



# A Christmas Festival

*Musical Director: Jon Milne*

*Associate Musical Director: Hannah Balcombe*

*Special Guest: Sarah Holden*

**Saturday 6 December 2008  
7.30pm**

**Retiring collection  
and refreshment  
sales in support of**



Crisis UK (trading as Crisis), Charity no 1062947; www.crisis.org.uk

**All Saints Church  
Oakleigh Road North  
Whetstone  
N20 9EZ**

Supported by:



[www.dacapoconcertband.org.uk](http://www.dacapoconcertband.org.uk)  
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07760 243 400

Member of:



## "A Christmas Festival"

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Stage Centre                         | <i>Goff Richards</i>           |
| 2. Into the Light                       | <i>Jay Bocook</i>              |
| 3. Benedictus from The Armed Man Mass   | <i>Karl Jenkins</i>            |
| 4. Sarah Holden: Three Gershwin numbers | <i>George and Ira Gershwin</i> |
| 5. Dance of the Snowmen                 | <i>Howard Blake</i>            |
| 6. Finnegans Wake                       | <i>Archibald James Potter</i>  |
| 7. King Kong Soundtrack Highlights      | <i>James Newton Howard</i>     |

### **\*\* INTERVAL – REFRESHMENTS IN AID OF CRISIS \*\***

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 8. Strathcarron – Sword Dance           | <i>Philip Sparke</i>           |
| 9. Colonial Song                        | <i>Percy Aldridge Grainger</i> |
| 10. Sarah Holden:                       |                                |
| I. Pie Jesu & In Paradisum from Requiem | <i>Karl Jenkins</i>            |
| II. The Time of Snow                    | <i>Bob Chilcott</i>            |
| 11. Sleigh Ride                         | <i>Leroy Anderson</i>          |
| 12. A 'Home Alone' Christmas            | <i>John Williams</i>           |

### **\*\* RETIRING COLLECTION IN AID OF CRISIS \*\***

Crisis is the national charity for single homeless people. Crisis opens seven centres from 23 to 30 December offering homeless or vulnerably housed people companionship, access to essential services, learning opportunities and a programme of entertainment

If you have any comments on tonight's concert or would like to join our mailing list, please complete a feedback form and deposit at the back of the Church

## Programme Notes

### Stage Centre (1981)

#### **Goff Richards (b.1944)**

Goff Richards was born in Cornwall and after studying at the Royal College of Music and Reading University, embarked on a career as a composer, arranger and conductor. His works have been performed by the King's Singers, the Swingle Singers, various BBC Orchestras, Huddersfield Choral Society, London Brass, Evelyn Glennie, Benjamin Luxon and all leading Brass and Military Bands. He writes extensively for BBC television, with past commissions including 'Songs of Praise', and he has contributed regularly to BBC Radio Two programmes, conducting the Goff Richards Orchestra and Burnished Brass among others.

### Into the Light (1995)

#### **Jay Bocook**

Into the Light was commissioned by the Verona, New Jersey High School Wind Ensemble, in memory of a clarinettist in the band. The piece is composed of two main sections, one reflective and one soaring and hopeful. It opens with rising-scale clusters in the woodwinds and melodic fragments in tuned percussion. Eventually the reflective main theme is introduced in the clarinets and after extensive development modulates to a majestic statement by the full ensemble. A brief transition leads to the second section: Allegro. A secondary theme is introduced by horns and trumpets accompanied by flourishes in the woodwinds. After more development, the main theme from part one returns in the brasses while the woodwinds and melodic percussion support with punctuating cross rhythms. The work closes in celebration and a feeling of transcendence.

### Benedictus from 'The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace' (2000)

#### **Karl Jenkins (b.1944)**

Karl Jenkins is described as 'the most popular classical composer you've never heard of'. Sales of his choral music are into the millions worldwide and he is the UK's biggest-selling living classical composer. *The Armed Man* was voted as the eighth-best piece of classical music ever by the listeners of Classic FM.

