Tuesday 27 September 2011, 7.30pm
Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre SE1

LONDON
CONCERT
CHOIR

WAR & PEACE

HAYDN:
MASS IN TIME OF WAR

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS:
DONA NOBIS PACEM

London Concert Choir
City of London Sinfonia
Mark Forkgen conductor

Helen Meyerhoff Soprano
Jeanette Ager Mezzo soprano
Nathan Vale Tenor
Colin Campbell Baritone

Tickets: £10, £15, £20, £25, £30
Concessions - 50% off (limited availability)

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

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Both Haydn and Vaughan Williams were writing in the shadow of approaching war – Haydn in 1796, as Napoleon advanced on Vienna, and Vaughan Williams in 1936 – and both works end with the heartfelt plea 'Dona nobis pacem: Grant us peace.'

The *Missa in tempore belli* (Haydn's own title) dates from same period as *The Creation* and his late symphonies. It is one of his finest compositions, symphonic in scale and richly devotional in spirit. In Vaughan Williams' profoundly moving cantata, depictions of the intensity of war and laments for the fallen lead to a joyous vision of a world without armed conflict. The text of *Dona Nobis Pacem* is derived principally from the Bible and the poems of Walt Whitman.

The martial sounds of trumpets and drums feature prominently in both works; Haydn's Mass is known as the *Paukenmesse* or 'Kettledrum Mass' in German, while Vaughan Williams' writing was consciously influenced by his admiration for Verdi's *Requiem*.

London Concert Choir regularly appears at all the major London concert venues. With around 150 singers, the choir is notable for its unusually broad repertoire and for the conviction and expressiveness of its performances under its Music Director Mark Forkgen. This concert repeats the programme from a joint performance with the Augsburg Basilica Choir at the Augsburg Peace Festival in July.

For more information about London Concert Choir, visit our website:

www.london-concert-choir.org.uk