



Harvard University Choir
October 29, 2023, 4 pm

“Magnificat” from *The Great Service* (ca. 1595)

William Byrd (ca. 1540–1623)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiceth in God my savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefather
Abraham and to his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Text from the Bible

Requiem (1932)

Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

1. Salvator mundi

*O savior of the world, who by thy cross and thy precious blood has redeemed us,
save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

2. Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

3. Requiem aeternam (I)

<i>Requiem aeternam dona eis.</i>	Rest eternal grant unto them
<i>Et lux perpetua luceat eis.</i>	And may light perpetual shine upon them.
<i>Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.</i>	Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

4. Psalm 121

*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.*

*He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
 Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.
 The Lord himself is thy keeper: he is thy defence upon thy right hand.
 So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.
 The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
 The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth and for evermore.*

5. Requiem aeternam (II)

6. I heard a voice from heaven

*I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, from henceforth blessed are the dead
 which die in the Lord: even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labors.*

*Texts from the Matins Antiphon for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Bible, and the Requiem mass
 Peggy Yin, Ari Cheriyan, Luis Pabón Rico (mvt. 2); Soren Choi and
 Fahim Ahmed (mvt. 4), Henrique Neves and Tara Guetzloe (mvt. 6), soloists*

Requiem (1985)

John Rutter (b. 1945)

1. Requiem aeternam

*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
 et lux perpetua luceat eis.
 Te decet hymnus Deus in Sion,
 et tibi reddetur votum in Ierusalem;
 exaudi orationem meam,
 ad te omnis caro veniet.
 Kyrie, eleison!
 Christe, eleison!
 Kyrie, eleison!*

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
 and may light eternal shine upon them.
 It is fitting that a hymn should be raised unto thee in Zion
 and a vow paid to thee in Jerusalem;
 give ear to my prayer, O Lord,
 unto thee all flesh shall come at last.
 Lord, have mercy!
 Christ, have mercy!
 Lord, have mercy!

2. Out of the deep

*Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord.
 Lord, hear my voice.
 O let thine ears consider well: the voice of my complaint.
 If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss? O Lord, who may abide it?
 For there is mercy with thee, therefore shalt thou be feared.
 I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him; in his word is my trust.
 My soul fleeth unto the Lord before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
 O Israel trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.
 And he shall redeem Israel from all his sins.*

3. Pie Jesu

*Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,
 Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,
 Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them rest,
 Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them rest,
 Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest.

4. Sanctus

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
 Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
 Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
 Hosanna in excelsis.
 Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
 Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, Holy, Holy
 Lord God of Hosts
 Heaven and earth are full of thy glory,
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
 Hosanna in the highest.

5. Agnus Dei

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
Dona eis requiem.*

Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world
Grant them rest.

*Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery.
He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow.*

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succor?

*I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.*

6. The Lord is my shepherd

(see text on previous page)

7. Lux aeterna

*I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,
For they rest from their labors; even so saith the Spirit.*

*Lux aeterna luceat eis Domine:
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,
quia pius es.*

*Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine:
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord,
in the company of thy saints forever and ever;
for thou art merciful.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

*Texts from the the Bible and the Requiem mass
Olympia Hatzilambrou (mvt. 3) and Isabella Meyer (mvt. 7), soloists
Ashley Gong '25, oboe
Eugene Ye '25, cello*

Harvard University Choir

Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster

David von Behren, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster

Carson Cooman, Research Associate in Music and Composer in Residence

Soren Choi and Ari Cheriyan, Choir Secretaries

Frank Kelley, voice teacher

Soprano: Elizabeth Bennett, Leyna Blume, Tara Guetzloe, Carolyn Hao, *Olympia Hatzilambrou*, Hanabi Ito, *Isabella Meyer*, Nicole Newell, Caitlin Paul, Lara Tan Rui Qi, *Akhila Yalvigi*, Peggy Yin, Lea Wang