Born in Penclawdd, South Wales, he studied piano and oboe as a child, becoming principal oboe in the National youth Orchestra of Wales. He then went on the read music at the University of Wales and at the Royal Academy of Music. In the 1970s he played with Ronnie Scott's jazz band and jazz-rock fusion band Soft Machine, before starting to compose for advertisements and television.

*The Armed Man* is a call to arms dating from the mid-15th century, when the Ottoman Turks were threatening to overrun the whole of Europe. Jenkins' interpretation is an hour-long work, standing comparison with Britten's War Requiem. The Royal Armouries commissioned it to celebrate the Millennium, but much of Jenkins' inspiration came from the shock of the short but savage war in Kosovo. The *Benedictus*, which actually comes after the battle in the main work, is quite short and tranquil, introducing the sad poem 'Now the Guns have Stopped'

by Guy Wilson, Master of the Armouries. In this arrangement for concert band the solo is played on the soprano saxophone.

### Sarah Holden: Three Gershwin numbers

#### **George and Ira Gershwin (1898-1937; 1896-1983)**

*They Can't Take That Away From Me* from 'Shall We Dance?' (1937)

*I'll Build a Stairway to Paradise* from George White's 'Scandals of 1922' (1922)

*The Man I Love* from 'Lady, Be Good' (1924)

### Dance of the Snowmen (1982)

#### **Howard Blake (b.1938), arr. Hannah Balcombe**

Howard Blake is one of the most popular and prolific living English composers. He has written film scores, such as 'The Duellists' and 'A Month in the Country', and many concert works, including his piano concerto for Princess Diana commissioned by the Philharmonia. Blake wrote the words and music for the classic animated Channel 4 TV film 'The Snowman', from which *Dance of the Snowmen* is taken. Its concert version continues to receive many performances worldwide, and the stage version runs every year at Sadlers Wells in London. Howard Blake received the O.B.E. for services to music in 1994.

### Finnegan's Wake (1957)

#### **Archibald James Potter (1918-1980)**

Archie Potter was the son of a blind Belfast piano tuner. Raised by relatives in Kent, he won a scholarship to the Royal College of Music in London and studied with Vaughan Williams. A significant figure in Irish music, Potter is particularly known for his arrangement of the Dublin ballad *Finnegan's Wake*. The sensitivity of his personality, and his concern about injustice and intolerance, are all evident in his best works. He was also a broadcaster, examiner, teacher and writer.

### King Kong Soundtrack Highlights (2005)

#### **James Newton Howard (b.1951), arr. Jay Bocook**

James Newton Howard is a multiple Academy Award nominated film composer. After leaving college, he toured with Elton John as a keyboardist during the late 1970s and early 1980s before moving into film music. He scored the surprise blockbuster 'Pretty Woman' and received his first Academy Award nomination for his score for Barbra Streisand's drama 'The Prince of Tides'. Howard's skills encompass a plethora of genres, including 'The Fugitive', 'My Best Friend's Wedding', 'The Village' and 'Wyatt Earp'. He has also contributed music for TV series, earning an Emmy nomination in 1995 for his theme to 'ER'.

**\*\* Interval \*\***

*(Refreshments available at the back of the Church in aid of Crisis)*

### **Strathcarron – Sword Dance from ‘Hymn of the Highlands’ (2003)**

***Philip Sparke (b.1951)***

Philip Sparke is a composer who often writes for brass and wind bands. *Strathcarron* is a movement from his *Hymn of the Highlands* in which each movement reflects a different location in the beautiful Scottish highlands. *Strathcarron*, named after a village at the head of Loch Carron, near the Isle of Skye, takes the form of a sword dance, alternating between fast and slow tempos.

### **Colonial Song (1913)**

***Percy Aldridge Grainger (1882-1961)***

Originally written for piano as a birthday gift to Grainger's mother Rose in 1911, the first version of *Colonial Song* for winds was written in 1913 and premiered under Edwin Franko Goldman's baton in 1919. In this piece, Grainger wished to express feelings aroused by the scenery of his native country, Australia.

