

libera

# A Christmas Concert

Thursday 28th November 2013

St George's Cathedral  
Southwark

After the concert a retiring collection will be taken in support of the Disasters Emergency Committee Philippines Typhoon Appeal.  
Please give generously.

In recognition of our strong links with the Philippines we welcome members of the Philippine Community Fund with us tonight.

# Southwark

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Dies Irae

Gloria

Angels from on High

The Wexford Carol

Sanctus

I'm Dreaming of Home

Voca Me

Away in a Manger

In Dulci Jubilo

- INTERVAL -

God Rest you Merry

Gentlemen

Orinoco Flow

Joy to the World

What Child is This

Carol of the Bells

Corpus Christi Carol

Gaudete

Silent Night

Exultate

# LIBERA

MARC ALVARES, HENRY BARRINGTON, ANTHONY BLAKE,  
CIARAN BRADBURY-HICKEY, GABRIEL COLLINS, JUDE COLLINS,  
KAVANA CROSSLEY, THOMAS DELGADO-LITTLE, DYLAN DUFFY,  
BEN FAIRMAN, ALEX GULA, MATTHEW JANSEN, ISAAC LONDON,  
MATTHEW MADINE, EOGHAN MCCARTHY, ALESSANDRO MACKINNON-BOTTI,  
MICHAEL MENEZES, ALEX MONTORO, JAKUB NIEDERMAIER-REED,  
CASSIUS O'CONNELL-WHITE, MATTHEW RANGEL-ALVARES,  
CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, SAM WIGGIN, LUCAS WOOD

## JUNIORS

SHAY BALSEKAR, TIMOTHY LEE, JAMES MENEZES, CAMDEN STEWART,  
ROCCO TESEI, JAMIE TRINDER, MARK USTYNOVYCH-REPA

Musical Director – Robert Prizeman

Keyboards – Steven Geraghty, Joshua Madine

Strings – The Silken String Quintet

Clarinet – Steven Geraghty

Flute – Candice Hamel

Bassoon – Vicky Crowell

Guitar – Alex Roth

Percussion – Simon Roth

Lighting – Luke Avery

Sound mixing & production – Sam Coates

Stage management – Jonathan Barrington, Tiarnan Branson

Chaperones – Barbara Geraghty, Eleanor Lewis

Concert management – Steven Philipp, David Stephens

Production Co-ordinator – Andrew Winter

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### — PLEASE NOTE —

The programme is 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.

We thank Canon John O'Toole and the  
staff and people of St George's Cathedral  
for their help & support

# 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.

Tonight's concert includes a number of the special Christmas arrangements which the Libera boys sang for the 'Christmas in Ireland' DVD. Titled 'Angels Sing', it was filmed during the summer in Armagh cathedral and is due to be broadcast on US television over the coming weeks.

There are also some songs being performed this evening which will be included on a brand new Libera album due for release in 2014.



# 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, including the US, UK, Japan, the Philippines, Taiwan 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 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 venue in Seoul and the boys were feted by thousands of enthusiastic fans who queued for hours to meet them and collect autographs. In the Philippines, Libera have topped the main album charts and sung at major concert halls and churches 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



## Angels from On High

Music & words traditional  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

Gloria in excelsis

Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord the newborn king

See him in a manger laid  
Whom the choirs of angels praise  
Mary Joseph lend your aid  
While our hearts in love we raise

Gloria in excelsis

## The Wexford Carol

Music & words traditional  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

O tagaigí is adhraigí  
An leanbh cneasta sa chró 'na luí  
Is cuimhnigí ar ghrá an Rí  
A thug dar saoradh anocht an naí

Good people all this Christmas  
time  
consider well and bear in mind  
what our good God for us has done  
in sending his beloved son.  
With Mary holy we should pray  
to God with love this Christmas  
Day  
In Bethlehem upon that morn  
there was a blessed Messiah born

Near Bethlehem did shepherds  
keep  
their flocks of lambs and feeding  
sheep,  
to whom God's angels did appear  
which put the shepherds in great  
fear

'Prepare and go' the angels said  
'to Bethlehem be not afraid  
for there you'll find this happy morn  
a princely babe sweet Jesus born '

With thankful heart and joyful mind  
the shepherds went the babe to  
find  
and as God's angel had foretold  
they did our Saviour Christ behold  
Within a manger he was laid,  
and by his side the virgin maid  
attending on the Lord of life  
who came on earth to end all strife



