

# Leicester Philharmonic Choir



125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
S E A S O N

2010/2011

[www.thephil.org.uk](http://www.thephil.org.uk)

# Leicester Philharmonic Choir

founded 1886

Registered Charity No. 501551

Patron:	<b>Karl Jenkins OBE</b>
President:	John Aldridge OBE, DL
Vice Presidents:	Mr CH Ashton, Mrs CP Bailey, Miss CJ Goldby, Mrs M Pearson, Mr JA Shilcock, Mrs J Simpson
Chorus Master:	Richard Dacey

## The Leicester Philharmonic Choir welcomes you to its 125th Anniversary Season.

The season opens with a celebratory concert featuring music that holds a special place in the choir's history. Hosted and conducted by Brian Kay, the Philharmonia Orchestra joins the choir for a programme of works loved by choir and audiences over the years. The concluding piece in this special concert will be *The Armed Man*, conducted by composer Karl Jenkins. We are proud and delighted that Karl, our patron, who has several times conducted the choir in performances of his own works, will be returning to take part in our celebrations.

Christmas music at St James the Greater will once again be an opportunity to hear and sing carols, both new and traditional. Our Spring concert is a performance of *Carmina Burana*. The lively and exciting sounds of the Marylebone Camerata are the perfect complement to this rousing piece and conductor Andrew Greenwood makes room in his busy schedule for a welcome return to Leicester.



Sir Andrew Davis rehearses *Dream of Gerontius*

Karl Jenkins rehearses in De Montfort Hall



Photo: Rodney Spokes

During 125 years, the choir has performed with many great orchestras under the direction of eminent conductors and composers, from Sir Henry Wood, who directed the choir from 1922 to 1934, to John Rutter who conducted his *Requiem, Gloria and Mass of the Children*. In recent years we have performed with the Philharmonia under the baton of Sir Andrew Davis and Simon Halsey and we are delighted that the Philharmonia Orchestra performs with us once again this season.



Photo: Rodney Spokes

Brian Kay in rehearsal

Leicestershire's largest choir has a varied repertoire embracing the choral masterpieces, music from well-loved operas and 20th century musicals, and modern compositions which now attract a major following.

As well as performing in Leicester, the choir receives invitations to perform at other venues, including the Royal Albert Hall, London. The choir has toured abroad, performing at wonderful venues in European cities, including Florence and Paris.

Richard Dacey has been chorus master since 1996. Now based in Leicestershire as Head of Performing Arts at Guthlaxton College, Richard's musical career has included performing, composing, coaching, teaching and directing, both in this country and in North America. With his enthusiasm and dedication he continues to lead the choir in achieving high standards.



Saturday 30 October 2010 7.30pm at De Montfort Hall

## Karl Jenkins *The Armed Man* conducted by the Composer

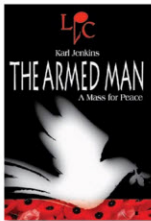
and a selection of works from the choir's repertoire conducted by Brian Kay

Leicester Philharmonic Choir Angmering Chorale Billingshurst Choral Society Philharmonia Orchestra

The choir starts their anniversary season with a celebration concert, featuring a fantastic line-up of the Philharmonia Orchestra, three combined choirs and two well-known conductors. Karl Jenkins, patron of the choir, conducts his moving and exciting work *The Armed Man*. Subtitled a Mass for Peace, *The Armed Man* embraces elements of the Christian Mass and includes rhythms and texts from other sources such as a 15th century folk song, the Islamic call to prayer and the Last Post. The concert opens with Brian Kay conducting a selection of favourite works from the choir's wide repertoire, including works by Rutter and Poulenc, the final chorus from Handel's *Messiah* and the *Grand March* from *Aida*.

Tickets: £10 - £28 Concessions available

Tickets from LPC Booking Manager (01509 230090) or Email: [tickets@thephil.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thephil.org.uk)  
and De Montfort Hall Box Office (0116 233 3111)



Thursday 16 December 2010  
7.30pm at St. James the Greater Church, London Road

## Carols at St. James

conducted by Richard Dacey

A festive concert of carols and Christmas music for choir and audience;  
an ever popular celebration of traditional Christmas music.  
For many in Leicester, Christmas starts with the Phil's annual carol concert.

