

Seraphim



Seraphim is a professional ensemble composed of six musicians with a wealth of experience from the worlds of church music, opera, and the concert hall at an international level. They are versatile and highly regarded for their expressive music-making and moving interpretations. They are the resident ensemble at St Mary-at-Hill, London and provide music for the liturgy and appear regularly in the Square Mile Music Series.

Hilary Cronin (soprano)

Rebecca Leggett (alto)

Charles MacDougall (tenor)

Gavin Cranmer-Moralee (bass)

Robert Mingay-Smith (baritone, Director)

James Norrey (accompanist)

Robert Mingay-Smith



Robert Mingay-Smith began his musical career as an organist at the age of 14 and completed the ABRSM Organ Diploma for performance at the age of 19. In 1998 he became Director of Music at St Peter's Church in Brandon, Suffolk after which he commenced his studies in organ, voice and bassoon at Trinity College of Music, London, graduating with a BMus(Hons) in 2005.

Robert has held choral scholarships and posts as Assistant Director of Music, and from 2009 to 2013 toured world-wide as a member of the British vocal ensemble VOCES8.

Robert performs regularly as an organ soloist in the UK and abroad and is the director of various ensembles based in London. He is also the founder and artist director of the new ensemble Seraphim.

Robert founded the Square Mile Music Series based at St Mary-at-Hill Church, where he is the Director of Music, a post he has held since 2007. Robert is also Director of Music at St John's, Wimbledon a post he started in September 2017.

Stephen Jones



Stephen studied piano and singing at London's Trinity College of Music, and has sung with the London Sinfonietta, Collegium Musicum of London and the choir of St Peter's, Eaton Square; he has also been a deputy vicar choral at Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Cathedral.

He has been Musical Director since 1994 of one of Hertfordshire's premier choral societies: the award-winning Aeolian Singers.

As a conductor and chorus master he has worked with several leading choirs. As a choral animateur he has worked with the British Federation of Young Choirs, the National Association of Music Educators, Schools Music Association and the Open University.

City Chamber Choir

'A whole evening of unaccompanied music of considerable complexity was delivered with panache and elegance.'
Church Times

City Chamber Choir was founded in 1987 by Stephen Jones to explore neglected choral repertoire, especially 20th century British music.

The choir rehearses and performs in the City of London, and has sung concerts in many of the beautiful and historic churches in the City as well as venues elsewhere in England, France, Germany and The Netherlands.

The choir has won many accolades for its music-making, including reaching the semi-finals of the Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition and being invited to record by the British Music Society.



CHORAL WORKSHOP

Join exciting new vocal ensemble **Seraphim** and award-winning **City Chamber Choir** for a day learning, singing and hearing music by **British Renaissance masters**

Stephen Jones
Workshop leader and director
of **City Chamber Choir**

Robert Mingay-Smith
Director of **Seraphim**

James Norrey
Accompanist

GREAT SERVICES

Byrd and Tomkins

Saturday 3 February 2018

Registration from 9.30 am

Informal concert 4.00 pm

St Mary-at-Hill

Lovat Lane, Eastcheap

London EC3R 8EE

Concert includes a performance of Tomkins verse anthems by Seraphim



CITY CHAMBER CHOIR

DIRECTOR Stephen Jones
PRESIDENT Cecilia McDowall
PATRON Bob Chilcott
www.citychamberchoir.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 298132

Is it for me?

CITY CHAMBER CHOIR, the friendly group that rehearses and performs in the heart of the City of London, invites you to take part in this workshop on music by two of the 'greats' of the British renaissance music **William Byrd** and **Thomas Tomkins**. If you are an enthusiastic amateur singer, who would like to explore movements from the *Great Service* by each composer, brush up on singing technique and find out about the historical context of the works during the course of an enjoyable day, then this is for you.

Working alongside members of City Chamber Choir and the professional group **Seraphim**, as well as learning and performing these beautiful works in the magnificent surroundings of one of the City's finest Wren churches, you will gain valuable insight into voice production and vocal technique from experienced professional singers.

Our study day ends with an informal concert at 4.00 pm (open to all – please do invite your friends). A bonus will be the performance of **Tomkins** verse anthems by the exciting new vocal ensemble Seraphim. The concert will be free, with a retiring collection to help towards church costs.

Timetable for the day:

9.30 am	Doors open for registration and music distribution
10.00 am–11.00 am	Workshop session 1
11.00 am–11.30 am	Coffee break
11.30 am–12.30 pm	Workshop session 2
12.30 pm–1.30 pm	Lunch (own arrangements)
1.30 pm–3.30 pm	Workshop session 3
3.30 pm–4.00 pm	Tea and cake
4.00 pm	Informal concert

Web links

www.citychamberchoir.org.uk

www.seraphimconsort.co.uk

www.stmary-at-hill.org

Tickets: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/city-chamber-choir>

Works to be studied

Thomas Tomkins *Te Deum* and *Jubilate* from the *Great Service*

William Byrd *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* from the *Great Service*

William Byrd *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* from the *Great Service*

Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656) was born in St David's, Pembrokeshire, the son of Thomas Farington Tomkins, organist and Vicar Choral of the Cathedral. By 1594, the family had moved to Gloucester, and there he was apprenticed to the great **William Byrd** (c.1539/40–1623) who, although he lived and worked in London, owned property in Gloucester. Tomkins later showed his appreciation by dedicating his madrigal *Too much I once lamented* 'To my ancient, and much revered Master, William Byrd'. Tomkins was later appointed organist of Worcester Cathedral, a post he held until the English Civil War brought about the destruction of the organ, the disbanding of the choir and the closure of the Cathedral.

Practical information

- Tickets for the day are £35 and include tea and coffee. Please make your own arrangements for lunch: feel free to bring a packed lunch or use nearby cafés/restaurants.
- All sheet music is included in the cost and you will have copies to take home at the end of the day.
- Dress code: informal. The church is warm and well appointed!

The venue

The church of St Mary-at-Hill is a beautiful and historic building in the heart of the City of London, near the Monument to the Great Fire of London. A church on this site has served the Parish of Billingsgate for nearly a thousand years. For further information visit www.stmary-at-hill.org.



How to book

Please book online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/city-chamber-choir>.

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Coleman (City Chamber Choir Ticket Secretary) on nickcoleman100@yahoo.co.uk or 07715 351744.

