

WrittleSingers

with the
Jericho Ensemble

Joanne Davies *leader* Christine Gwynn *conductor*

Vivaldi GLORIA



Saturday 27 June 2026 6:30pm
All Saints Church, Writtle

Vivaldi GLORIA

Welcome to our concert this evening



MONTEVERDI ~ BEATUS VIR

Born in 1567 in northern Italy, Monteverdi had become well-established as a composer by the time the 16th century drew to a close – a time of considerable ferment in musical language and style. Around 1600 the musico-philosophical deliberations of a group of Florentine literati coincided with these ongoing developments in musical thought and expression, giving rise to a consciously new type of musical style characterised by more dramatic contrast and the use of chordal, ‘continuo’ harmonies to underpin melodic lines. This new ‘baroque’ style gradually supplanted the more inter-woven polyphonic textures prevalent in renaissance music. Monteverdi’s

compositions – sacred pieces and also the remarkable madrigals and stage works – wonderfully exemplify these changes and developments.

In 1613 Monteverdi was appointed *maestro di cappella* at St Mark’s, Venice, a post he held until his death in 1643, his main responsibility being the direction of the musicians of the basilica – some 30 singers and six instrumentalists. *Beatus Vir* comes from a collection, *Selva Morale et Spirituale*, published in Venice in 1641. The collection includes music written as early as 1611, though it is thought, from its style and form, that *Beatus Vir* dates from around 1631. The choir is accompanied by two obbligato violin parts and continuo and vividly exemplifies the aspects of contrast and chordal structures of the new baroque style.

PURCELL ~ TE DEUM & JUBILATE

Purcell was a key figure in London’s musical life during the second half of the 17th century, as organist at Westminster Abbey from 1679 and, from 1682, organist at the Chapel Royal. Like Monteverdi, he is known for his stage and secular works as well as his vast output of sacred music; there is also a French influence, especially from the music of Lully, musical star of

the court of Louis XIV. The *Te Deum & Jubilate* were composed in 1694 for the celebration of the feast of St Cecilia, patron saint of music, in a special service at St Bride’s church, Fleet Street. The scoring of trumpets as well as strings and continuo reflect the scale of the occasion, but more intimate sections also reveal the hand of a deeply sensitive composer of song.

VIVALDI ~ GLORIA

Vivaldi was born in Venice 35 years after the death of Monteverdi. By this time, the baroque style was very well established – we have only to think of works such as Vivaldi’s own *Four Seasons* to bring to mind the energetic instrumental textures, expressive contrasts and ‘singing’ solo lines characteristic of the period. Indeed, the instrumental solo concerto is, perhaps, the genre most frequently associated with Vivaldi, himself a virtuoso violinist. In his lifetime, Vivaldi was rated much more highly as a violinist than as a composer, though rarely so extremely as by Goldoni, who described him as ‘*excellent joueur de violon et compositeur médiocre!*’



The characteristic baroque features are equally present in Vivaldi’s *Gloria*, which was written for performance at the Ospedale della Pietà, an institution in Venice for the care of orphans and foundlings. The services at the Pietà, with their rich musical content, were important events in the social round of the nobility. Vivaldi was employed, first as *maestro di violino* and later as *maestro de’ concerti*, to assist in the musical training of those girls at the Pietà who showed aptitude. What an education they had!



Please join us for refreshments during the interval at the back of the church.

Beatus Vir Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

Beatus vir, qui timet Dominum:
In mandatis eius rolet nimis.
Potens in terra erit semen eius;
Generatio rectorum benedicetur.
Gloria et divitiae in domo eius;
Et iustitia eius manet in saeculum saeculi.
Exortum est in tenebris lumen rectis:
Misericos, et miserator et justus.
Jucundus homo qui miseretur et commodat.
Disponet sermones suos in iudicio:
Quia in aeternum non commovebitur.
In memoria aeterna erit justus.
Ab auditione mala non timebit.
Paratum cor eius sperare in Domino;
Confirmatum est, cor eius:
Non commovebitur,
Donec despiciat inimicos suos.
Dispersit, dedit pauperibus:
Iustitia eius manet in saeculum saeculi,
Cornu eius exaltabitur in gloria.
Peccator videbit, et irascetur;
Dentibus suis fremet et tabescet.
Desiderium peccatorum peribit.

Gloria Patri,
et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper,
Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Blessed is the man who fears the lord:
He delights greatly in his commandments.
His seed will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches are in his house;
And his righteousness endures for ever and ever.
Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness:
He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.
Good is the man who is full of compassion and lends.
He will guide his affairs with discretion:
Because he will not be moved for ever.
The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance.
He will not be afraid of evil tidings.
His heart is fixed, trusting in the lord;
His heart is established:
He will not be moved,
Until he gazes at his enemies.
He has dispersed, he has given to the poor:
His righteousness endures for ever and ever,
The strength of his soul will be exalted with honour.
The sinner will see it, and will be grieved;
He will gnash with his teeth,
and melt away.

