



ST CECILIA CONCERT

Downside Schola Cantorum

Downside School and Festival Orchestras

Directors: Julian McNamara and Toby Moschard

Thursday 23rd November 2017, 7pm

Downside Abbey Church

DOWNSIDE SCHOOL





Thank-you for coming to listen to this year's St Cecilia Concert.

Dvořák composed his eighth symphony in the autumn of 1889 in his country home at Vysoká, far away from the competing demands of performers, publishers and urban life. It is his most genial and bucolic symphony. Composition was brief and, seemingly, effortless. 'Melodies simply pour out of me,' he said, and the first movement in particular is just bursting with good tunes. Leoš Janáček observed of the first movement, 'You've scarcely got to know one figure before a second one beckons with a friendly nod, so you're in a state of constant but pleasurable excitement.' The second movement is characterised by alternations: of major and minor; of solemn and cheerful moods; and of passages for strings and wind. The third movement is a charming, graceful waltz, while the finale begins with a bold trumpet fanfare and continues as a theme and variations. This theme, first heard in the 'cellos, seems both inevitable and effortlessly simple, yet it took Dvořák nine drafts before he was completely satisfied with it. He conducted the first performance himself in Prague on February 2, 1890: it was very well received then, and it has remained one of the most popular staples of the orchestral repertoire ever since. It even went down well in Cambridge in 1891. Dvořák was there to receive an honorary doctorate, and he conducted the symphony as part of the ceremony. The enthusiasm of the audience's response to his piece was in marked contrast to its demeanour otherwise. Dvořák reminisced 'Nothing but ceremony, and nothing but doctors. All faces were serious, and it seemed to me as if no one knew any other language but Latin.'

Tippett's *Five Negro Spirituals* began their life in his oratorio *A Child of our Time*, written as an expression of his pacifism at the outbreak of the Second World War. (Tippett was later imprisoned as a conscientious objector.) In 1958 he extracted the spirituals from the oratorio, and arranged them for *a cappella* voices. The brilliance with which he re-works the orchestral accompaniment into the vocal lines, while maintaining the original vocal lines intact, amounts to a masterclass of the arranger's art. The demands on the singers are nevertheless considerable. The voices frequently divide, sometimes into as many as 12 parts, but they must still maintain the essential simplicity and directness of the spirituals' original style.

There will be a collection after tonight's concert for the school's Musical Instrument Fund, and let me thank-you in advance for your generous support. I hope you enjoy the concert, and I look forward to welcoming you again.

Julian McNamara
Director of Music

Programme

Downside School and Festival Orchestra

Director: Mr Toby Moschard

Leader: Mr Jamie Hughes

Symphony Number 8 in G Major

Dvořák (1841-1904)

- I *Allegro con brio*
- II *Adagio (Bernard Mealing, solo violin)*
- III *Allegretto grazioso*
- IV *Allegro ma non troppo*

The Schola Cantorum of Downside School

Director: Mr Julian McNamara

Miss S Moody, Isabella Welinkar, Matilda Hogan, Tallulah Horton (soprano)

Stephanie Ko (alto)

Siu Ming Hui, Louis Morrogh Bernard, Dominic Kwan (tenor)

Elliot Gould, Oscar Healy (bass)

Five Negro Spirituals from *A Child of Our Time* Tippett (1905-1998)

- I *Steal Away*
- II *Nobody Knows*
- III *Go Down Moses*
- IV *By and By*
- V *Deep River*

Five Negro Spirituals

I. Steal Away

Miss S Moody (soprano), Siu Ming Hui (tenor)

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus,
Steal away, steal away home;
I han't got long to stay here.

My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the thunder,
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul;
I han't got long to stay here.

Green trees a-bending, poor sinner stands a-trembling,
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul;
I han't got long to stay here.

II. Nobody Knows

Isabella Welinkar (soprano), Louis Morrogh Bernard (tenor)

Nobody knows the trouble I see, Lord,
Nobody knows like Jesus.

O brothers, pray for me, and help me to drive old Satan away.
O mothers, pray for me, and help me to drive old Satan away.

