

Weekly update for Sunday 3 March 2019

Rehearsal reminders

On Tuesday 5 March 2019 we will rehearse the Classical Sheffield repertoire.

Darius has updated the rehearsal schedule, [please click here to go directly to the schedule](#), there's also a link on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#).

Darius encourages everyone to attend all rehearsals, but asks anyone who isn't able to sing in a concert to let him know via their Voice Rep (for contact details see the Chorus website at [Member's Area / Chorus Contacts](#); there's a password reminder at the end of each weekly update).

Please don't forget your membership card for swiping in. No need to send apologies under the new system, but if you do have anything to report please contact your Voice Rep.

Rehearsing for the Classical Sheffield concert at home

Links to recordings of all but the Rebecca Clarke piece are on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#) (password reminder at the end of each update), together with links to all the voice parts of the Schoenberg. They are also reproduced below. Please use these links to practice the concert pieces both for Tuesday and before next Sunday – last week's rehearsal indicated that there was a fair bit of work to do at home!

[YouTube: Friede auf Erden by Schoenberg](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Soprano 1 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Soprano 2 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Alto 1 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Alto 2 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Tenor 1 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Tenor 2 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Bass 1 part](#)

[YouTube Schoenberg Bass 2 part](#)

[Link to Schoenberg mp3 practice files in each voice part](#)

[You Tube recording Abendfeier in Venedig by Clara Schumann](#)

[You Tube: To be Sung of a Summer Night on the Water by Delius](#)

[YouTube: Hymn to the Sun by Boulanger](#)

[You Tube : Soir Sur La Plaine](#) by Boulanger

[YouTube: Schone Fremde by Fanny Hensel](#)



Arrangements for the Classical Sheffield concert Sunday 10 March 2019

The concert will be held in the City Hall ballroom from 17.00 to 18.00. Access to the City Hall is via the stage door, down a short flight of stairs round the back, to the right of the Memorial Hall (Comedy Club) entrance. Press the buzzer if the stage door is locked. The ballroom is in the basement, please follow signs and/or ask stage door staff. There's a lift for those who need it - there are a lot of stairs!

The compulsory piano rehearsal is at KES on Tuesday 5 March 2019. The on-the-day tutti rehearsal will be in the main hall (NOT the ballroom) from 14.30 to 15.30. Rachel and the soloists will rehearse in the ballroom from 12.30 to 13.00, but we won't have access at that time so please don't come early.

Please note that we will be rehearsing on the stage of the main hall, NOT on the choir risers, which won't be in position - so there won't be any seats. Access to the stage is from the ground floor – please follow signage and/or ask the stage door staff. The Halle and Academy players are booked on the stage immediately after our rehearsal, and we are asked to vacate the space as quickly as possible – they will be waiting with instruments in the auditorium while we rehearse, ready for a quick get-on.

We should be able to leave bags in the North and South Halls (adjacent to the ballroom) immediately after our rehearsal. However, the number of performers involved, and that fact that many of them are under 18, means that arrangements may need to change on the day, so please keep an ear out for last-minute instructions and respond with your usual good humour and patience.

The turn-around between the 60-minute concerts is only 30 minutes – and after our concert it's the Sheffield Academy chamber orchestra with members of the Halle orchestra so it will get very crowded very quickly! It won't be at all like a standard ballroom concert, and it will almost certainly be advantageous to arrive already dressed in chorus uniform.

Please have music in black folders and wear full concert dress – check the details on the chorus website if you aren't sure, it would be a tragedy not to be allowed to sing after all the work we've put in. Details at [Members Area / Concert arrangements / stage procedure and dress code](#).

In the ballroom that day will be youngsters from Sheffield Music Academy's chamber orchestra at 11.00, Sheffield Symphony Orchestra's 'animal music' workshop for families at 14.00, then Global Soundtracks at 15.30, featuring Haymanot Tesfa (voice and krar) and Arian Sadr (percussion). After our concert the youngsters re-assemble with members of the Halle to play Grieg's Piano Concerto No 1 and the Brahms Symphony No 1. Please consider staying to support these young musicians – tickets are only £5. After that you could move on to hear (or sing if you've volunteered) massed voices perform the Beethoven 9 in the cathedral – a great way to end the day! Tickets available on the [Classical Sheffield website](#) - weekend and day passes are great value and will be available for a few more days so be quick if you want one!

Please help to sell tickets for our ballroom concert!!!!

Our concert has sold a few more tickets but there's still a way to go - please do one or more of:

- Get your family and friends to buy tickets, just £5 (under 18s FREE) from the City Hall box office or the [Classical Sheffield website](#).
- Support other Sheffield music makers by buying tickets for other concerts – especially those featuring young people and/or young composers, who deserve as much support as we can muster!
- Publicise the festival as much as you can. Give out brochures or spread the word via social media – ‘like’ the Festival Facebook page and/or click that you’re attending the event, and Tweet like mad if you use Twitter.

