

libera



St George's Cathedral Southwark

Friday 16 November 2012

Southmark

Dies Irae

Gloria

Eternal light

Voca Me

Sanctus

I Vow To Thee My Country

Salva

Be Still My Soul

How Shall I Sing

- INTERVAL -

Mysterium

Orinoco Flow

Far Away

Fountain

Grateful Heart

Ave Verum

Sanctissima

Stay With Me

Glory to Thee

Exultate

— PLEASE NOTE —

Programme subject to change. All forms of recording, video filming, photography, use of mobile phone cameras etc are strictly prohibited. There will be an opportunity to purchase CDs/DVDs during the interval and at the end of the concert.

LIBERA

MARC ALVARES, HENRY BARRINGTON, ANTHONY BLAKE, TIARNAN BRANSON, CIARAN BRADBURY-HICKEY, JUDE COLLINS, LUKE COLLINS, KAVANA CROSSLEY, THOMAS DELGADO-LITTLE, DYLAN DUFFY, BENJAMIN FAIRMAN, DANIEL FONTANNAZ, MATTHEW JANSEN, ANTHONY KERR-MUNLEY, STEFAN LEADBEATER, ISAAC LONDON, ALESSANDRO MACKINNON-BOTTI, JOSHUA MADINE, MATTHEW MADINE, EOGHAN MCCARTHY, OSCAR MCFALL, MICHAEL MENEZES, ALEX MONTORO, SAMMY MORIARTY, KUBA NIEDERMAIER-REED, CASSIUS O'CONNELL-WHITE, MATTHEW RANGEL-ALVARES, CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, RALPH SKAN, BERTIE SMART, CAMDEN STEWART, MICHAEL USTYNOVYCH-REPA, SAM WIGGIN, LUCAS WOOD

Musical Director – Robert Prizeman

Keyboards – Tom Cully, Steven Geraghty, Joshua Madine

Clarinet & Recorder – Steven Geraghty

Percussion – Simon Roth

Lighting – Luke Avery

Sound mixing & production – Sam Coates

Stage management – Jonathan Barrington

Chaperones – Barbara Geraghty, Eleanor Lewis

Management – Steven Philipp & Andrew Winter

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 mixes 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 can 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.

The lyrics of Libera songs, many of which are sung in Latin, are most frequently drawn from a variety of contemplative and inspirational sources, both ancient and modern, including the Mass, Requiem Mass, Stabat Mater and the Psalms.



LIBERA

If you have never heard the unique, heavenly sound of LIBERA, then prepare yourself for something very special indeed.

The boys who make up the South London based vocal band Libera have been described as "normal" and "ordinary". However, as their recordings and performances demonstrate, the music they produce is anything but. With shimmering, mystical chords and ecstatic harmonies they are unlike any other group you have ever heard. These are truly sounds to lift the soul. Familiar to audiences across the world, the boys have a stunningly original sound, which is at once both ancient and modern. Their distinctive flowing white robes symbolise the traditional origins of their style - yet their music reaches across the generations to a new mainstream audience. Libera's success in album charts around the world bears witness to the extraordinary appeal of this unique 'boy band'. Enchanting audiences wherever they go, they have attracted an enthusiastic fan base in many countries, particularly the US, UK, Japan, the Philippines and South Korea.

The group is well known to British audiences through TV appearances and staged concerts at venues as diverse as the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, the Grassington Festival, Abbey Road Studios and Arundel Cathedral. Recent appearances have included the Edinburgh Fringe festival, the National Concert Hall in Dublin and at St Peter's Cathedral in Belfast. Libera have made many TV appearances 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'. Other TV/Radio appearances have included BBC Breakfast and



the Chris Evans Show. The boys are regularly to be heard on Classic FM, and last Christmas scored the top classical song download at iTunes. Libera regularly sing at events and services in cathedrals and churches like Buckfast Abbey and Westminster Cathedral.

In the US & Canada, Libera are 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 Center Honors, where they performed in front of the President and a hall full of celebrities - including Robert de Niro, Cameron Diaz, Diana Ross and Steve Martin. The boys were privileged to close the Kennedy Center Honours 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.

Libera have travelled across North America several times, appearing in venues as diverse as the Crystal Cathedral in California, the St Louis Basilica, St Paul and Minneapolis cathedrals, the Moody church in Chicago, the Riverside Church in NYC and other venues both secular and sacred from Texas to Toronto. Just recently they opened the annual Starkey Awards Gala in the Twin Cities, where they were featured artists on the same programme as Miley Cyrus and Meat Loaf. In East Asia, the sounds of Libera are frequently heard in mainstream TV and radio programmes and their CD's ride high in the classical and pop charts of countries like Japan, South Korea, Singapore and the Philippines. The boys have sung the music for several feature films and television programmes. The most recent tour packed out the major concert venues in Tokyo for 3 nights and the boys were feted by thousands of enthusiastic fans who queued for hours to meet the boys and collect autographs. During the recent tour in the Philippines, Libera topped the main album charts and sung to the major concert halls in Manila and Cebu crammed full with excitable fans.

