

## **St Marie's concert 1 Nov 2025, comments**

### **Audience members:**

*I enjoyed all the pieces (and all were new to me)... It wasn't really the individual pieces, for me, though. It was the all-encompassing sounds of dozens of voices in rhythm and harmony, plus that magnificent organ, filling such an acoustic space.*

*The choir was on top form.*

*I loved the unusual sounds your voices made in the Seven Stars piece - really compelling.*

*The lovely Duruflé motets based on Gregorian chants were so well-suited to that acoustic.*

*My highlight was the superbly dramatic Hymne au Soleil. Brilliantly varied programming.*

*I'm not sure I'd have listened properly to that extraordinary Langlais mass if it'd come on the radio, but hearing it live, sung with such commitment and energy, made for a great all-encompassing encounter which reminds you why the live experience is so essential.*

### **Members in the audience**

*Fabulous concert! ... The man sitting next to me came from Halifax specially and said what a treat it was to hear something different from the usual choir repertoire – he couldn't stop applauding!*

*Well done everyone for a wonderful concert last night. You sang beautifully. I was especially moved by the Evening Hymn. It was lovely to be in the audience and really appreciate how good our choir is!*

*Congratulations on a fabulous concert everyone. Great ensemble singing, and a fine sound... It was superb.*

*You really made a wonderful sound. Everyone was focussed and attentive. You all looked as though you were enjoying it too. Bravo!*

*It was a triumph! Why would anyone not want to hear such a fabulous performance? I've been a member for a long time, but I've never sat in the audience before – so great to see how engaged people looked: especially the sopranos!*

*What an amazing evening. Definitely had goosebumps at one point, and it wasn't the cold! Quite emotional too. The way that many singers faded to zero was so impressive. Sometimes there's an upside to not being able to sing. The pride in listening to a group you're part of is very special. Congrats to everyone.*

### **Singing members' comments**

*Well done, t'committee and Darius, for giving us a chance to show how talented and adaptable we are. Special congrats to Kat for singing the very first words of the concert.*

*An exhausting but exhilarating concert.*

*My goodness weren't there some spine-tingling moments? I think we really did ourselves proud... The Langlais came off really well... All in all I thought it was an extraordinary concert.*

*My heart was beating so hard at the end of the Langlais I thought I was going to fall over...*

*It's not easy to make the concerts we set up ourselves have the same grandeur as ...[those] at City Hall (with the support of large ensembles of musicians). But I felt the Langlais had quite an epic feel as a performer – hopefully the audience got those vibz too!*

*Cold and uncomfortable with all that standing... but worth it for that acoustic, which really lifts our sound!*

### **Others**

James Mitchell, Sheffield Cathedral organist, playing the choir organ for this concert: *Really interesting choice of repertoire, done well.*

Robert Webb, Music Director of St Marie's Cathedral: *You made a fantastic sound. All credit to Darius for choosing such fantastic rarely-performed repertoire, perfect for the space and to show off our Lewis organ. You made the most of the opportunity to sing in the best acoustic in Sheffield.*