Alto: Katie Burstein, *Ari Cheriyan*, Maliya Ellis, *Sonja Johnson-Yu*, Julia Kim, *Sophia Lerebours*, Katherine McPhie, Kiese Nanor, Julia Paolillo, Shiva Ramkumar, Roseanne Strategos, Angela Wu

Tenor: *Fahim Ahmed*, Jonathan Caron, *Dhruv Goel*, Sam Lyczkowski, Isaac Newman, *Luis Pabón Rico*, Ian Svetkey, AJ Yi, Livingston Zug

Bass: *Lucas Amory*, *Michael Cheng*, *Soren Choi*, *Henrique Neves*, Christopher Ong, *John Burton Rogers III*, Moritz von Brescius, Jordan Woods

Italics denote members of the Ferris Choral Fellows.

Notes

William Byrd—whose 400th-anniversary occurs this year—represents the pinnacle of artistic achievement in the Tudor period. A prolific and versatile composer in virtually all contemporary English genres, Byrd's music could be heard in the great cathedrals, in private chapels, at court, and in domestic amateur music-making. Indeed, the quality of his output even transcended the bitter religious divisions of the time, and his music was admired and performed by Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. Byrd's *Great Service* (comprising music for the Offices of Matins and Evensong, as well as a Kyrie and Creed) was virtually unknown until its 1922 discovery in Durham Cathedral library by the pioneering scholar E. H. Fellowes. It is unknown exactly when the music was written, but it was presumably intended for the Chapel Royal—one of the few institutions that could accommodate its large-scoring and musical difficulty; the *Magnificat* displays all the trademarks of a composer at the very height of his compositional prowess.

Herbert Howells was born in Gloucestershire, England, and studied with Sir Charles Villiers Stanford and Charles Wood at the Royal College of Music. He was the most important English composer of the generation to succeed Elgar, Vaughan Williams, and Holst, and his contribution to the renaissance of English choral music in the twentieth century is unparalleled. The sudden death of Howells's nine-year old son, Michael, from polio was long-speculated to have been the catalyst for the *Requiem*; Howells, in fact, had written the work three years earlier for Boris Ord and the choir of King's College, Cambridge, but kept it hidden away until 1980. A work of intense depth and spirituality, its hushed tones and modal harmonies create a haunting, impressionistic atmosphere.

One of the most prolific composers of choral music today, John Rutter was educated at Clare College, Cambridge, where he later became Director of Music. Most widely known for his Christmas carols and arrangements, Rutter edited the hugely successful Carols for Choirs anthologies with Sir David Willcocks. He has been called "the world's greatest living composer and conductor of choral music," and his anthem *Most Glorious Lord of Life* was premiered by the Harvard University Choir on Easter 2010. His *Requiem* was written in 1985 and, like Howells, Rutter chooses texts from the traditional Requiem mass as well as the Psalms and the Book of Common Prayer. The whole work is structured as an "arch-like meditation on the themes of life and death" and contains many of the composer's signature traits, not least of which is the ability to write a memorable melody.

Edward Elwyn Jones

For over 180 years the **Harvard University Choir** has provided a unique opportunity for student singers to perform choral literature at the highest level, both in concert and during the services of the Memorial Church. Its program of daily choral services, broadcasts, tours, commissions, and recordings make it one of the premier college chapel ensembles in the United States, and each year the choir presents America's longest-running Christmas Carol Services to packed congregations. Highlights of recent seasons include concert performances of Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and *Vespers*, Haydn's *The Creation*, J. S. Bach's *St. John Passion* and *Mass in B minor*, C. P. E. Bach's *Die Israeliten in der Wüste*, Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Handel's *Athalia*, *Saul*, and *Messiah*, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Mass in C minor* (in completions by Harvard Professor Robert Levin), Roxanna Panufnik's *Westminster Mass*, Alice Parker's *Melodious Accord*, Stephen Paulus's *The Three Hermits*, and Benjamin Britten's *St. Nicolas*. Committed to the presentation of new music, the choir has premiered works by today's most prominent composers, including David Conte, Mark Miller, Alice Parker, Daniel Pinkham, Craig Phillips, and John Rutter.