



LIBERA

in Concert

*Guildford Cathedral
Saturday 16th May 2015*

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LIBERA

MARC ALVARES, SHAY BALSEKAR, LEO BARRON, EMANUELE BORRELLI,
CIARAN BRADBURY-HICKEY, MERLIN BROUWER, BENEDICT BYWATER,
GABRIEL COLLINS, TOM COOPER, THOMAS DELGADO-LITTLE,
TADHG FITZGERALD, ALEX GULA, ADAM IZGHOUTI, MATTHEW JANSEN,
TIMOTHY LEE, ISAAC LONDON, MATTHEW MADINE,
ALESSANDRO MACKINNON-BOTTI, JAMES MENEZES,
MICHAEL MENEZES, ALEX MONTORO, OLIVER MYCKA,
CASSIUS O'CONNELL-WHITE, TAICHI SHINOKUBO, CAMDEN STEWART,
ROCCO TESEI, MARK USTYNOVYCH-REPA, JOSEPH WALSH,
SAM WIGGIN, FINN WOOD, LUCAS WOOD

MUSICAL DIRECTOR – ROBERT PRIZEMAN
ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTORS – STEVEN GERAGHTY & SAM COATES

KEYBOARD & PIANO – JOSHUA MADINE
PERCUSSION – JONATHAN ORMSTON
STRINGS – THE SILKEN STRINGS
FLUTE/RECORDER – CANDICE HAMEL
CLARINET - JESSIE GRIMES
HORN – RAOUL NEUMANN
OBOE -JESSE BESCOBY

SOUND PRODUCTION - SAM COATES
STAGE DIRECTION - STEVEN GERAGHTY
STAGE MANAGEMENT – KAVANA CROSSLEY & SIMON LEWIS
LIGHTING - LUKE AVERY
CONCERT MANAGEMENT – STEVEN PHILIPP & DAVE STEPHENS
LIBERA CO-ORDINATION & CHAPERONING – BARBARA GERAGHTY &
ELEANOR LEWIS
PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR - ANDREW WINTER

Please do not video or record our Concert

Guildford

JOYFUL JOYFUL

SANCTUS

AMAZING GRACE

VOCA ME

THE PRAYER

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM
SINGING

SALVA ME

MORNING HAS BROKEN

EXULTATE

- INTERVAL -

ALWAYS WITH YOU

ORINOCO FLOW

HOW GREAT THOU ART

DREAMING OF HOME

O FOR THE WINGS OF A DOVE

SONG OF LIFE

WAYFARING STRANGER

HOW SHALL I SING

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 - plainchant. 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. Some songs are arrangements of well-known popular and classical works. Although the originals cannot 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

The boys who make up the South London based vocal group Libera have been described as “normal” and “ordinary”. However, as their recordings and performances demonstrate, the music they produce is anything but.

Familiar to audiences across the world, the boys have an original sound, which is at once both ancient and modern. Their distinctive 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 & Canada, Russia, UK, Japan, the Philippines, Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea.



The group is known to British audiences through TV appearances and staged concerts at venues as diverse as the Queen Elizabeth Hall & the Royal Albert Hall in London, the Grassington Festival, Abbey Road Studios, and several UK cathedrals. 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’, and in 2014 they featured in a programme to commemorate the outbreak of World War 1 in which some of the boys traced their ancestors who fought in the conflict and performed songs of remembrance in France and Belgium. 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 nationwide PBS specials, NBC 'Today' show and 'Tonight with Jay Leno.' The boys had their debut at the Kennedy Center Honors, where they performed in front of the President and a hall full of celebrities in 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. 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. Libera recently filmed a PBS special live concert in Washington DC at the National Shrine for broadcast and DVD release in March 2015. The Spring tour in 2015 whisked the boys across the country from Boston to San Antonio, from Chicago to Atlanta.

In South 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, Taiwan, Singapore and the Philippines. The boys have sung the music for several feature films and television programmes. On recent tours they packed out the major concert venues in Tokyo, Seoul and Taipei, where 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. (Just recently they appeared on the soundtrack of the major video game 'Destiny' with Paul McCartney who co-wrote the music.) But, as one of the boys said, "The travelling and filming is fun but even if we didn't go anywhere I'd want to do it because I just love singing."

Joyful Joyful

Jubilate Adoramus

Joyful joyful we adore thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee
opening to the sun above
melt the clouds of sin and sadness
drive the dark of doubt away,
giver of immortal gladness
fill us with the light of day

All thy works with joy surround thee
earth and heaven reflect thy rays
Stars and angels sing around thee
centre of unbroken praise



Field and forest vale and mountain
flowery meadow flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee

Thou art giving and forgiving
ever blessing ever blest
well spring of the joy of living
ocean depth of happy rest
Thou our father Christ our brother
all who live in love are thine
Teach us how to love each other
lift us to the joy divine

Music based on theme from
the 9th Symphony 'Choral'
by Beethoven
Words by Henry Van Dyke
Arranged by Robert
Prizeman



Sanctus

Sanctus
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine
Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth
pleni sunt coeli et terra Gloria

Music based on 'Canon' by
Johann Pachelbel
Words traditional
nged by Robert Prizeman



Amazing Grace

Music traditional
Words by John Newton
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
was blind but now I see

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed

Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
and grace will lead me home

When we've been there a thousand years
bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun

Voca Me

English Words & Music by
Robert Prizeman
Inspired by 'Stabat Mater'
by Pergolesi and a chant
fragment by Hildegard Von
Bingen

