



## PRESS RELEASE

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# Cadogan Hall presents its twelfth Choral at Cadogan series in 2019-20

Highlights include:

- The Tallis Scholars and Artistic Director Peter Phillips open and close the series with a programme exploring rarely performed repertoire by Palestrina and Thomas Tallis' epic motet *Spem in alium*
- Westminster Cathedral Choir perform the world premiere of a motet by Joanna Marsh, centred on the text *O magnum mysterium*
- The Sixteen and Harry Christophers return to Cadogan Hall for an evening of carols and seasonal choral music
- Cupertino and Danish National Vocal Ensemble make their UK debuts with programmes of Portuguese polyphony and Danish music exploring the nation's great choral tradition
- The Cardinal's Musick perform repertoire which sets 16<sup>th</sup>-century polyphony alongside contemporary mystic minimalism
- The Gesualdo Six present *Flower of the Italian Madrigal*, a programme with music tracing the evolution of the madrigal from Claudio Monteverdi to György Ligeti

Cadogan Hall presents its twelfth 'Choral at Cadogan' series which returns from October 2019 to June 2020 with eight concerts given by renowned vocal ensembles including **The Tallis Scholars**, **The Sixteen** and **The Cardinal's Musick**. As part of the series, two highly acclaimed international groups will give their UK debuts including: **Cupertino** from Portugal who perform the rich wonders of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>-century Portuguese polyphony and the **Danish National Vocal Ensemble** showcasing exquisite and rarely performed traditional Danish works. **Westminster Cathedral Choir** perform music to celebrate Advent by composers from Tallis to Eric Whitacre. **The Gesualdo Six** make a welcome return to the series with a programme of madrigals from Claudio Monteverdi to György Ligeti. **The Tallis Scholars** conclude the series with an opportunity to hear one of the most astonishing creations of the human mind, Thomas Tallis' *Spem in alium*.

The series opens on **2 October 2019** with **The Tallis Scholars** led by Artistic Director **Peter Phillips** with a stunning collection of works by Palestrina. Choral at Cadogan gives a perfect opportunity for the choir to perform an extraordinary programme of rarely heard Palestrina masterpieces written for an unusual mix of voices. The *Missa Ave Maria* regarded as one of his greatest but less widely known works opens the concert, whilst *Dum complerentur* and *Magnificat tertii toni* are also performed. Works by composers including Gallus, Byrd and de Morales complete the programme.

On **3 December 2019**, **Westminster Cathedral Choir** directed by **Martin Baker** perform a programme including the world premiere of a motet by Joanna Marsh, all centred on the text *O magnum mysterium*: a musical expression of the mystery of the incarnation – the arrival of Christ in the calm silence of night. Founded in 1901, the internationally renowned choir is famous for its unique daily performances of Renaissance polyphony and plainsong at Westminster Cathedral. This performance presents a mixture of the choir's traditional Advent repertoire alongside some contemporary Christmas favourites.

As part of its Christmas 2019 tour, **The Sixteen's** festive programme features Britten's hugely popular *A Ceremony of Carols* on **16 & 17 December 2019**, with conductor **Harry Christophers**. This masterful and unique work continues to be a staple of the choral canon and is an example of Britten's genius. The evening also showcases traditional Medieval carol tunes upon which so much Christmas music has been based, contrasted with more modern delights including Warlock's *Corpus Christi* and Walton's festive *Make we joy now in this fest*.

Portuguese vocal ensemble **Cupertinos** directed by **Luís Toscano** makes its UK debut as part of the Choral at Cadogan series on **18 February 2020**. Founded in 2009, Cupertinos have established themselves as true ambassadors of Portuguese polyphony. Fresh and untamed in character, their performances showcase Iberian passion and a distinctly Portuguese essence. The choir perform a programme of 16th- and 17th-century Portuguese polyphony that provides a panoramic view of the poignant liturgies of Lent and of the Dead.

The series also welcomes the **Danish National Vocal Ensemble** for its UK debut with director **Marcus Creed** on **26 March 2020**. As the professional chamber choir of DR, Denmark's national broadcaster, the choir is a much-admired ensemble and celebrated for its pure and transparent Nordic sound. The programme of broad cross-section of Danish music explores the nation's great choral tradition from the time of Christian IV's rule in the 16<sup>th</sup> century via Carl Nielsen, the father figure of modern Danish music, to music of the present day. The programme also features choral masterworks including three motets by J.S. Bach: *Komm, Jesus, komm*, *Der Geist hilft* and *Jesu, meine Freude*.