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

O Lord, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

Jubilare Deo

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endures from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

INTERVAL

Gloria Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

- I - Gloria in excelsis Deo
- II - Et in terra pax
- III - Laudamus te *Laura Robertson and Ruth Travers (sopranos)*
- IV - Gratias agimus tibi
- V - Propter magnam gloriam
- VI - Domine Deus *Laura Robertson (soprano)*
- VII - Domine, Fili unigenite
- VIII - Domine Deus, Agnus Dei *Emma Norton (alto)*
- IX - Qui tollis peccata mundi
- X - Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris *Emma Norton (alto)*
- XI - Quoniam tu solus sanctus
- XII - Cum Sancto Spiritu

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
Adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus,
Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,
Cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace to men of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
We adore you, we glorify you.
We give you thanks
for your great glory.
Lord God, King of Heaven,
God the Father Almighty.
Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You who take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
You who take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You who sit at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Te Deum and Jubilate Deo Henry Purcell (1659-95)

Te Deum

We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all Angels cry aloud: the Heavens and all the Powers therein.
To Thee Cherubin and Seraphin continually do cry: Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of Thy Glory.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee.
The godly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee.
The noble army of Martyrs praise Thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee: the Father of an infinite Majesty;
thine honourable, true, and only Son; also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man: thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
Thou didst open the kingdom of Heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee, and we worship thy Name, ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.



WrittleSingers

Registered charity no: 1056334

Musical Director
Christine Gwynn

Soprano

Rebecca Gell
Jane Hammond
Rebecca Haynes
Rachel Hepburn
Michèle Marshall*
Clare McIntyre
Rocío Pérez Cabrera*
Catherine Reeve
Laura Robertson*
Helen Sismey*
Ruth Travers*

Alto

Julia Cooper*
Mary Fewtrell*
Julia Marsh*
Emma Norton*
Ellie Oldershaw*
Frances Quintrell*
Sophie Richards*

**soloist/small group
in the Purcell*

Tenor

Martin Burchett*
Andrew Cripps
Martin Mason*
David Miles
Matt Ralph*
Bass
Steven Clews*
Simon McKinnon*
Peter Quintrell
Andrew Taylor*
Graham Woodham



Writtle Singers is a friendly, mixed-voice chamber choir. We aim to perform an exciting variety of music to the highest standard and provide enjoyment for both singers and audience. Based in the village of Writtle, where we rehearse on Monday evenings in the historic church of All Saints, our members come from all over Essex and beyond.

Our repertoire is varied: recent concerts have featured *Laudes Organi* by Kodaly, Haydn's *Te Deum* and Gabriel Jackson's *Missa Sanctae Margaretae*, along with works by composers from Tallis and Byrd through to contemporaries such as Kerensa Briggs, Roxanna Panufnik, Janet Wheeler and Ola Gjeilo.

Enquiries from suitably experienced singers are always welcome. For more information, email info@writtlesingers.org or ring 07921 146089.

Jericho Ensemble

Joanne Davies *violin** Francine Loze *cello* Ellie Oldershaw *bassoon*
Joanna Lee *violin* Jonathan Dods *organ* Clive Miller *trumpet*
Chris Brody *viola* Tim Oldershaw *oboe* Tony Rickard *trumpet*

**leader*

Chamber organ supplied by Richard Bower

WrittleSingers on tour... Vienna 2026



In April, Writtle Singers joined forces with members of Redbridge-based Valentine Singers for a highly successful and enjoyable concert tour in Vienna. Our performance venues included Stefansdom, the city's cathedral, and the Piaristenkirche, one of Vienna's foremost baroque churches, closely linked with Bruckner, whose music we were thrilled to perform there (even if it was distinctly chilly!). This was also the venue where we performed our single piece of repertoire by Kodály - only to discover that the priest was overjoyed as he came from the same place in Hungary! We concluded with the wonderful privilege of singing a mass by Schubert in the church where the composer was baptised, sang in the choir and played the organ - a most moving experience, and one much appreciated by the priest who told us that "today, Schubert's German Mass touched my heart".

Friends of WrittleSingers

We are most grateful for the continuing support of our Friends:

Pamela Butt, Keith Byatt, Audrey Cassidy, Martin Clarke, Alistair Fiddes, Heather Gwynn, Jenny Haxell & Paul Tarrant, Sue Hirst, Brian Marsh, Sarah Moore, Frances Quintrell, Graham Reeve, Jean Rose, Harry Rutter, Gerry & Alma Scott, Liz Tiplin, Hilary Walden

Why not become a Friend of WrittleSingers?

Benefits of our Friends scheme include:

- >>> a free ticket to each of our concerts
- >>> a 10% discount on further tickets
- >>> a free soft drink or glass of wine at any concert where we have a bar
- >>> free attendance at any of our Come & Sing events
- >>> invitations to social events
- >>> optional acknowledgement in our programmes

For more details of our Friends scheme, contact us via email: info@writtlesingers.org

Forthcoming Events with *WrittleSingers*

Singing services at Chelmsford Cathedral

Sunday 26 July 2026

Open Rehearsal

Monday 14 September 2026, 7:30pm for 7:45pm start
featuring music for our Autumn concert

There is sweet music

Saturday 21 November 2026

Candlelit Christmas Concert

Sunday 13 December 2026, 5pm
*with Writtle Junior School Choir
and Simon Harvey - organ*

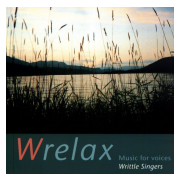
Look at our website for more details - www.wrattlesingers.org
where concert tickets can also be purchased



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