

Whitehall Choir

Christmas Concert



Conductor: Paul Spicer Organist: Ian Tindale

Tuesday, 10 December 2013, 7.30pm

St Stephen's, Rochester Row, London SW1P 1LE

Doors open at 7pm. Admission £10 on the door (£5 for under-18s and full-time students). Programme, wine and mince pie/savoury included.

The Whitehall Choir, conducted by Paul Spicer, is in its 70th season. One of London's leading amateur choirs, it has a varied repertoire of both unaccompanied pieces and larger choral works. The Choir performs at major central London concert venues, often alongside professional orchestras and soloists. Rehearsals are held during term times on Tuesday evenings at St Stephen's, Rochester Row, and new voices are always welcome. Admission is by a short audition, usually after one or two rehearsals. This year, the Choir held a Young Composer Competition, judged by Paul Spicer and fellow composers Judith Weir and Robert Saxton. The winner will be announced at the Christmas concert and the winning piece will have its world première on 4 April (see below) and will then be recorded in May along with other highlights from that performance for the Choir's next CD. Find out more about the Choir, including how to join, at www.whitehallchoir.org.uk, or email joinus@whitehallchoir.org.uk. Whitehall Choir is a registered charity, no. 280478.

Other Whitehall Choir concerts this season

• **Monday, 9 December 2013, Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, Christmas carols with readings by BBC Radio 4's Jenni Murray**
St Mary's, Great Milton, Oxfordshire.

For details contact manoir.com/web/olem/calendar_of_events.jsp

• **Friday, 4 April 2014, Passiontide to Ascension Day, St Alban the Martyr,**
8 Brooke Street, Holborn London EC1N 7RD

• **Friday, 4 July 2014, 7.30 pm, Brahms, Elgar, Stanford,**
Kodály and Rheinberger, Holy Trinity Sloane Street, London SW1X 9BZ

Paul Spicer began his musical training as a chorister at New College, Oxford. He studied with Herbert Howells and Richard Popplewell (organ) at the Royal College of Music in London, winning the Walford Davies Organ Prize in his final year. This is Paul's 13th season with the Whitehall Choir; he also conducts the Birmingham Bach Choir and chamber choirs of Birmingham Conservatoire, where he teaches choral conducting as he does at Oxford and Durham Universities. In 1984 he founded the Finzi Singers, with whom he made 15 CDs for Chandos. Paul is in great demand, too, as a recording producer and as a composer. He recently finished a major biography and study of the works of Sir George Dyson; and September 2014 sees the world première at Birmingham Symphony Hall of his latest opus, a choral symphony with the poet Euan Tait commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. Visit www.paulspicer.com for details.

Ian Tindale is the Lord and Lady Lurgan Junior Fellow in Piano Accompaniment at the Royal College of Music, where he recently gained his Masters with Distinction. He is building a reputation as a pianist specialising in song and chamber music. At the RCM he has won accompaniment prizes in all the major song competitions, winning the MBF Accompanist's Prize (Maggie Teyte Competition) in March this year and joint winner of the Gerald Moore Award in 2012. He joined the Whitehall Choir as its accompanist in January 2013.

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