

Rossini: Petite Messe Solennelle

& Victoria: Missa Salve Regina

Conductor: Mark Forkgen London Concert Choir

Jamiee Marshall soprano Jeanette Ager mezzo soprano Adrian Ward tenor Peter Willcock bass James Longford harmonium Lindy Brown piano Tuesday 22 October 2013, 7.30pm

Tickets £20, £15, £10 Booking: (0844) 5042 522 www.london-concert-choir.org.uk

St Sepulchre's Church, Holborn Viaduct, EC1



For its first concert of the season, London Concert Choir returns to the Musician's Church of St Sepulchre-without-Newgate.

Having composed 36 operas by the age of 37, Rossini wrote almost nothing until at the age of 55 he settled in Paris and produced a number of pieces that he famously described as the *'sins of his old age'*. Among them was the Petite Messe Solennelle of 1863, which is not unduly solemn and only *'little'* in an affectionate sense. Scored for harmonium and piano accompaniment for performance in a private chapel, the Mass encompasses a wide variety of styles from operatic arias to intricate choral fugues.

The concert opens with a radiant Mass based on a hymn to the Virgin Mary by the Spanish Renaissance master Tomás Luis de Victoria, in which the choir is divided into eight parts. With its rich harmonies the music bears out King John IV of Portugal's comment on Victoria's 'naturally sunny disposition'.

London Concert Choir celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010 and now has around 150 members. Regularly appearing at all the major London concert venues, the choir is notable both for its unusually broad repertoire and for the conviction and expressiveness of its performances under its Music Director Mark Forkgen.

How to get there:

St Sepulchre's is located at the junction of Holborn Viaduct and Giltspur Street, opposite the Old Bailey.

Nearest tube stations are **St Paul's** (Central line) and **Farringdon** (Circle, Metropolitan and Hammersmith & City lines). The church is almost exactly opposite the entrance to **City Thameslink** station.

www.london-concert-choir.org.uk

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