Through their involvement in Libera, the boys have travelled the world, recorded movie soundtracks and CDs 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."



Dies Irae

Rex tremendae majestatis
salva me
Confutatis maledictis voca me
Kyrie eleison



Can you tell me if there'll be
One day when we'll wake and see
How to right the things gone by
Kyrie eleison

Dies irae, dies illa
solvat saeculum in favilla
cum resurget creatura
judex est venturus
Kyrie eleison

Through the dark and fearful night
Help us bring a healing light
Reaching out to those who cry
Kyrie eleison

Rex tremendae majestatis
salva me
Confutatis maledictis
voca me

Finally we can see the way
how to make a brighter day
You can turn the darkness round
Kyrie eleison

Music: Robert Prizeman – based
on traditional chant
Words: trad' adapted and by Ian
Tilley & Robert Prizeman

Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Et in terra pax hominibus
Benedicimus te laudamus
Adoramus te Gloria

Qui tolis peccata mundi
miserere nobis
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris
miserere nobis

Gracias agimus Propter magnam
gloriam tuam
Quoniam tu solus sanctus
Dominus tu solus altissimus

Omnipotens Deus Pater
Agnus Dei
Rex coelestis Deus Pater

Music: Camille Saint-Saëns -
based on 3rd movement of
Symphony No. 3 in C minor,
"Organ Symphony"
Arranged Robert Prizeman
Words: trad



Eternal Light

Thoughts of love surround you
everywhere around you
may your heart discover
all the magic and the wonder

Inside every moment
deeper than the ocean
I just want to show you
all the beauty and the glory

In this clear
eternal
light, this
miracle of
light
you will
never lose
your way
this eternal
light will
find you -
and guide
you ----

Life is but a
journey
tides are always turning
seasons come and go here
but you'll never be alone here

In this clear eternal light, this
miracle of light
you will never lose your way
this eternal light will find you - and
guide you...
Everyday

There are times of long and
sleepless nights

but I will
bring you
peace and
hope
shining like
a rainbow

In this clear
eternal
light, this
miracle of
light
you will
never lose
your way
this eternal
light will

find you
to shine its guiding light in you



Music: Akira Senju
Chorus arrangement Robert
Prizeman
Words: Terry Cox

Voca Me

As secret as a dream you call
As silent as the night
for all you cry
Lacrymosa

Lacrymosa dies illa
Dolorosa Domine
Voca - Voca Me

Lacrymosa, dolorosa
Dies illa dolorosa
Voca me domine lacrymosa,
dolorosa, voca me

You whisper in my silent sleep
You answer to my call
when lost I cry
Lacrymosa

Lacrymosa, dolorosa
Dies illa dolorosa
Voca me domine lacrymosa,
dolorosa, voca me

Lacrymosa dies illa
Dolorosa Domine
Voca
Voca Me

Music: Robert Prizeman - based
on part of Stabat Mater by
Pergolesi & including a fragment
of chant by Hildegard Von
Bingen
Words: trad and Robert

Sanctus

Sanctus
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini

Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth,
Pleni sunt coeli et terra Gloria
Sanctus

Music: Robert Prizeman based
on 'Canon' by Pachelbel
Words: trad

I Vow To Thee

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

Music: Gustav Holst – part of
'Jupiter' from 'Planets' suite
Arranged Robert Prizeman
Words: Cecil Spring-Rice

Salva



Domine deus
miserere mei

Carry me away
From the dark I fear
When the storm is near
From the endless night
From my blinded sight
To a sky of light
Free me to fly away
Salva me

Carry me away
From the things that harm
On a sea of calm
From the endless night
From my blinded sight
To a sky of light

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: trad and Robert
Prizeman

Be Still My Soul



Be still my soul,
the Lord is on thy side
bear patiently
the cross of grief or pain
leave to thy God
to order and provide
in every change
he faithful will remain
Be still my soul,
thy best thy heavenly friend
through thorny ways
leads to a joyful end

Be still my soul,
when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened
in the vale of tears
then shalt thou better
know his love, his heart
who comes to soothe
thy sorrow and thy fears

Be still my soul,
the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them
while he dwelt below

Be still my soul
the hour is hastening on
when we shall be
forever with the Lord
when disappointment,
grief and fear are gone
sorrow forgot,
love's purest joys restored
Be still my soul,
when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet
at last

Music: Jean Sibelius - part of
'Finlandia'

Arranged Robert Prizeman

Words: Katharina Von Schlegel
translated Jane Laurie Borthwick

How Shall I Sing That Majesty

How great a being
which doth all beings keep
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep

Thou art a sea without a shore
a sun without a sphere
Thy time is now and evermore
Thy place is everywhere

How shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie
Sing, sing ye heavenly choir

Enlighten with faith my heart,
in flame it with love's fire
then shall I bear a part with that
celestial choir

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: John Mason

Mysterium

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand
As the light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day

That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clear away

Alleluia

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: from the hymn 'let all
mortal flesh keep silence'

Orinoco Flow

Let me sail, let me sail, let the Orinoco flow
Let me reach, let me beach on the shores of Tripoli
Let me sail, let me sail, let me crash upon your shore
Let me reach, let me beach far beyond the yellow sea
Sail away

From Bissau to Palau in the shade of Avalon
From Fiji to Tiree and the Isles of Ebony
From Peru to Cebu, feel the power of Babylon
From Bali to Cali far beneath the Coral Sea
Turn it up, turn it up, turn it up, up - Adieu

From the North to the South, Ebudæ unto Khartoum
From the deep Sea of Clouds to the Island of the Moon
Carry me on the waves to the lands I've never been
Carry me on the waves to the lands I've never seen

Music: Enya
Words: Roma Ryan



Far Away

Wherever I go
Far away and anywhere
Time after time you always shine
through dark of night
calling after me

Whenever I cry
Far away and anywhere
You hear me call when shadows fall
your light of hope showing me the
way

And wherever I climb
Far away and anywhere
You raise me high beyond the sky
through stormy night lifting me
above
Venite Spiritu et emitte caelitus

Music: Takatsugu Muramatsu
Arranged Robert Prizeman
Words: Robert Prizeman

Fountain

Dolorosa, flumenosa, desolata, lacrimabila
Dolorosa, flumenosa, plorata

The water sighs for me through teardrops now I see
The streaming water knows the fountain overflows
To cry for all, to wash all sorrow in waves of peace and love
free my thirsty soul again O living fountain

Music: Frederic Chopin - based
on Prelude in C minor
Arranged Robert Prizeman
Words: Robert Prizeman and
Ben Crawley

Grateful Heart

Thou that has given so much to me
Give one thing more,
A grateful heart.

Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart whose pulse may
be thy praise.

Music: Mary Plumstead
Words: George Herbert



Ave Verum



Ave verum corpus natum
De maria virgine

Attende Domini et Miserere
Quia peccavimus tibi

A silent mystery
The break of day
A moment shines across eternity
A silent harmony
The sounds of hope
A moment echoes through eternity

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: trad & by Robert
Prizeman & Ian Tilley

Sanctissima



O sanctissima, O piissima,
dulcis virgo Maria
Mater amata, intemerata
Ora pro nobis

Virgo respice, Mater adspice
audi nos O Maria
Sicut liliam inter spinas
Sic Maria inter filias

Jubilate Cherubim
Exultate Seraphim
Consonante perpetim
Salve, salve Regina
Sancta Maria Mater Dei

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: trad

Stay With Me



You are everything I know
Which ever way I go
For ever stay with me

Venite angeli
Cantate domino
Laudate

You see me through
when ever I'm afraid
However far away
For ever comfort me

You're on my side
whichever way I choose
In everything I do
For ever stay with me

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: Robert Prizeman

Glory To Thee

Glory to Thee, my God this night
For all the blessing of the light
Keep me O keep me King of Kings
Beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me Lord for thy dear Son
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself and thee
I ere I sleep at peace may be.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above angelic host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Music: Thomas Tallis
Arranged Robert Prizeman
Words: Thomas Ken

Exsultate

There's a light upon the mountains and the day is at the spring
When our eyes shall see the wonder and the glory it will bring

Et laudate Domino in laetitia
et cantate Domino gloria
Saecula et saeculorum
Alleluia

Hark, we hear a distant music and it comes with fuller swell
'tis the glorious song of heaven and our fears it will dispel

Exsultate Domino omnis populi
Jubilate Domino omnis terra
Alleluia
Angeli et archangeli,
psallite et laudate
in hymnis et psalmis et canticis

We hear a distant music –
it comes with fuller swell
for the angels here are human,
not the shining hosts above
for the drumbeats of the army
are the heartbeats of our love

Music: Robert Prizeman
English Words: Henry Burton





Libera Round The World

Cebu, Philippines | Clifton Cathedral, Bristol, UK | Moody Church, Chicago, USA
Holywood, California, USA | Toronto, Canada | Seoul, South Korea
Tokyo, Japan | Singapore

Libera is a non-profit charity registered in the United Kingdom, and as such is dependent on the generous financial support of its private listeners around the world. Without this support we would be unable to hold public concerts of this nature. The cost of training and touring is close to £5,000 per chorister per year, much of which is not recovered through royalties, ticket or album sales. If you wish to consider supporting Libera, or know of someone who might, we would be delighted to hear from you at office@libera.org.uk

To make a donation of £10 to Libera text LBRA01 £10 to 70070
Thank you.