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

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

The Prayer

Music by David Foster
Words by Carole Bayer Sager

I pray you'll be our eyes
and watch us where we go
and help us to be wise
in times when we don't know
Let this be our prayer
when we lose our way
Lead us to a place,
guide us with your grace,
to a place where we'll be safe

I pray we'll find your light
and hold it in our hearts
when stars go out each night
remind us where you are

Let this be our prayer
when shadows fill our day
Lead us to a place,
guide us with your grace
give us faith so we'll be safe

We ask that life be kind
and watch us from above
we hope each soul will find
another soul to love
Let this be our prayer
just like every child
needs to find a place
give us faith so we'll be safe



How Can I Keep From Singing

My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentation
I hear the real though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that rock I'm clinging
It sounds an echo in my soul
how can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest loudly roars
I know the truth it liveth
What though the darkness round me close
Songs in the night it giveth
No storms can shake my inmost calm
while to that rock I'm clinging
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth
how can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin
I see the blue above it
and day by day this pathway smoothes
since first I learned to love it

The peace and love makes fresh my heart
a fountain ever springing
All things are mine since I am his
how can I keep from singing?

Words by Robert
Wadsworth Lowry
Music - trad
Arranged by Robert
Prizeman



Salva me

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

Words & Music by Robert
Prizeman

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken, like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for the springing fresh from the word

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
like the first dewfall, on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
sprung in completeness where his feet pass

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day

Music traditional
Words by Eleanor Farjeon
Arranged by Robert Prizeman



Exultate

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

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 heart beats of our love

Music by Robert Prizeman
English words by Henry
Burton

Always with you

Do you know me, who I am?
I am always with you
I am near you every day
Always share what you do

Follow the path to anywhere
A stranger in the world without you
Forever I will be there
The shadow you always knew
Beati quorum via, integra est.

If you think I've gone away
And am never with you
I am not so far away
Always shadowing you

Music by Robert Prizeman
Words by Robert Prizeman
& Ben Crawley

Orinoco flow

Music by Enya
Words by Roma Ryan

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,
Ebudae 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

How Great Thou Art

Music traditional
Words traditional
translated by S Hine.

O Lord my God,
when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works
thy hand hath made
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder
thy power throughout
the universe displayed

Then sings my soul
my saviour God to thee
How great thou art how great thou art
Then sings my soul
my saviour God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art

When through the woods
and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees
when I look down
from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook,
and feel the gentle breeze

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
and take me home,
what joy shall fill my heart
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim my God how great
thou art



Dreaming Of Home

From the film 'Joyeux Noel'
Music: Philippe Rombi
Words: Gary Lewis and Lori
Bath

I hear the mountain birds
The sound of rivers singing
A song I've often heard
It flows through me now
So clear and so loud
- I stand where I am
and forever I'm dreaming of home
I feel so alone, I'm dreaming of
home

It's carried in the air
The breeze of early morning
I see the land so fair
My heart opens wide
There's sadness inside

I stand where I am
and forever I'm dreaming of home
I feel so alone, I'm dreaming of
home
This is no foreign sky
- I see no foreign light

But far away am I
From some peaceful land
I'm longing to stand
A hand in my hand
forever I'm dreaming of home
I feel so alone, I'm dreaming of
home

O For The Wings Of A Dove

Music by Mendelssohn
Words trad.
Arranged by Robert
Prizeman

O for the wings,
far away would I rove

In the wilderness
build me a nest

And remain there for
ever at rest



Song of Life

Music by Takatsugu
Muramatsu
Arranged by Robert
Prizeman
Words by Robert Prizeman

There's a whisper in the dark
as a new life comes to be
Then a song begins to form
as it finds the harmony

With the chorus of sound
of the world all around
now it blends in the tune
joining the endless song of life

We shall never be alone
as we link our hearts in one
Joining voices from above
all in the miracle of life

Through the ages we will grow
only time will ever know
as our voices magnify
all in the miracle of life
Love plays along
in our lives yet to come
as we join in the song of life

Now the music starts to build
as the words begin to rhyme
then another lends a tune
as their voices now combine
With the chorus of sound
of the world all around
now they blend in their tune
sharing the endless song of life



Wayfaring Stranger

Words and music
traditional arranged by Sam
Coates

I am a poor wayfaring stranger
a travelling though this world of woe
But there's no sickness toil or danger
in that bright land to which I go
I'm going there to see my Father
I'm going there no more to roam
I'm just a going over Jordan
I'm just a going over home

I know dark clouds will gather round me
I know my way is rough and steep
yet beauteous fields lie just before me
where those redeemed no more shall weep
I'm going there to see my mother
she said she'd meet me when I come
I'm just a going over Jordan
I'm just a going over home

So I will wear a crown of glory
when I get home to that good land
and I will sing redemption's story
in concert with that heavenly band
I'm going there to see my brother
I'm going there no more to roam
I'm just a going over Jordan
I'm just a going over home



How Shall I Sing that Majesty

Music: Robert Prizeman
Words: John Mason

How great a being
which doth all beings keep
Thy knowledge 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





Libera Round The World

Tokyo, Japan | Toronto, Canada | Los Angeles, USA
Seoul, South Korea | Taipei, Taiwan
Singapore | Moscow, Russia | Cebu, Philippines

Libera is a non-profit charity registered in the UK and the US, 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

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THANK YOU.

Photography by Brenda Ladd, Luke Avery
and Libera