HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL
Palm Sunday 14 April – Holy Saturday 20 April 2019

Curated by Tenebrae in partnership with St John's Smith Square
Patron HRH The Duchess of Cornwall

#SJSSHolyWeek
#SJSSHOLYWEEK

It is with great pleasure that I warmly invite you to our next Holy Week Festival.

It is a celebration of glorious music from composers inspired by the greatest devotion and faith, who were moved by the compelling narrative of Holy Week. From the late-night Offices of Tenebrae sung by candlelight to J.S. Bach’s powerful St John and St Matthew Passions, there will be something for everyone. The festival will also mark the 60th birthday year of one of the UK’s finest living composers, Sir James MacMillan, by celebrating his extraordinarily beautiful and evocative music.

Amongst other highlights, MacMillan’s incomparable setting of the Seven Last Words from the Cross will be performed by Tenebrae and Britten Sinfonia, coupled with Francis Poulenc’s dramatic and poignant four motets for Lent, together with Haydn’s setting performed by the esteemed Brodsky Quartet. Once again, we are delighted to welcome some of the UK’s finest vocal ensembles together with their astonishingly talented directors.

When you have made the journey to St John’s Smith Square to join us, sit back, relax and let this musical feast transport you away from the everyday strains and stresses of our hectic modern day lives. Stay on to immerse yourself in our re-enactment of some of the most atmospheric and spiritually intense liturgical events of the Christian calendar. I hope that this festival fulfils all your musical needs.

We look forward to welcoming you this Eastertide.

Nigel Short
Artistic Director, Tenebrae

Nigel Short © Sim Cannetty-Clarke

SiJESSHOLYWEEK

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: PALM SUNDAY

THE TALLIS SCHOLARS

Inspired by the Sistine Chapel

Peter Phillips DIRECTOR

Palestrina ‘Kyrie’ from Missa Assumpta est Maria
Morales Regina caeli
Palestrina ‘Gloria’ from Missa Ecce ego Johannes
Festa Quam pulchra es
Carpentras Lamentations
Palestrina ‘Credo’ from Missa Papae Marcelli
Allegri Miserere mei, Deus
Palestrina ‘Sanctus’ from Missa Confitebor tibi domine
Josquin Inter Natos Mulierum
Alexander Campkin Miserere Mei
Palestrina ‘Agnus Dei’ from Missa Brevis

This year’s Holy Week Festival opens with the world-renowned vocal ensemble, The Tallis Scholars. All these Renaissance composers worked in the Sistine Chapel and wrote for the choir there. Quite a number of the pieces can be identified as having been specifically written for that building. Campkin’s Miserere Mei is a direct response to the renowned Allegri setting of the same psalm. The framework of the programme is a composite mass by Palestrina.

Thetallischolars.co.uk

Sun 14 April 7.30pm
£35, £28, £22, £14

“...one of the UK’s greatest cultural exports” – BBC Radio 3
HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: HOLY MONDAY

“...The Brodsky's ability to communicate on so many levels – humanity and virtuosity all part of the essential integrity of their approach...”
– The Guardian

BRODSKY QUARTET

Daniel Rowland VIOLIN
Ian Belton VIOLIN
Paul Cassidy VIOLA
Jacqueline Thomas CELLO

Sir James MacMillan For Sonny
Sir James MacMillan Memento
Haydn The Seven Last Words of our Saviour on the Cross Op. 51

Haydn considered his The Seven Last Words of our Saviour on the Cross to be one of his greatest works superior to either of his later oratorios, The Creation and The Seasons. It is performed in its most popular quartet setting by the illustrious Brodsky Quartet alongside two string quartet miniatures by the Holy Week Festival's featured composer, Sir James MacMillan.

