson Prize for Scots Song; in 2008 he was made a Freeman of the City of Glasgow; in 2009 he was admitted to the British Ring of the International Brotherhood of Magicians; in 2012 he was elected a Fellow of the Guild of Musicians and Singers; and in April 2019 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Scottish Music Hall and Variety Theatre Society – an accolade which has been awarded to several legends of Scottish entertainment, including Jack Milroy, Johnny Beattie and Jimmy Logan.



Audience Carols

Once in Royal David's City

Once in Royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings,
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Mackintosh Choir

Christmas Concert 10th December 2023

Programme

All Bells in Paradise	John Rutter
Believe	Ballard/Silvestri arr. MacHuff
O Holy Night	Arr. MacHuff
Christ Child's Lullaby	Trad. Arr. Gordon Cree
Hallelujah	L. Cohen. Arr. Emerson
Coventry Carol	Trad. Arr. Shaw

- Audience Carol -

Once in Royal David's City

First Noel/Pachelbel	Arr. Michael Clawson
Gaudete	Traditional
Little Road to Bethlehem	M. Rose. Arr. Michael Head
Yuletide Medley	Various. Arr. Gordon Cree

- INTERVAL -

Oh Sing, We Joyfully, Sing	Von Gluck. Arr. Liebergen
Mary Did You Know	Lowry/Greene. Arr. Emerson
Child of Peace	Price and Besig
Star Carol	John Rutter
Sans Day Carol	Trad. Arr. Peter Hunt

- Audience Carol -

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Silver Bells	Livingston/Evans Arr. Naylor
Sing We Now of Christmas	Trad. Arr. Leavitt
Carol of the Bells	Leontovich Arr. Wilhousky
Walking in the Air	Howard Blake
Twelve Days of Christmas	Trad. Arr. Rutter





The Choir

Musical Director: Au Arias
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Susan Anderson	Richard Milburn
John Bonthron	Ted Milburn
Cathy Bradley	Ellen Mitchell
Willy Briody	David Muir
Janet Burnley	Janet Muir
John Butterworth	Geraldine Murphy
Marion Cargill	Jim Murphy
Noreen Carroll	Linda Nicholl
Geraldine Flanigan	Dani Niven
Barbara Gemmell	Cathy O'Neill
Ernie Horan	Frances Poet
Carole Hoy	Richard Poet
Ken James	Celia Richardson
Anne Marie Kane	Sylvia Rossi
Eunice Lancaster	Mary Rouse
Jenny Lancaster	Carol Sallows
Kate Macdonald	Gordon Saunders
Barbara MacGillivray	Diane Scott
Marvyn Mackay	Udai Sengupta
Allan Marshall	Alison Short
Robert Marshall	Monica Spence
Marie McKenna	Zsolt Szarka
Jim McKinlay	Avril Taylor
	Mary Weeple



Sopranos and Bases Wanted



If you enjoyed this evening, why not come and join us for our next concert.
For more information contact secretary@mackintoshchoir.com



The Mackintosh Choir – a little bit of history

The award-winning Mackintosh Choir is an open access, non-audition community choir based here in Kelvindale.

The choir was established by a small enthusiastic group in October 2011 with support from the Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society and Queen's Cross Housing Association.

Our first public performance was at Christmas 2011, in the beautiful surroundings of the Charles Rennie Mackintosh Church in the Queen's Cross area of Glasgow. For the first few years the Mackintosh Church was the venue for our rehearsals, concerts, singing workshops and other musical events, bringing to the area an excellent opportunity to engage with the arts. In 2016, due to the growing size of the choir and the physical constraints of the Mackintosh Church as a performance venue, we moved here to the much larger St John's-Renfield Church.

In 2015 the choir was highly honoured to be conducted by the world-renowned composer, John Rutter CBE, as we sang his arrangement of "Feel the Spirit" at our summer concert. We were even more honoured when he agreed to be the choir's Patron.

As well as our own concerts, the choir has joined other Glasgow Choirs for a variety of performances in the Glasgow City Halls, the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, and the Bandstands in Kelvingrove Park and Queen's Park.

In 2017, we gave musical support to the National Theatre of Scotland's production of 'The Submarine Time Machine' in a week of outdoor performances along the towpath of the Forth and Clyde Canal. In June this year we had the opportunity to sing with the Delaware Women's Chorus, Wilmington.

The Mackintosh Choir is a registered Scottish charity, and we rely on subscriptions, fundraising and donations to continue to bring music to the community. If you would like to make a donation, please get in touch with our Secretary: secretary@mackintoshchoir.com

www.mackintoshchoir.com

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The Mackintosh Choir Glasgow





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Acknowledgements and Thanks The Mackintosh Choir would like to thank

Au Arias - Musical Director
Gordon Cree - Accompanist
Avril Taylor - Chair of the Trustees
Celia Richardson - Ticket Convenor
Shaun Digges and helpers - Staging
Pro Sound Services - Sound Engineers
Natalie Campbell – Artwork
Scottish Print – all our printing
St John's-Renfield Church management and volunteers
The choir trustees and volunteers
Special thanks to our additional accompanists:-
Alan Kitchen; Lynda Norris.

SUMMER CONCERT NEWS!

Our Musical Director, Au Arias has composed a "Tango Mass" where the traditional 'old world' movements of a mass are set to 'new world' tango rhythms in a fascinating fusion of cultures. The "Tango Mass" will have its World Premiere as part of our summer concert.

SO, SAVE THE DATE – SUNDAY 2ND JUNE 2024.

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