**The Cardinal's Musick** and director **Andrew Carwood** perform as part of the series on **29 April 2020**, with a programme which sets 16<sup>th</sup>-century polyphony alongside contemporary minimalism. Mystic minimalists John Tavener and Arvo Pärt are as immersed in their religious feelings as William Byrd and Orlando Gibbons yet they come from very different traditions. Byrd's dark-toned *Mass for four voices* inspired by Catholic devotion is set against Gibbons' more suave and energetic Anglican writing. Tavener and Arvo Pärt instead look to the Orthodox traditions of the East. These contemporary writers use a direct and powerful approach, ikon-like in its seeming simplicity but immensely powerful.

Vocal consort **The Gesualdo Six** and director **Owain Park** perform on **21 May 2020**, with an entrancing programme that traces the evolution of the madrigal from Claudio Monteverdi to György Ligeti. Monteverdi led the way in a new expressive style of composition, emphasising words just as much as harmonies – and breaking the rules as he went. Palestrina, Gesualdo and Marenzio feature alongside several works of the *Il Trionfo di Dori*, a collection of madrigals composed in honour of the wife of a Venetian nobleman. Ligeti's *Nonsense Madrigals* parody earlier madrigals by using old compositional techniques as vehicles for humorous portrayals of texts from children's literature by Lewis Carroll and William Brighty Rands.

**The Tallis Scholars** once again close the series on **18 June 2020**, with a performance of Thomas Tallis' epic motet *Spem in alium* which remains one of the most astonishing creations of the human mind. The

programme is surrounded with more music by Thomas Tallis including *Loquebantur variis linguis*, *Miserere nostri* and *If ye love me* to demonstrate just how versatile he was in his approach to composition. Big and small, Catholic and Protestant, he excelled in every genre, influencing all the English musicians of his time, and for generations to come.

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### Listings

#### **The Tallis Scholars/Peter Phillips**

**2 October 2019, 7.30pm**

Palestrina *Missa Ave Maria*

Palestrina *Dum complerentur*

Byrd *Domine secundum actum meum*

Byrd *O salutaris hostia*

Gallus *Mirabile mysterium*

de Morales *Jubilare Deo*

Palestrina *Magnificat tertii toni*

#### **Westminster Cathedral Choir/Martin Baker**

**3 December 2019, 7.30pm**

Victoria *O magnum mysterium*

Plainsong *Dominus dixit ad me*

Tallis *O nata lux*

James MacMillan *O radiant dawn*

Plainsong *Puer natus est nobis*

Palestrina *Rorate caeli*

Tallis *Videte miraculum*

Joanna Marsh *O Magnum Mysterium*

Victoria *Alma redemptoris mater*

Plainsong *Alleluia: Dominus dixit ad me*

Bruckner *Ave Maria*

Poulenc *O magnum mysterium*

Poulenc *Quem vidistis pastores?*

Howells *A spotless rose*

Eric Whitacre *Lux aurumque*

Warlock *Bethlehem Down*

Morten Lauridsen *O magnum mysterium*

#### **The Sixteen/Harry Christophers**

**16 & 17 December 2019, 7.30pm**

Walton *Make we joy now in this fest*

Matthew Martin *Adam lay ybounden*

Poston *Jesus Christ the apple tree*

Warlock *Corpus Christi*

Holst *This have I done for my true love*

Praetorisu arr. Jan Sandström *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*

James Burton *Balulalow*

Cecilia McDowall *Of a rose*

Britten *A ceremony of carols*

Selection of Medieval and traditional carols

#### **Curpertinos/Luís Toscano**

**18 February 2020, 7.30pm**

de Cristo *Lamentationes Jheremie prophetæ 1:1-5*

Mendes *Missa de Quadragesima – Kyrie*

de Brito *Assumpsit Jesus*

Cardoso *Lamentationes 1:6–7*

Mendes *Missa de Quadragesima – Credo Lopes*

Morago *De profundis*

Trosylho *Circumdederunt me*

de Cristo *Parce mihi Domine*

Mendes *Missa de Quadragesima – Sanctus & Benedictus*

de Magalhães *Commissa mea*

Cardoso *Sitivit anima mea*  
Mendes *Missa de Quadragesima – Agnus Dei*  
de Almeida *Lamentationes 2:8-11*  
Mendes *Missa de Quadragesima –*  
*Benedicamus Domino*