This concert will last around 75 minutes without an interval.

brodskyquartet.co.uk

Mon 15 April 7.30pm
£25, £20, £15, £10, YF

Book online sjss.org.uk

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: HOLY TUESDAY

ETCETERA CIVIL SERVICE CHOIR

Schubert Deutsches Stabat Mater

Etcetera Civil Service Choir
Etcetera Orchestral Consort
Stephen Hall OBE CONDUCTOR

Schubert Stabat Mater in G minor D175
Schubert Stabat Mater in F minor D383

Etcetera – the outstanding Civil Service Choir – makes its seventh St John's Smith Square appearance in a stunning lunchtime concert. The choir presents not one Stabat Mater but two for Holy Week – they are both by Schubert and they are both utterly beautiful. Tickets (which are free) are available from the Box Office in person or by phone. Do not delay as tickets will be taken quickly!
civilservicechoir.org.uk

Tue 16 April 1.05pm
Free Admission (with retiring collection)

THE MARIAN CONSORT

In Sorrow's Footsteps:
Allegri, MacMillan, Palestrina, Jackson

Rory McCleery CONDUCTOR

Palestrina Stabat Mater
Palestrina Ave Maria a5
Gabriel Jackson Stabat Mater
(London premiere)*
Allegri Miserere mei, Deus
Victoria Salve Regina a6
Sir James MacMillan Miserere mei, Deus
*performed with young singers from Music Centre London

“Exquisite... the ensemble sings with eloquence and expressive finesse”
– The Sunday Times

The Marian Consort presents paired settings of two of the most emotionally-charged sacred texts of the Christian tradition: Gregorio Allegri’s famous Miserere is paired with James MacMillan’s contemporary reimagining, while Palestrina’s double-choir Stabat Mater is heard alongside a fresh response to this extraordinary text from one of the UK’s foremost choral composers, Gabriel Jackson.

marianconsort.co.uk

musiccentrelondon.com

Tue 16 April 7.30pm
£28, £22, £16, £10

Box Office 020 7222 1061
HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: TENEBRAE

LITURGICAL EVENT I

Tenebrae
Nigel Short CONDUCTOR
Reverend Graham Buckle CLERIC-IN-RESIDENCE
Victoria Tenebrae Responsories for Maundy Thursday
A moving sequence of devotional Tenebrae settings and responses performed by candlelight.
tenebrae-choir.com

Wed 17 April 10.15pm
Free Admission

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: EX CATHEDRA

EX CATHEDRA
St Matthew Passion
Jeremy Budd EVANGELIST
Marcus Farnsworth JESUS
Lawrence White PILATE
Katie Trehewey, Angela Hicks & Elizabeth Adams SOPRANO
Martha McLorinan & Harriet Hougham Slade ALTOS
Bradley Smith TENOR
Greg Skidmore BASS
Jeffrey Skidmore CONDUCTOR
Bach St Matthew Passion
Monumental and yet grippingly immediate, Bach’s St Matthew Passion tells the profound drama of Christ’s last days with music of aching beauty. Every musical possibility is used to express and sustain an extraordinary range of feelings: love, sacrifice, betrayal, suffering, remorse, helplessness and shame. This sublime and emotional piece is particularly powerful during Holy Week.
Sung in German.
excathedra.co.uk

Wed 17 April 7.00pm
£35, £28, £22, £14

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: WORKSHOP WITH SIR JAMES MACMILLAN

WORKSHOP WITH
SIR JAMES MACMILLAN

Sir James MacMillan ‘Qui meditabitur’ from The Strathclyde Motets
Sir James MacMillan ‘Videns Dominus’ from The Strathclyde Motets
Sir James MacMillan ‘Mitte maavam tuam’ from The Strathclyde Motets
This year’s Holy Week Festival marks the 60th birthday year of one of the UK’s finest living composers by celebrating his extraordinary musical output. Join Sir James MacMillan for an insightful morning singing and discussing his choral music.
We advise that most value is brought to those with prior choral experience and suggest participants should either be familiar with the scores or be confident sight-readers. Scores will be provided on the day and the workshop will last two hours.
Workshop participants are entitled to a 10% discount (within the same transaction) to The BBC Singers’ concert on the evening of Thursday 18 April.
sansarachoir.com