## Sanctus

Sanctus  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini

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

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

## I'm Dreaming of Home

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

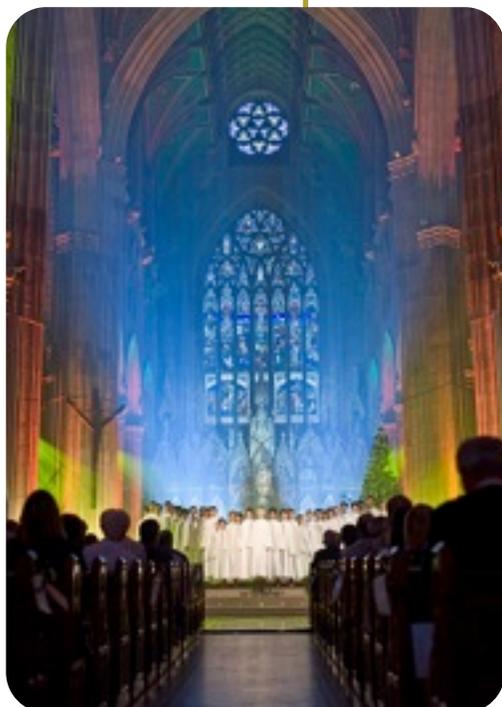
It's carried in the air  
The breeze of early morning  
I see the land so fair  
My heart opens wide  
There's sadness inside

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

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

## Voca Me



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

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

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

## Away In A Manger



Away in a manger,  
no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus  
laid down his sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky  
looked down where he lay  
the little Lord Jesus  
asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing,  
the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus  
no crying he makes

I love thee Lord Jesus  
Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side  
until morning is nigh

Be near me Lord Jesus,  
I ask thee to stay  
close by me for ever,  
and love me I pray  
Bless all the dear children in thy  
tender care  
And fit us for heaven,  
to live with thee there

Music by W J Kirkpatrick  
Words traditional  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

## In Dulci Jubilo

In dulci jubilo  
Now sing with hearts aglow  
Our delight and pleasure  
lies in praesepio  
like sunshine is our treasure  
Matris in gremio  
Alpha es et O

O Jesu parvule  
For thee I long alway  
Comfort my heart's blindness  
O puer optime  
With all thy loving kindness  
O princeps gloriae  
Trahe me post te

O patris caritas  
O nati lenitas  
Deeply were we stained  
per nostra crimina  
But thou for us hast gained  
coelorum gaudia  
O that we were there

Ubi sunt gaudia  
in any place but there  
There are angels singing  
in nova cantica  
and there the bells are ringing  
in Regis curia  
O that we were there

Music & words traditional  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

# God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

Music & words traditional  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

God rest you merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day  
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray  
O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our heavenly father a blessed angel came  
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name  
O tidings of comfort and joy

Fear not then said the angel let nothing you afright  
this day is born a Saviour of virgin pure and bright  
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might  
O tidings of comfort and joy

Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place  
and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace  
This holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface  
O tidings of comfort and joy

# Orinoco Flow

Music: Enya  
Words: 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



## Joy To The World

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!  
Let earth receive her King  
let every heart prepare him room  
and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!  
Your sweetest songs employ  
while fields and streams and hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
the wonders of his love

Music from W. Holford's 'Voce di  
Melodia'  
adapted by L. Mason  
Words by Isaac Watts  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

## What Child is This

What child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping,  
whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds  
watch are keeping

This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds worship and  
angels sing  
Haste, haste to bring him praise, the babe the son of Mary

So bring him incense gold and myrrh all tongues and  
peoples own him,  
the King of kings salvation brings let every heart enthrone  
him

Raise, raise your song on high while Mary sings a lullaby  
Joy, joy for Christ is born the babe the son of Mary

Music traditional  
Words by W. Chatterton Dix  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman



## Carol Of The Bells

Hark how the bells  
sweet silver bells  
all seem to say  
throw cares away

Christmas is here  
bringing good cheer  
to young and old  
meek and the bold

Ding dong ding dong  
that is their song  
With joyful ring  
all carolling

One seems to hear  
words of good cheer  
from every where  
filling the air

Oh how they pound  
raising the sound  
o'er hill and dale  
telling their tale

Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria

Gaily they ring  
while people sing  
songs of good cheer  
Christmas is here  
Merry, merry, merry, merry  
Christmas

On on they send  
on without end  
their joyful tone to every home  
Ding dong ding dong  
That is their song

Music by M Leontovych  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman



## Corpus Christi Carol

He bare her up, he bare her down  
He bare her into an orchard ground  
Lully lullay, lully lullay  
The falcon hath borne my mate away

And in that orchard there was a hall  
That was hanged with purple and pall  
And in that hall there was a bed  
And it was hanged with gold so red