**Danish National Vocal Ensemble/Martin Creed**  
**26 March 2020, 7.30pm**

J.S. Bach *Komm Jesu, komm*  
Pedersøn *Fader vor ud i Himmerig*  
Pedersøn *Victimae paschali laudes*  
Nielsen *Tre Motetter*  
J.S. Bach *Der Geist hilft*  
Bent Sørensen *Benedictus*  
Bo Holten *Herren er min hyrde*  
A selection of traditional 'Dansk Sange'  
J.S. Bach *Jesu meine Freud*

**The Gesualdo Six/Owain Park**  
**21 May 2020, 7.30pm**

Vecchi *Affrettiamoci tutti di fruire*  
Palestrina *Soave fia il morir*  
Monteverdi *Sfoga con le stelle*  
*Selected works from 'Il Trionfo di Dori'*  
de Macque *Vaghe ninfe selvage*  
Massaino *Sù le fiorite sponde*  
Anerio *Sotto l'ombroso speco*  
Giovannelli *Quand'apparisti o vag'o amata Dori*  
Striggio *Misero Ohime*  
Marenzio *Senza il mio sole*  
Monteverdi *Rimanti in pace*  
Orologio *Omnia vincit amor*  
del Mel *Madonna io non so far*  
de Monte *Zefiro torna*  
Cortecchia *S'altri d'amor sospira*  
Gesualdo *Felice primavera*  
Gesualdo *Asciugate i begli occhi*  
Ligeti *Selection from 'Nonsense Madrigals'*  
Malvezzi *Lieti solcando il mare*

**The Cardinal's Musick/Andrew Carwood**  
**29 April 2020, 7.30pm**

Arvo Pärt *Da pacem Domine*  
Byrd *Mass for four voices – Kyrie & Gloria*  
Arvo Pärt *Morning star*  
Byrd *Mass for four voices – Credo*  
Arvo Pärt *I am the true vine*  
Byrd *Mass for four voices – Sanctus &*  
*Benedictus*  
Arvo Pärt *Most holy Mother of God*  
Byrd *Mass for four voices – Agnus Dei*  
Gibbons *Hosanna to the Son of David*  
Tavener *The tyger*  
Gibbons *O Lord, in thy wrath*  
Tavener *The lamb*  
Gibbons *Lift up your heads*  
Tavener *Funeral Ikos*  
Gibbons *Nunc dimittis (Short Service)*  
Tavener *Love bade me welcome*  
Gibbons *O clap your hands together*

**The Tallis Scholars/Peter Phillips**  
**18 June 2020, 7.30pm**

Tallis *Loquebantur variis linguis*  
Tallis *Miserere nostri*  
Tallis *Sancte deus*  
Tallis *If ye love me*  
Tallis *Hear the voice and prayer*  
Tallis *Gaude gloriosa*  
Tallis *Lamentations of Jeremiah II*  
Tallis *Derelinquat impius*  
Tallis *In ieiunio et fletu*  
Tallis *O nata lux*  
Tallis *Spem in alium*

**Tickets:** from £19, available from Cadogan Hall Box Office

**Online:** [www.cadoganhall.com/choral](http://www.cadoganhall.com/choral)

**Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, London SW1X 9DQ**

**Box Office: 020 7730 4500**

The Box Office is open for bookings:

Monday – Saturday: 10am – 6pm (to 8pm on performance days)

Sunday: 12 noon – 8pm (performance days only)

Transaction fees apply

### **About Cadogan Hall**

Set in a fantastic location in the heart of Chelsea Cadogan Hall has become one of London's leading venues. The Hall's 950 seats, excellent acoustic and luxurious surroundings makes it the first choice for some of the UK's top orchestras, including the Hall's resident orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic, as well as a favourite London destination for international touring orchestras. Cadogan Hall's Choral at Cadogan series and Zurich International Orchestra series are the perfect opportunity to hear the finest choral ensembles and orchestras from around the world. The hall is also the chosen venue for the world-famous BBC Proms Chamber Music Series and also offers a vibrant selection of contemporary, jazz, folk and world music events as well as talks, debates and conferences.