Thu 18 April 11.00am
£20 (£14)

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: SANSARA

SANSARA
Northern Rites
Tom Herring ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Trad. arr. Bengt Olleö Trilo
Sir James MacMillan The Gallant Weaver
Trad. arr. Grete Pederson Ned i vester soli glader
Sir James MacMillan Dominus dabit benignitatem
Sir James MacMillan A Child’s Prayer
Knut Nystedt O Crux
Anna Thorvaldsdottir Pann heiloga kross
Oliver Tarney Irish Blessing
Trad. arr. Hakon Nystedt Når mitt øye, trett av møye
Sir James MacMillan Lux aeterna
Trad. arr. Ørjan Matre Herrens venner
This programme explores the rich and diverse heritage of music from the Scandinavian and Celtic traditions: interlinked by their shared encounters throughout history, traces of contact linger in their languages and music. Hear works by James MacMillan alongside Scandinavian folk melodies, Knut Nystedt’s powerful O Crux and a beautiful memorial piece by SANSARAs Associate Composer, Oliver Tarney.
sansarachoir.com

Thu 18 April 6.00pm
£15 (£10), YF

Box Office 020 7222 1061
HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: MAUNDY THURSDAY

THE BBC SINGERS

Sir James MacMillan conductor

Sir James MacMillan Cum vidisset Jesus
Sir James MacMillan Qui meditabitur’ from The Strathclyde Motets
Gesualdo ‘In Monte Oliveti’ from Responsories for Maundy Thursday
1st Nocturn
Sir James MacMillan ‘Videns Donimus’ from The Strathclyde Motets
Gesualdo ‘Tristis est anima mea’ from Responsories for Maundy Thursday 1st Nocturn
Sir James MacMillan ‘Mitt manuam tuam’ from The Strathclyde Motets
Gesualdo Benedictus
Sir James MacMillan A Choral Sequence from the St John Passion

Sir James MacMillan conducts the BBC Singers in a programme of choral music for Maundy Thursday. Alongside movements from the Carlo Gesualdo’s Responsories for Maundy Thursday, Sir James conducts his own works, including movements from The Strathclyde Motets and A Choral Sequence from the St John Passion.

Participants of the morning workshop are entitled to a 10% discount (within the same transaction) for this concert.

This concert will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3.

bbc.co.uk/singers

Thu 18 April 7.30pm
£28, £22, £16, £10

Book online sjss.org.uk

LITURGICAL EVENT II

Tenebrae

Nigel Short conductor
Reverend Catherine Duce cleric-in-residence

Sir James MacMillan Tenebrae Responsories for Good Friday

A moving sequence of devotional Tenebrae settings and responses by the Holy Week Festival’s featured composer, Sir James MacMillan, performed by candlelight.

tenebrae-choir.com

Thu 18 April 10.15pm
Free Admission
HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: GOOD FRIDAY

WORKSHOP: THE TENEBRAE EFFECT

Gresham Centre, Gresham St, London EC2V 7BX

Bach 'Ach Herr, laß dein lieb Engelein' from St John Passion BWV245
Poulenc 'Vinea mea electa' from Quatre motets pour un temps de pénitence
Stainer 'God so loved the world’ from The Crucifixion

Would you like to find out what it takes to be a Tenebrae singer?

'The Tenebrae Effect' is Tenebrae’s inspiring choral development initiative which is designed to challenge and advance every participant, whilst providing an insight into the elements which make Tenebrae’s sound and interpretation of music so unique. Join Tenebrae’s Artistic Director, Nigel Short, and members of Tenebrae for what is set to be a fascinating and informative morning.

"Most enjoyable workshop I have ever attended. A real pleasure to find such a high skill level in a workshop.”