Reminder - message from Philip Collin – hear more Bach!

Philip, who takes our rehearsals now and again when Darius is otherwise engaged, has organised a performance of the St Matthew Passion on 16th March at St John's Church, Park, Sheffield S2 5PU. He has brought together singers and musicians from around the country especially for this event. This performance has been many months in preparation, with members of the choir - who will also be the soloists, as would have been the case in Bach's time - researching and sharing ideas about interpretation and style in correspondence before bringing it all together in rehearsals in London in Sheffield. The venue is a beautiful 19th Century church with a concrete extension built in sympathy with the nearby Park Hill flats, very close to the City Centre and a very short walk from Hyde Park tram station. The performance will start at 6.30pm, with an interval during which refreshments will be served. Price is £10 on the door (£5 for under-18s and unwaged).

It is very unusual to have all Bach's Big Three in performance in the same city over just four weeks – the Bach choir's St John Passion at the cathedral on Saturday 6 March at 7.30pm, the above St Matthew Passion on 16 March at 6.30pm, then our B minor Mass in the City Hall on 6 April – a veritable Bach-Fest!

Reminder - Subscriptions and membership cards

If you haven't paid yet please can you do so before the end of February? Unfortunately anyone who hasn't paid by then will not be able to sing in our concerts.

There are a few, particularly new members, who are waiting for their membership cards to be printed. Graham apologises for the delay and asks that these folk sign in manually until their cards appear. Around five members have paid but not collected their new cards – please see Graham to pick them up. Many thanks.

Reminder - bring your own mug or cup if you can

The average lifespan of a single-use cup is 13 minutes, and due to the plastic content less than 1% get recycled. A number of people already bring their own cup; do bring yours if you can. Email Rachel Rowlands if you'd like a special bamboo cup with lid, 12 oz £7.99, 14 oz £8.99. rachelrow@yahoo.co.uk. Many thanks

Reminder - May Midgley book

Get your copy of this fascinating book featuring the letters of May Midgley as she sailed round the world with the likes of Edward Elgar and a choir from Yorkshire. A great read

and well worth the £6.50 price ticket, with £1.50 per copy for choir funds. See Penny Webster at rehearsal.

Advance notice - Saturday 6 April 2019 - Bach's Mass in B minor (607 tickets sold)

Venue is the City Hall from 19.00 to 21.00. One of our Sheffield International Concert Season concerts, with the Royal Northern Sinfonia conducted by Andrew Griffiths.

Compulsory 'on-the-day' rehearsal will be from 14.30 to 17.30 in the City Hall; please make sure you are in your seats ready to start at 14.30 on the dot.

Conductor Andrew Griffith is very keen to rehearse this with us thoroughly, so he is coming up by train and staying the night for both piano rehearsals. The first is on Tuesday 26 March 2019, the second on Tuesday 2 April 2019, both at KES. Anyone who has to miss one of these will need good overall attendance and permission to sing in the concert. If you miss both piano rehearsals you won't be able to sing.

Tickets are [available via the City Hall website](#) or from the Box Office. Schools will shortly be offered a reduction via an email voucher. Ticket sales so far = 607, usual on-the-day sales around 300, target 1300, capacity 2000.

Advance notice - Sun 9 Jun 2019 – The Holy Face – a self funded concert we need to promote ourselves!

Venue is the City Hall at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. With the Black Dyke Band, Halifax Choral Society, the Yorkshire Youth Choir and four soloists, we will sing Wilby's *The Holy Face* and Paul Mealor's *Paradise*, and Darius will play Wilby's organ concerto *Cinema*.

The on-the-day rehearsal will be from 11.00 to 14.00 in the City Hall; please be in your seats ready to start rehearsal at 11.00 on the dot.

Tickets [available via SIV website](#) or at the City Hall Box Office. £5 reduction for anyone who presents their Xmas concert or Bach ticket or proof of booking and under 18 tickets FREE! Schools will be offered a significant reduction via an email voucher.

Rehearsal attendance new procedure – see chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#)

Upcoming classical concerts are on the Chorus website, [Members Area / For information](#)

Upcoming Singing Opportunities at [Members' Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

Diary Dates See the Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#).

Chorus website

Information about concert arrangements, future dates, our official stage procedure, Darius' rehearsal schedule, re-auditions, where to get rehearsal tracks etc. can be found on the chorus website, in the Member's Area in particular. The website is available at <http://sheffieldphil.org> or via a Google search. If taken to an error page it is likely that your computer or laptop has stored the old website in its memory (cache) and you

should clear it by pressing REFRESH, or F5 on your PC keyboard. Alternatively it may be that your router needs re-setting; try turning it off for 10 minutes before switching it on again. If none of this works please contact Anne Adams in the first instance, and she will inform the webmasters Matthew Morgan and Bill Best. The chorus user name is member and the password is dariu5; these are for chorus members only so please don't share them.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org