And on this bed there lyeth a knight  
His wound is bleeding day and night  
By his bedside kneeleth a maid  
And she weepeth both night and day

By his bedside standeth a stone  
'Corpus Christi' written thereon

Music by Benjamin Britten  
Words Traditional

## Gaudete

Music & words traditional  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

Gaudete, gaudete christus est  
natus,  
Ex Maria virginæ, gaudete

Tempus ad est gratiæ hoc quod  
optabamus,  
Carmina latitiæ, devote redamus

Ergo nostra contio psallat iam in  
lustris  
Benedicat Domino salus regi  
nostro



## Silent Night

Music by Franz Gruber  
Words by Joseph Mohr  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

Silent night Holy night - all is  
calm all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and  
child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night Holy night -  
shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven  
afar

Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia'  
Christ the Saviour is born

Silent night Holy night - Son of  
God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy  
face  
with the dawn of redeeming  
grace  
Jesus Lord at thy birth



# 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  
Jubilare 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





**Our angels with dirty faces never hoped or dreamed of a future free from poverty help us change that this Christmas.**



**Please give just £20 a month to the Philippine Community Fund.**

**With your help we can ensure that these children dare to dream.**



**[www.p-c-f.org](http://www.p-c-f.org)**

**e: [info@p-c-f.org](mailto:info@p-c-f.org) t: 01489 790 219**

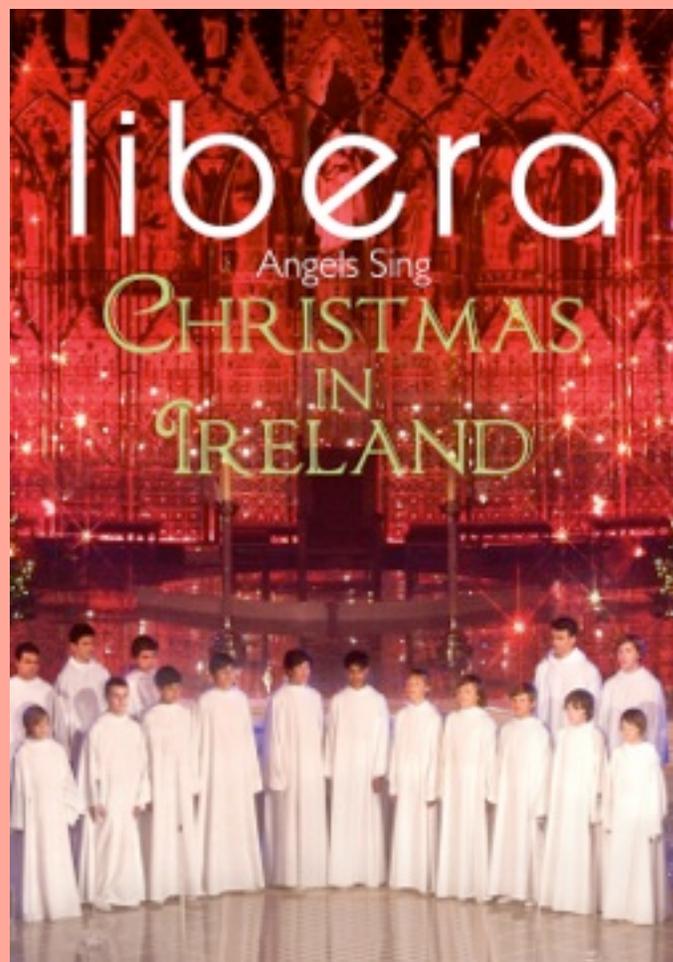
# Now Available



A joyous and uplifting CD recording of the audio from the concert, allowing you to hear your favorites in a completely new way!

## **TRACK LISTING**

1. JOY TO THE WORLD
2. GOD REST YOU MERRY GENTLEMEN
3. THE WEXFORD CAROL
4. IN DULCI JUBILO
5. ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH
6. SANCTUS, based on 'Canon' by Pachelbel
7. DANNY BOY
8. CAROL OF THE BELLS
9. HOLY NIGHT
10. STILL, STILL, STILL
11. GAUDETE
12. AWAY IN A MANGER
13. HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS
14. SILENT NIGHT
15. WHAT CHILD IS THIS



The DVD of the concert features all of the stunning live footage from St. Patrick's Cathedral in Armagh, Ireland, as well as exclusive behind-the-scenes footage and more.

[www.libera.org.uk/shop](http://www.libera.org.uk/shop)



## **Libera Round The World**

Cebu, Philippines | Taipei, Taiwan | Chicago, USA  
Hollywood, 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](mailto:office@libera.org.uk)

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

