

PRESS RELEASE

8 November 2018

The Sixteen presents carols and seasonal choral music for its 2018 Christmas tour

The Sixteen's annual Christmas programme brings carols and seasonal choral music to nine cities and towns across the UK this year including Nottingham, Newcastle, Cardiff, Oxford and London, beginning on the **1 December**. On the eve of its 40th anniversary celebrations in 2019, The Sixteen, along with founder and conductor **Harry Christophers CBE**, performs festive music, beautiful Tudor and Renaissance works and modern settings combined to create a varied evening of music.

Opening with Sweelinck's *Hodie Christus natus est*, the programme is based around the theme of "The Little Child" and includes 20th and 21st-century carol settings by Howells, Richard Rodney Bennett, Leighton, Joseph Phibbs, Walton, Warlock and Cecilia McDowall set alongside traditional carols and motets from the renaissance by Kirbye, Byrd, Palestrina, De Wert and Sheppard.

Alongside this performing schedule, The Sixteen has released *A Renaissance Christmas* on its award-winning label **CORO**, for those looking for something a little different this festive season. Sharing some of the repertoire with the tour programme, the recording covers everything from the delightful simplicity of plainsong chants *Resonemus laudibus* and *Veni, veni Emmanuel* to the purity of Lassus' polyphonic *Videntes stellam Magi* and Byrd's jubilant *This day Christ was born*.

[Listings and programme](#)

The Sixteen at Christmas

1 December 2018, 7:30pm, Uppingham School Chapel, Uppingham

4 December 2018, 7pm, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham

5 December 2018, 7:45pm, The Anvil, Basingstoke

7 December 2018, 7:30pm, The Sage Gateshead

8 December 2018, 7pm, Queen's Concert Hall, Taunton

9 December 2018, 3pm, St David's Hall, Cardiff

14 December 2018, 7:45pm, St John the Evangelist, Oxford

17 & 18 December 2018, 7:30pm, Cadogan Hall, London

22 December 2018, 7:30pm, Reading Concert Hall, Reading

Sweelinck *Hodie Christus natus est*

Howells *Sing lullaby*

RR Bennett *Susanni*

Traditional *The Saviour's World (The babe in Bethlem's manger laid)*

Walton *All this time*

Plainsong *Anima nostra (Offertory for Holy Innocents)*
Kirbye *Vox in Rama*
Leighton *Coventry Carol*
Traditional *Down in yon forest*
Byrd *This day Christ was born*
Palestrina *A solis ortu cardine*
Piae Cantiones 1582 *Puer nobis nascitur*
De Wert *Vox in Rama*
Traditional *It came upon a midnight clear*
Joseph Phibbs *Lullay, lullay, thou lytil child*
Original tune 1591 *Coventry Carol*
Byrd *Lullaby my sweet babe*
Cecilia McDowall *Now may we singen*
Sheppard *A solis ortu cardine*
Warlock *Benedicamus Domino*

A Renaissance Christmas
Catalogue Number: COR16167
Harry Christophers/The Sixteen

14th Century *Resonemus laudibus*
Sweelink *Hodie Christus natus est*
Handl *Omnes de Saba venient*
Eccard *Resonent in laudibus*
Plainsong *Veni, veni Emmanuel*
Kirbye *Vox in Rama*
Lassus *Videntes stellam Magi*
Tallis *Videte miraculum*
Dering *Quem vidistis, pastores?*
Byrd *O magnum mysterium/Beata Virgo*
Handl *Resonent in laudibus*
Victoria *Quem vidistis, pastores?*
Lassus *Resonent in laudibus*
Byrd *This day Christ was born*
Sheppard *Pastores loquebantur*
Philips *O beatum et sacrosanctum diem*
Plainsong *Crudelis Herodes*
Lassus *Omnes de Saba venient*

For further press information please contact

Rebecca Driver Media Relations

web: www.rdmr.co.uk

email: rebecca@rdmr.co.uk | ruth@rdmr.co.uk

Tel: 020 3691 7034