We advise that most value is brought to those with prior choral experience and suggest participants should either be familiar with the scores or be confident sight-readers. Scores will be provided on the day and the workshop will last two hours.

Workshop participants are entitled to a 10% discount (within the same transaction) to Tenebrae's concert on the evening of Friday 19 April.

tenebrae-choir.com

Fri 19 April 11.00am
£20 (£14)

BACH ST JOHN PASSION

Polyphony
Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment
Nick Pritchard EVANGELIST
Neal Davies JESUS
Rowan Pearce SOPRANO
Helen Charlston MEZZO SOPRANO
Ruairi Bowen TENOR
Ashley Riches BASS
Stephen Layton DIRECTOR

Bach St John Passion

Reviews of Polyphony’s recording of Bach’s St John Passion with the OAE include BBC Music Magazine, “This new recording’s credentials border on the unassailable,” and Presto Classical, “It’s remarkable simply because it’s practically perfect in every way”. Bach’s sublime music, performed by top soloists, choir and orchestra in a beautiful building – this is an experience not to be missed.

stephenlayton.com/polyphony
oae.co.uk

Fri 19 April 2.30pm
£60, £50, £40, £25

DONATE

The Holy Week Festival gives space to reflect on the most poignant liturgical sequences in the Christian calendar.

Please give what you can in support of this unique festival of workshops, concerts and free late-night liturgical events for all to attend.

To donate, please contact Tom Herring (Festival Coordinator) at tom@tenebrae-choir.com
TENEBRAE & BRITTEN SINFONIA

Seven Last Words from the Cross

Nigel Short CONDUCTOR

Poulenc Quatre motets pour un temps de pénitence
Victoria Selection from the Tenebrae Responsories for Good Friday
Sir James MacMillan Seven Last Words from the Cross

Tenebrae and Britten Sinfonia collaborate for the first time for an absorbing and moving concert experience. These premiere ensembles celebrate Sir James MacMillan’s 60th birthday year with his Seven Last Words from the Cross, widely admired as one of the composer’s finest achievements, alongside poignant liturgical music by Poulenc and Victoria. MacMillan’s cantata follows Christ’s final utterances at the Crucifixion, meditating on each to form a dramatic and emotional sequence.

“I wasn’t merely listening to this music; I came to feel I was living inside it... a performance to remember.” – The Times (Tenebrae, Holy Week Festival 2018)

Pre-concert talk with Sir James MacMillan and Nigel Short: 7:00pm

The concert will last around 75 minutes without an interval. Participants of the morning’s workshop are entitled to 10% ticket discount for this concert. Bookings must be made in the same transaction.

tenebrae-choir.com
brittensinfonia.com

Fri 19 April 8.00pm
£35, £28, £22, £14

Fri 19 April 10.15pm
Free Admission

LITURGICAL EVENT III

Tenebrae
Nigel Short CONDUCTOR
Reverend Graham Buckle CLERIC-IN-RESIDENCE

Victoria Tenebrae Responsories for Holy Saturday

A moving sequence of devotional Tenebrae settings and responses performed by candlelight.

Free admission

tenebrae-choir.com

Sat 20 April 1.05pm
£15 (£10), YF

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: GOOD FRIDAY

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL: HOLY SATURDAY

THE CHOIR OF CLARE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

Graham Ross CONDUCTOR
Eleanor Carter & Ashley Chow ORGAN

Viadana Sicut ovis ad occasionem
Josquin Improperia expectavit
Byrd Ne irascaris, Domine – Civitas sancti tui
Victoria O vos omnes
Lobo Versa est in lacrimis
Byrd Ave verum corpus
Roderick Williams Ave verum corpus re-imagined
Jonathan Harvey I love the lord

The Choir of Clare College, Cambridge and conductor Graham Ross perform a beautiful Lenten sequence including settings of the Tenebrae Responsories for Holy Saturday, Sanders’ The Reproaches, James MacMillan’s stunning Miserere, and Gerald Finzi’s Eucharistic masterpiece, Lo, the full, final sacrifice.

