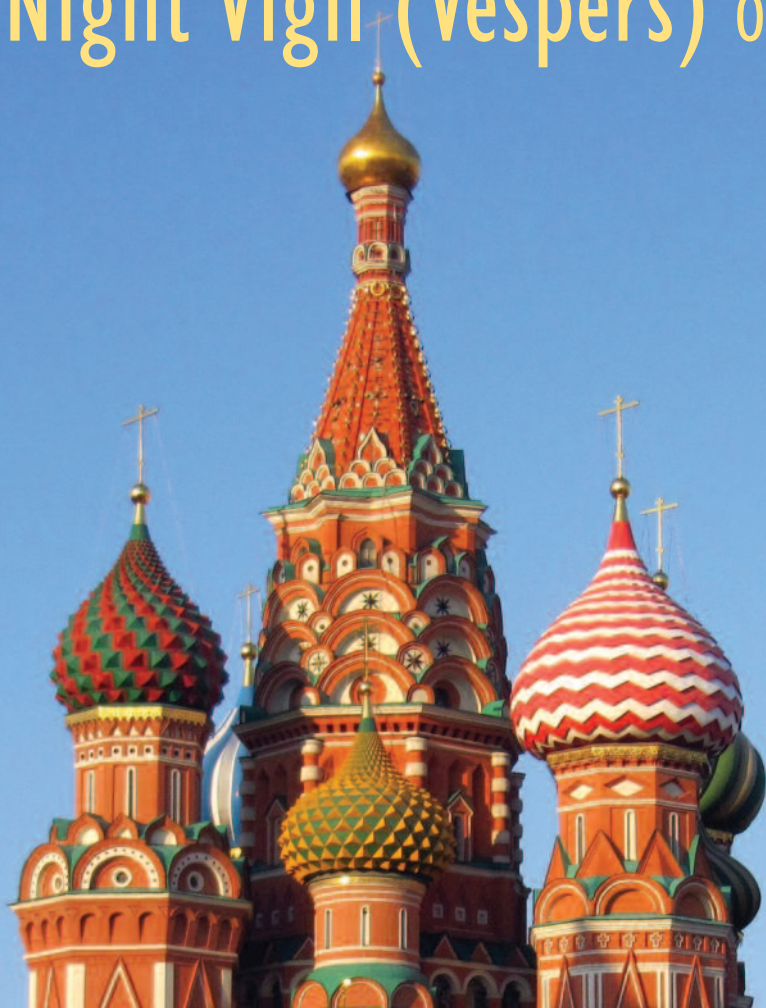


CHORAL WORKSHOP

RACHMANINOV

All-Night Vigil (Vespers) Op. 37



Saturday 5 March 2022

St Mary-at-Hill, Lovat Lane, Eastcheap

London EC3R 8EE

CITY C
CHAMBER C
CHOIR C

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 a twentieth-century masterpiece: Rachmaninov's *All-Night Vigil (Vespers)* op. 37.

The workshop is led by City Chamber Choir's Music Director, **Stephen Jones**, who has a wealth of experience in all aspects of choral singing, as conductor, singer and accompanist. As well as putting the work into its historical context, he will give you many valuable insights into vocal technique, ensemble singing and tuning. Help on pronunciation will also be given.

Our study day ends with an informal sing-through at 4.00 pm (open to all – please do invite your friends).

If you are an enthusiastic amateur singer, who would like to explore this *a cappella* masterpiece, brush up on singing technique and find out about the historical and musical context of the *All-Night Vigil* during the course of an enjoyable day, then this is for you.

Timetable for the day

10.00am Doors open for registration, coffee and music distribution

10.30am–12.30pm Workshop session 1

12.30pm–1.30pm Lunch*

1.30 pm–3.30 pm Workshop session 2

3.30pm–4.00pm Tea and cake

4.00 pm Informal sing-through

* Please make your own arrangements for lunch (see 'Practical information')

Web links

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

<http://www.citychamberchoir.org.uk>

<https://www.stmary-at-hill.org/>

<http://www.choralia.net/rc03mp3/rc03mp3en.htm>

<https://youtu.be/MII nMduOTeE> (pronunciation)



Sergei Rachmaninov
by Sterl, 1909

'Even in my dreams I could not have imagined that I would write such a work.'
Sergei Rachmaninov, after the first performance

The fifteen movements of Rachmaninov's *All-Night Vigil* were written in just two weeks, in 1915. The composer drew on the *a cappella* tradition of Russian Orthodox church music, weaving authentic chants into nine of the movements and creating his own 'conscious counterfeits' in the others.

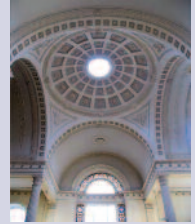


Practical information

- Tickets for the day are £35, plus a hire charge of £5 if you would like to hire a score on the day. See under 'Web links' for links to note-learning and language sites.
- The cost includes tea, coffee and cake. Please make your own arrangements for lunch: feel free to bring a packed lunch or use nearby *cafés/restaurants*.
- We will be using the Musica Russica edition of the *All-Night Vigil*. Please bring your own copy, or let us know when booking if you would like to hire one.
- Dress code: informal.
- The church is well ventilated, spacious, and well appointed.

The venue

The church of St Mary-at-Hill is a beautiful and historic building, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, 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. Monument tube station is nearby.



How to book

Please book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/city-chamber-choir. The online booking form gives you an option to hire a score if required.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Hester (Chair of City Chamber Choir) on hester.joan@btinternet.com or 07770 764188.



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.

Stephen Jones 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.

Philip Shannon took his first degree from Oxford where he was a mathematics scholar at the age of 16. Encouraged by Roger Vignoles to follow his first love, piano accompaniment, he entered the Guildhall School for advanced studies under Paul Hamburger and Gordon Back. After winning all the accompaniment prizes in his first year, he was awarded a scholarship to study vocal repertoire with Graham Johnson.

He has been active in every capacity as a musician: as repetiteur with experience at ENO and numerous smaller companies; as vocal and instrumental coach at the Guildhall School; as broadcaster on Radio 3 with the violinist Leo Payne, with whom he was a joint winner of the National Federation of Music Societies competition; as pianist for both the London Symphony and London Philharmonic Orchestras, and continuo player with the London Mozart Players. In 1997 he received an Honorary Fellowship from the Guild of Musicians and Singers.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

7.00 pm | Tuesday 22 March 2022

**Rachmaninov All-Night Vigil
(Vespers) Op. 37**

St Katharine Cree, 86 Leadenhall St EC3A 3BP

