

the London Première of

Re:Creation



a new oratorio for soloists, chorus and orchestra

Music by David Perkins

Libretto compiled by Derek Wensley

Wed 22nd April 2009 @ 7.30pm
St. John's, Smith Square, London

Timothy Ball Conductor
**Chameleon Arts Orchestra
Consortium**
Director: Andrew-John Smith

Jeremy White*	Bass-baritone
Amy Haworth	Soprano
Louise Crane	Mezzo-soprano
Justin Lavender	Tenor
Wyn Pencarreg	Baritone

*appearing by kind permission of The Royal Opera House

"A lively 're-creation' of past harmonies; a peal of beautiful, ear-ingratiating sounds that eschews an idiom of dissonance and unfamiliar intervals, yet has a contemporary ring"

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Re:Creation – A NEW BIBLICAL ORATORIO

This spring, hundreds of people can encounter the Biblical story set to new and inspiring music. **Derek Wensley**, United Reformed Church minister based at Guildford Baptist Church has fulfilled a lifetime's dream and compiled *Re:Creation*. Using modern English, the biblical text has been set to inspirational music by composer **David Perkins**. This new oratorio for soloists, chorus and orchestra is to be presented by **Consortium**, a 24 voice professional choir at St. John's, Smith Square, Westminster on Wednesday 22nd April June @ 7.30pm.

Re:Creation's inspiration is the great sacred choral masterpieces of Handel, Bach and Haydn. It describes God's creative initiatives which humanity resisted and how God restored His purposes through Jesus with the promise of a recreated Heaven and Earth awaiting those who put their trust and obedience in Him.

In June 2007, a 50 voice local choir sang *Re:Creation's* first two performances in Guildford to wide acclaim, sell-out audiences and standing ovations. Now with 50 top class professional musicians, the London premiere will give music lovers the chance to hear this accessible work accompanied by the **Chameleon Arts Orchestra**.

Royal Opera House Bass-baritone, **Jeremy White** has agreed to sing the voice of God. Soprano **Amy Haworth**, Mezzo **Louise Crane**, Tenor **Justin Lavender** and Baritone **Wyn Pencarreg** are the other soloists.

'Here is classical music that breaks new ground,' says Luke Walton, the Bible Society's Arts Development Officer, 'The Bible is, and has always, inspired great artistic expression, but this fresh and contemporary libretto and score will carry that inspiration to a new generation'.

- **Venue & Date:** 22 April, 7.30 pm, St.John's Smith Square, Westminster, London SW1P 3HA
- Tickets: £20 and £15
- Book online at www.sjss.org.uk or by phone from SJSS Box Office on 020 7222 1061
- Further information from Derek Wensley 01483 836776 email:derekandgerry@ntlworld.com

The inspiration for *Re:Creation* comes from the great oratorio tradition which has delighted and inspired singers, players and audiences over the centuries. *Re:Creation* is a new work designed to bring to the 21st Century these same responses and follows the Biblical story of creation and redemption across the breadth of human history using contemporary language and music.



Jeremy White

The Voice of God will be sung by the internationally acclaimed bass-baritone, **Jeremy White**. He is appearing by kind permission of The Royal Opera House, where he has performed each season since his 1991 debut in roles from Mozart to Janáček. His recordings include Vaughan Williams' *Pilgrim's Progress* and Britten's *Paul Bunyan* both conducted by the late Richard Hickox.



Amy Haworth

The other soloists are **Amy Haworth** (soprano), a regular performer with many of the country's leading vocal ensembles and, as a soloist, with orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the London Sinfonietta; **Louise Crane** (mezzo-soprano), who has sung with English National Opera, Glyndebourne Festival Opera and D'Oyly Carte, and in oratorio with orchestras including the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and the Basque Symphony of Spain; **Justin Lavender** (tenor), whose concert and operatic career includes major roles with the Vienna State Opera and at The Royal Opera House, the Sydney Opera House and La Scala Milan; and **Wyn Pencarreg** (baritone), who has sung with Opera North, Glyndebourne Touring, Carl Rosa Opera, and in concert with orchestras including the BBC Philharmonic and The Hallé.



Louise Crane



Justin Lavender



Wyn Pencarreg



Timothy Ball

Timothy Ball, who directed the oratorio's first performances, will conduct the London Première at the request of the composer. Formerly Organ Scholar at Lincoln Cathedral, he has a substantial repertoire of orchestral, choral and operatic works.

**Pre-concert talk
with the Composer,
Librettist and Conductor
@ 6.30pm FREE**

Tickets: £20, £15, £10 **Booking opens:** Monday 2nd March

Box Office: Tel 020 7222 1061 Fax 020 7233 1618

MasterCard, Visa and Maestro accepted

By Post: St. John's, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA. Please enclose SAE.

Book online: www.sjss.org.uk

The Box Office is open for advance bookings from 10am-5pm (6pm on public concert days) Monday to Friday. Advance bookings cannot be made after 6pm or at weekends/bank holidays. After 6pm the Box Office is open for personal callers for that evening's concert only.

Booking fees: By telephone £2.00 per transaction, (£1.50 to Friends of St John's). Online £1.50 per transaction.

St. John's, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA

General Manager: Paul Davies

Website: www.sjss.org.uk

The Footstool Restaurant in the Crypt is open from 5.30pm for à la carte dining, a light supper menu and licensed refreshments.

Tel 020 7222 2779

St. John's, Smith Square Charitable Trust

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Registered in England. Company no: 3028678

www.recreationtheoratorio.com