Tickets: £14 to include a glass of wine and mince pie. Concessions available

Tickets from LPC Booking Manager (01509 230090) or Email: [tickets@thephil.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thephil.org.uk)  
Advanced Booking Advised



Saturday 9 April 2011 7.30pm at De Montfort Hall

## Carl Orff *Carmina Burana*

Marylebone Camerata

conducted by Andrew Greenwood

The season finishes with one of the most popular choral works of the 20th century with its well-known opening chorus *O Fortuna*. Sometimes referred to as a scenic cantata, *Carmina Burana* is based on a collection of medieval secular poems concerned with drinking, gambling, dancing and sex, set to exhilarating primitive rhythms and simple melodies.

Tickets: £10 - £26 Concessions available

Tickets from LPC Booking Manager (01509 230090) or Email: [tickets@thephil.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thephil.org.uk)  
and De Montfort Hall Box Office (0116 233 3111)



Carmina  
& Burana

# Would you like to sing with the choir?

Members travel from all areas of Leicestershire and beyond to join our weekly rehearsals and perform in concerts. They share a love of choral music and its performance and highlight a number of reasons for their commitment to the choir.

*These include:*

- Working with professional orchestras, conductors and soloists
- Participation in large scale orchestral performances
- Developing a varied repertoire
- Lively, demanding and entertaining rehearsals led by an inspiring chorus master
- Developing friendships with people with a shared interest



## Joining the choir

We invite anyone interested in joining the choir to come to a few rehearsals where you will be made welcome and offered the chance to sing alongside experienced members. If you feel ready to become a full member and thus be able to take part in concerts, a short voice test will help establish your ability to sing in tune and work from a vocal score, as well as place you in the appropriate voice section.

Following the success last season of Learn to Sing and Only Men Allowed, the choir is planning to help prospective members to develop the skills needed to become a choral singer. This may be through a feeder choir where applicants would be able to develop their choral skills at their own pace. Details will be available on the Phil website before the start of the 2010-2011 season in September 2010.

## Contacts

Jane Haddock, Membership Secretary will be pleased to discuss any aspect of the choir and provide advice on becoming a member.

Tel: **0116 286 7754**. E-mail: [memsec@thephil.org.uk](mailto:memsec@thephil.org.uk)

For further information visit our website at [www.thephil.org.uk](http://www.thephil.org.uk)

# How to Book Tickets

Saturday 30 October 2010  
7.30pm at De Montfort Hall

## The Armed Man

Tickets from LPC Booking Manager Tel: 01509 230090  
or Email: [tickets@thephil.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thephil.org.uk)  
and De Montfort Hall Box Office Tel: 0116 233 3111

See bottom of page for hall plan and ticket prices Concessions available

Thursday 16 December 2010

7.30pm at St. James the Greater Church

## Carols at St. James

Tickets from LPC Booking Manager Tel: 01509 230090  
or Email: [tickets@thephil.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thephil.org.uk)

Tickets £14 Unreserved seats  
Concessions available Advanced Booking Advised

Saturday 9 April 2011

7.30pm at De Montfort Hall

## Carmina Burana

Tickets from LPC Booking Manager Tel: 01509 230090  
or Email: [tickets@thephil.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thephil.org.uk)  
and De Montfort Hall Box Office Tel: 0116 233 3111

See below for hall plan and ticket prices Concessions available

### De Montfort Hall Seating Plan



#### Seating Area Plan Reference

- A** Front Circle
- B** Tier Stalls / Rear Circle
- C** Left / Right Circle
- D** Upper Circle
- E** Flux Stalls / Rear Upper Circle

Armed Man	£28	£25	£21	£15	£10
Carmina	£26	£23	£19	£15	£10

# Events Diary

**Saturday 30 October 2010**

De Montfort Hall

**Karl Jenkins *The Armed Man***

*conducted by the Composer*

**and a selection of works**

**from the choir's repertoire**

*conducted by Brian Kay*

Leicester Philharmonic Choir

Angmering Chorale

Billingshurst Choral Society

Philharmonia Orchestra

**Thursday 16 December 2010**

St. James the Greater, London Road

**Carols at St. James**

*conducted by Richard Dacey*

**Saturday 9 April 2011**

De Montfort Hall

**Carl Orff *Carmina Burana***

Marylebone Camerata

*conducted by Andrew Greenwood*

**Saturday 29 October 2011**

De Montfort Hall

*Programme To Be Announced*

**Saturday 3 December 2011**

De Montfort Hall

**Handel *Messiah***

Philharmonia Orchestra