III. Go Down Moses

Matilda Hogan (soprano), Elliot Gould (bass)

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt land,
Tell old Pharaoh to let my people go.

When Israel was in Egypt land,
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,
"Thus spake the Lord," bold Moses said,
"If not, I'll smite your first born dead".

IV. By and By

Isabella Welinkar (soprano)

O by and by I'm going to lay down my heavy load.

I know my robe's going to fit me well:

I've tried it on at the gates of hell.

Hell is deep and a dark despair:

O stop, poor sinner, and don't go there.

V. Deep River

Tallulah Horton (soprano), Stephanie Ko (alto), Dominic Kwan (tenor), Oscar Healy (bass)

Deep river, my home is over Jordan,

Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into camp-ground.

Oh chillun! O don't you want to go to that gospel feast,

That promised land, that land where all is peace.

Walk into heaven, and take my seat,

And cast my crown at Jesus' feet.



Downside School and Festival Orchestra

Leader: Mr Jamie Hughes

Violin 1

Julian Chan Mr Jamie Hughes Bernard Mealing Sam Meng

Violin 2

Rupert Hutton Dominic Kwan Eva Perkins Ms Gisele Siemens

Dom Anselm Brumwell

Viola

Mr Tony Bevan Mrs Tricia Rees-Jones

Bass

Alex Heather

Cello

Tristan van Laar Mark Ludlow Miss Kate Robey Aram Sola Inaraja

Christopher Fitzgerald

Flute

Jonathan Ko Daisy Marsh Miss Isabel Brearley Mr Martin Packman

Oboe

Clarinet

Mr Phil Lambton Poppy Marsh Mr Ashby Mayes Oscar Rose

Bassoon

Trumpet

Matthew Walters Julian Siemens Mr David Bertie Joseph Day

Trombone

Percussion

Mr Steve Jobbins Eamonn Chiu Mr Julian McNamara

Organ

**There will be a retiring collection in aid of
the Musical Instruments Fund**

The Downside Schola Cantorum

Soprano and Treble

Heather Armand-Gibbs	Emma Badman	Sophie Bex	Anna Bowman
Henry Bright	Maria Dolman	Camilla Francis-Jones	Celestine Healy
Tilly Hogan	Malou Hollerbach	Tallula Horton	Lara Hook-Walker
Ella Jackson	Stephanie Jedy-Agba	Maya Krishan	Maks Krishan
Miss S Moody	Suzy Nicholas	Caspar Shaw	Chessie Siese
Gabriella Strachwitz Hamilton	Annabel Walker	Charlotte Walker	Isabella Welinkar
Gabriella Wood	Antonia Wright-Morris		

Alto

Joseph Day	Edith Jenkins	Stephanie Ko	Dominic Kwan
Daisy Marsh	Poppy Marsh	Lola Mead	Eva Perkins
(Barney Sharifi)	Lucia Wickham		

Tenor

Alex Harwood	Gus Healey	Siu Ming Hui	Justin Lau
Louis Morrogh Bernard	Mr T Moschard	Ciaran Murphy	Julian Siemens
Aram Sola Inaraja	Matthew Walters		

Bass

William Brooke	Julian Chan	Owain Daley	Chris Fitzgerald
Thomas Godwin	Elliot Gould	Seb Hall	Oscar Healy
Felix Hobbs	Harry Jakes	Michael Kealey	Jonathan Ko
Alexander Lowe	Brendan Murphy	Tristan van Laar	

Special thanks to:

The Prior Administrator and his Council for the use of the Abbey Church
The instrumental and vocal teachers of the Music Department
Tricia Rees-Jones (Music Department Administrator)
Angie Hurle and the Domestic Services team
The Marketing Department and all who have helped to advertise this concert

Music supplied by Somerset Performing Arts Library



DOWNSIDE SCHOOL

BLOOD
BROTHERS

[PLAY VERSION] BY WILLY RUSSELL

Saturday 9th December, 7.30pm

Sunday 10th December, 7.30pm

Fleischner Theatre
£5 adults (u-18 free)

This amateur production of "Blood Brothers (Play Version)" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD.

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