



LIBERA

Celestial sounds from the chart-topping London boys vocal group

August 2, 2010 | 7:30 p.m.

ARBORLAWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5001 Briarhaven Road | Fort Worth, Texas 76109 | 817.731.0701 | ArborlawnUMC.org

The Program

Libera

Time

Sanctus

Sanctissima

Ave verum

Far away

Salva me

Agnus Dei

Exultate

INTERMISSION

Mysterium

Gloria

The Fountain

How can I keep from singing?

When a knight won his spurs

Love and mercy

Deep peace

Stay with me

Going home

How shall I sing that majesty?

Program is subject to change

PLEASE NOTE — All forms of recording (both video and audio), video filming, photography, use of mobile phone cameras, etc., are strictly prohibited. There will be an opportunity to purchase CDs/DVDs and other merchandise at the end of the concert.

We hope that it will be possible for some boys to sign CD's after the performance.

Regretfully, we are not able to offer a 'meet and greet' opportunity.

LIBERA

Henry Barrington, Jonathan Barrington, Tiarnan Branson, Luke Collins, Liam Connery,
Kavana Crossley, Jakob De Menezes-Wood, Daniel Fontannaz, Freddie Ingles, Matthew Jansen,
Stefan Leadbeater, Alex Leggett, Sam Leggett, Josh Madine, James Mordaunt,
Sammy Moriarty, Cassius O'Connell-White, Benedict Philipp, Matthew Rangel-Alvares,
Carlos Rodriguez, Ralph Skan, James Threadgill

Musical director – Robert Prizeman

Solo violin – Fiona Pears

Keyboards – Robert Prizeman & Fiona Pears

Strings - Bruce Patti, Jennifer Fox, Lamar Smith and Mary Beth Hays

Organ – Jerry Westenkuehler

Lighting – Stephen Ellerington

Concert producer – Ben Crawley

Sound mixing & production – Ian Tilley

Sound mixing – Sam Coates

Sound engineering - Ben Rentoul

Stage management – Callum Payne & Andrew Winter

Chaperones – Barbara Geraghty, Eleanor Lewis & Tim Connery

The Music of Libera

Libera is true to the meaning of its Latin title, 'Free', and crosses many musical boundaries. With original repertoire, innovative textures and inventive arrangements, the group brings an imaginative new perspective to the landscape of vocal music.

The core of the sound is built around the voices of the young singers with their clarity, enthusiasm and excitement - the haunting yet vibrant sound of the treble voice that has long been a feature of choral music, particularly in the church.

Indeed, the defining inspiration for Libera sprang from the ancient music of the cathedrals and monasteries – from the earliest form of choral music - plainsong. The boys' robes of course retain a visual continuation of that history, and quite closely copy what the boy monks wore when they sang and were schooled in medieval monasteries. Libera mix the traditional chants with contemporary instrumentation and arrangement. Hence songs like 'Salva me' and 'Libera' reflect the shapes and mood of the old plainchant whilst combining it with new lyrics and harmonies. In fact, the song 'Libera' was the first to be written for the group. It uses a single line of plainsong with many overlapping tunes and harmony, which encompass the full range of the boys' voices.

Some songs are arrangements of well-known classical works. Although the originals could not be bettered, some lend themselves to the uplifting sound and harmonies of the boys' treble voices. The famous 'Canon' by Pachelbel, for instance, provides the basis for 'Sanctus' and an opportunity for some of the highest treble notes.

CONCERTS AT ARBORLAWN

LIBERA

Familiar to audiences across the world, LIBERA is both ancient and modern. The distinctive white robes symbolise the traditional origins of the style - yet the music reaches across the generations to a contemporary audience. LIBERA's success in album charts around the world bears witness to the extraordinary appeal of this unique 'boy band'.

In the United States LIBERA is known through their concert tours and TV appearances including a nationwide PBS special which was filmed in Holland. The boys had their debut at the Kennedy Centre Honors, where they performed in front of the President and a hall full of celebrities - including Robert de Niro, Cameron Diaz, Diana Ross, Steve Martin and Brian Wilson. The boys were privileged to close the ceremony with a moving tribute to honoree Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys. This was followed by LIBERA's participation in the Papal Mass at the climax of Pope Benedict XVI's first visit to the USA. Performing to a capacity congregation of 65,000 at New York's Yankee Stadium, LIBERA were the only British artists to take part in this historical event. The Yankee Stadium appearance was the culmination of their first US Angel Voices tour (including a performance at New York's Riverside Church), as well as concerts in the northeast of the United States in Buffalo, Hartford, Albany and Pittsburgh. In the United States recently LIBERA appeared in concert at the Crystal Cathedral in California and staged events in California, including Disneyland - where they took in a few rides as well!

The group is well known to United Kingdom audiences through TV appearances, staged concerts and albums which frequently top the classical charts. Concerts have been staged in venues as diverse as the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, the Grassington Festival in Yorkshire, Abbey Road Studios, the Edinburgh festival, the National Concert Hall in Dublin, St Peter's Cathedral in Belfast and Arundel Cathedral. At the annual industry awards - the Classical Brits - the boys have been nominated as 'Young Performers of the Year' several times.

LIBERA has made many TV appearances in the United Kingdom including BBC-TV's 'Last Choir Standing', on which the LIBERA boys were featured as guests. They were winners of the Saturday night show 'When Will I Be Famous' and had a whole documentary devoted to them on BBC-TV's 'Songs of Praise'. LIBERA regularly sing at events and services in cathedrals and churches like Buckfast Abbey and Westminster Cathedral.

On the other side of the world the group is well known to audiences in East Asia, where regular concert and promotional tours to countries like Japan, South Korea and the Philippines sell-out major venues and in cities like Tokyo, the boys are feted by thousands of highly enthusiastic fans.

The boys who make up the band have been described as 'normal' and 'ordinary' but as their recordings and performances demonstrate, the music they produce is truly extraordinary. Through their involvement in LIBERA, they have travelled the world, recorded movie soundtracks and served as backing singers to mega-stars. But, as one of the boys said, "The travelling and filming is fun but even if we didn't go anywhere, I'd still want to do it because I just love singing."