### **Sarah Holden: Pie Jesu & In Paradisum from ‘Requiem’ (2005)**

***Karl Jenkins (b.1944)***

*Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.* O sweet Lord Jesus, grant them rest;  
*Dona eis requiem sempiternam.* grant them everlasting rest

*In paradisum deducant te Angel;* May angels lead you into paradise;  
*in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres,* may the martyrs receive you at your  
*et perducant te in civitatem sanctam* coming and lead you to the holy city of  
*Jerusalem.* Jerusalem.

*Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,* May a choir of angels receive you,  
*et cum Lazaro quondam paupere* and with Lazarus, who once was poor,  
*aeternam habeas requiem.* may you have eternal rest.

### **Sarah Holden: The Time of Snow (1998)**

***Bob Chilcott (b.1955)***

Bob Chilcott was a chorister at Kings' College, Cambridge and is one of Britain's most active composers and choral conductors. *The Time of Snow* tells of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem, set against a bleak winter landscape.

### **Sleigh Ride (1948)**

***Leroy Anderson (1908-1975)***

The music of Leroy Anderson is firmly entrenched in American popular culture. A composer of distinctive and delightful miniatures, his best-known works include *The Syncopated Clock*, *Blue Tango* and *Sleigh Ride*. He wrote nearly all his pieces originally for orchestra, then transcribed most of them himself for band.

Though the idea for the piece reportedly struck him as he was working outside on a hot July day, *Sleigh Ride* is the perfect picture of an old-fashioned winter journey. In an interview, Anderson said: "The point of a number like *Sleigh Ride*, that you can call a descriptive piece, or pictorial, is that you have to start with the idea of the rhythm... and in this case, it's the rhythm of the sleigh bells, and these sleigh bells go *chink-chink-chink...*"

### **A ‘Home Alone’ Christmas (1993)**

***John Williams (b.1932), arr. Paul Lavender***

John Williams is one of the best known, awarded, and financially successful composers in US history, having composed over 80 film scores. Created during one of Williams' best and strongest periods ever, shortly after the score for 'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade', and just before his music for 'Hook' and 'Far and Away', *A ‘Home Alone’ Christmas* is packed with the kind of lyricism, playfulness and warmth that made those scores so likeable and loved.

To create a Christmas sound, Williams uses an array of percussive and rhythmic instruments, as well as lots of brass. Setting the Trap adds a soft rock'n'roll drumbeat, with Christmas carols sneaking in and out of the music, while Holiday Flight and Making the Plane pay homage to Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker suite.

*(Our thanks go to Michelle Jobson for these programme notes.)*

## **Biographies**

### **Da Capo Concert Band**

Da Capo Concert Band was founded in November 1997 by a group of former members of Barnet Schools' Music Centres who had 'grown-up' and found themselves back in North London post-school/university with nowhere to play their musical instruments. The Band was therefore formed, with the principal objective of providing amateur adult woodwind, brass and percussion players with a friendly, dynamic and challenging environment in which to play.

The Band's name includes an Italian musical term - Da Capo - meaning 'from the beginning'. It was suggested by a (still current) member to reflect the Band's roots and the bringing together of local adults wanting to start playing regularly again.

Over ten years on, the Band is going from strength to strength and members are drawn from across London. The Band continues to have strong connections with Barnet, both geographically and with the Borough's music services.

The Band is a member of Making Music ([www.makingmusic.org.uk](http://www.makingmusic.org.uk)) and the British Association of Symphonic Bands and Wind Ensembles ([www.basbwe.org](http://www.basbwe.org)).

## Biographies (continued)

### **Jon Milne, Musical Director**

Jon was born in Windsor and began playing the flute aged 10. His interest in military music was sparked by his first flute teacher, Blues & Royals Principal Flautist Con Andrews. In 1989 Jon followed his mentor and enlisted into the Band of The Blues & Royals. During his time with the band he completed the 6 month equitation course and took part in all major ceremonial events. Jon also served in Cyprus, Germany and The Falklands Islands as well touring Canada and the US.