cclarecollegechoir.com

Sat 20 April 7.30pm
£28, £22, £16, £10

THE CHOIR OF CLARE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

Graham Ross CONDUCTOR
Eleanor Carter & Ashley Chow ORGAN

Viadana Sicut ovis ad occasionem
Josquin Improperia expectavit
Byrd Ne irascaris, Domine – Civitas sancti tui
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cclarecollegechoir.com

Sat 20 April 7.30pm
£28, £22, £16, £10
YOUR VISIT

St John's Smith Square is just off Millbank between Westminster and Lambeth Bridges, close to the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, and a short walk from Westminster tube station.

CAR PARKING
St John’s Smith Square is within the congestion charging zone. Parking meters are in operation during the day Monday – Friday until 6.30 pm. In the evenings and at weekends there are usually ample spaces locally. There is Westminster City Council car parking on Great College Street and Arneway Street.

RAIL
Victoria, Waterloo, Vauxhall & Charing Cross

TUBE
Westminster, St James's Park & Victoria

BUS
3 and 87 to Horseferry Road
C10 and 507 (limited hours) to Millbank
88 to Horseferry Road
11, 211, 148 and 24 to Westminster Abbey

SANTANDER CYCLES
A docking station is located in Smith Square and there are also stations on Horseferry Road, Page Street and Great College Street.

BOOKING INFORMATION

PHONE
020 7222 1061
Monday to Friday 10.00am–5.00pm

ONLINE
sjss.org.uk
£1.75 booking fee applies

IN PERSON
Monday to Friday 10.00am–5.00pm
(postal booking closes on the day of the concert)

POST
Box Office, St John’s Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA
Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Cheques should be made payable to St John’s Smith Square.

CONCESSIONS AND REDUCTIONS
Available for many of our concerts to senior citizens, full-time students, registered unemployed, school children (under 16) and people who are registered disabled. Westminster CitySave card holders are entitled to a 10% discount on a pair of tickets for any public concert.

Parties of ten or more qualify for a 10% discount.

YOUNG FRIENDS SCHEME
If you’re aged 30 or under, make sure you sign up for our FREE Young Friends Scheme! Young Friends are entitled to purchase £5 tickets to concerts in our Thursday Lunchtime Concerts and other concerts across the season.

Our Young Friends also receive:
• £5 tickets for selected concerts throughout the season – you’ll find these marked alongside the ticket information in the brochure with the code ‘YF’
• Exclusive invitations to special events
• Young Friends newsletter
• Targeted discounts

ACCESSIBILITY
If you have access requirements, please let our Box Office staff know when booking your tickets to help us provide you with the best possible service and choice of seats. We allocate an additional seat free of charge to disabled patrons who require a carer to accompany them.

Please Note
We may need to substitute artists and to vary our concert programmes from the published information without warning.

Latecomers are admitted only at a suitable pause in the concert, as advised by the concert promoter.

Please note that tickets may not be refunded but may be exchanged up to 48 hours before the performance, which will incur a £2 administration fee per ticket.

© Matthew Andrews
HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL

A week of workshops, lunchtime recitals, evening concerts, and late-night liturgical events from Palm Sunday to Holy Saturday, exploring a vast range of sacred music in celebration of Holy Week.

To mark Sir James MacMillan’s 60th birthday year the festival includes performances of his extraordinarily beautiful and evocative music from a host of distinguished headline performers including the festival curators, Tenebrae and Nigel Short.

#SJSSHOLY WEEK

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Box Office 020 7222 1061 sjss.org.uk

St John’s Smith Square Charitable Trust
St John’s Smith Square
London SWIP 3HA
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Company No. 3028678
Registered Charity No. 1045390

tenebrae-choir.com

The Tenebrae Choir
12-15 Hanger Green
London W5 3EL
Registered in England and Wales
Company No. 7549890
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