In 1999, Jon undertook the 3 year Bandmaster Course at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, graduating in 2002 and being appointed Bandmaster of the Highland Band of the Scottish Division. In January 2006 Jon headed south to Chatham, taking up the appointment of Bandmaster to The Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers. During two years with the Band he performed across the UK and all over the world including the inaugural FA Cup Final in the new Wembley Stadium, Berlin, Vienna, Gibraltar and Abu Dhabi.

In May 2008 Jonathan returned to the Royal Military School of Music, taking up his current appointment as Training Design Warrant Officer.

Jon joined Da Capo Concert Band as Musical Director in September 2008.

### **Hannah Balcombe, Associate Musical Director**

Hannah is an accomplished musician on the bassoon, piano and violin. She studied at Trinity College of Music and Trinity Guildhall and has performed as a violin and bassoon soloist at major concert venues around the UK, including with the Lincolnshire Philharmonic and the Wallace Ensemble.

In 2002, Hannah joined the Royal Air Force and was awarded the Yamaha Soloists Award in 2005. She is currently principal bassoon in the RAF Central Band and RAF Woodwind Dectet and Chief Librarian for the RAF Music Services. Hannah also teaches piano at Thorpe House School in Norwich.

In 2008 Hannah participated in a conducting course at the Royal Northern College of Music and successfully completed the RAF Bandmaster's Course, during which she had the opportunity to conduct all three bands of the RAF on a number of occasions, including conducting the Central Band on the concert platform.

Hannah joined Da Capo Concert Band as Associate Musical Director in September 2008.

### **Sarah Holden**

Sarah Holden gained a BMus degree from Kingston University and studied classical singing with Amanda Buckland and Elizabeth Bell. She has continued to sing with Milton Keynes Chorale, Thames Philharmonic Chorus and most recently with Crouch End Festival Chorus. Now studying with David Barrell she hopes to further her career as a professional soloist. Sarah is delighted to be joining Da Capo Concert Band this evening.

## Da Capo Concert Band

### **Musical Director**

Jon Milne

### **Associate Musical Director**

Hannah Balcombe

**Clarinets** Alex Benstead  
Adam Ferguson  
Vernon Frost  
Caroline Harris  
Ginnie Jennings  
Michelle Jobson  
Louise Johnston

**Eb Clarinet** Adele Gordon

**Alto Clarinet** Judit Santak

**Bass Clarinet** Lizabeth Mitchell

**Trumpets** Rob Payne  
Alison Murfin  
Alix Ross  
Joe Tofield

**Trombones** Roy Young  
Peter Boreham  
Simon Flaxman

**Percussion** Gerard Rundell  
David Barnes  
Tracey Price  
Philip Sui

**Oboe** Liz Greenslade

**Flutes** Des Yarde-Martin  
Bo Bates  
Jeremy Cline  
Debbie Fether  
Claire Panduccio  
Jenny Pearman

**Piccolo** Craig Carroll

**Bassoon** Laura Kirker

**Alto Saxes** Adam Jobson  
Florence Mortimer

**Tenor Sax** Emily Lyne

**Baritone Sax** Holly Lyne

**Horns** Charlie Ransley  
Roger Cawkwell  
Silas Heys  
David Pretorius

**Euphoniums** Garry Wells  
Tom Lyne

**Tubas** Paul Clark

### **Special Guest**

Sarah Holden

*(Accompanied by Hannah Balcombe)*

To keep up to date with Band news and for details of forthcoming concerts see [www.dacapoconcertband.org.uk](http://www.dacapoconcertband.org.uk) or join our mailing list.

Are you a woodwind, brass or percussion player?

Would you enjoy playing in a friendly, dynamic and challenging adult wind band?  
Are you free to rehearse between 8pm and 10pm on a Wednesday evening and to play in one concert per term?

If you answered yes to all of the above, then please get in touch – new members are always welcome.