

TWO ITALIAN GLORIAS

Gloria in D major

Antonio Vivaldi

Messa di Gloria

Giacomo Puccini

**THE STAR CHORALE &
ORCHESTRA**

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Dr Kathleen McGuire, Music Director

Messa di Gloria
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Gloria in D major RV 598
Antonio Vivaldi

SOLOISTS

Judith Dodsworth, soprano
Margaret Arnold, contralto
Tomas Dalton, tenor
Jerzy Kozlowski, bass-baritone.

James Tatoulis Auditorium,
Methodist Ladies' College,
Kew, Victoria

Sunday 1 July, 2018

Program

Acknowledgement of Country: Vic Say

Antonio Vivaldi – Gloria in D major (RV 598)

1. Gloria in Excelsis [choir]
2. Et in Terra Pax [choir]
3. Laudamus Te
Judith Dodsworth [soprano]
Margaret Arnold [contralto]
4. Gratias Agimus Tibi [choir]
5. Propter Magnam Gloriam [choir]
6. Domine Deus
Judith Dodsworth [soprano]
7. Domine Fili Unigenite [choir]
8. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei
Margaret Arnold [contralto] and choir
9. Qui Tollis [choir]
10. Qui Sedes ad Dexteram
Margaret Arnold [contralto]
11. Quoniam Tu Solus Sanctus [choir]
12. Cum Sancto Spiritu [choir]

INTERVAL [20 minutes]

Giacomo Puccini - Messa di Gloria

1. Kyrie [choir]
2. Gloria
Tomas Dalton [tenor] and choir
3. Credo
Tomas Dalton [tenor]
Jerzy Kozlowski [bass] and choir
4. Sanctus
Jerzy Kozlowski [baritone] and choir
5. Agnus Dei [choir]

About the Music

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924) is best known to us for his many operas such as *Madama Butterfly*, but during his years as a student he composed numerous orchestral and choral works, including *Messa a Quattro Voci*, composed as his graduation exercise. At the time, he was just 21 years old.

Puccini's *Messa* is often called the *Messa di Gloria* after its magnificent second movement, "Gloria in excelsis Deo," which comprises almost half of the entire work. It was first performed in Lucca, Italy in July 1880, where it was well received. Nonetheless, Puccini's focus was soon drawn to his operas so he did not publish the full manuscript and the *Messa* was largely forgotten. It was not performed again until almost 30 years after the composer's death, following the discovery of the manuscript among a collection of Puccini's works held by the family of his secretary. Subsequently, the work was published in the United States and then performed in Naples in December 1952.

The *Messa di Gloria* was first performed in Australia in Adelaide in 1978, yet is seldom heard in our country. The Star Chorale is excited to pair it with Vivaldi's renowned *Gloria*, bringing together these two Italian masters.

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) was born in Venice and is today regarded as one of the most prominent composers of the Baroque era. He wrote many sacred choral works, most of which were created for performance by the female students of the Ospedale della Pieta [home for orphans] as part of their music education.

Vivaldi wrote several settings of the *Gloria* text of the Catholic mass: "Gloria in excelsis Deo" [Glory to God in the Highest]. Only two of these settings survive. This is the second—the *Gloria in D major* [RV 598]—being by far the most popular and the one generally referred to as "Vivaldi's *Gloria*". Composed 300 years ago, between 1713 and 1717, it is scored for soloists, chorus strings [violins and viola], continuo, oboe and trumpet, with the music divided into twelve sections.

Like Puccini's *Messa*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* – along with many other of his works – was largely forgotten after his death; many of his manuscripts were believed lost during the Napoleonic Wars. It was not until 1926 that a huge collection of Vivaldi's work was rediscovered in a monastery in Piedmont. Among these was the *Gloria*. Along with many of Vivaldi's other compositions, this work was re-introduced to the public during a "Vivaldi Week" in Italy in 1939. Since then, it has become a 'war horse' of the popular choral repertoire.

Dr Kathleen McGuire, Music Director

With an exceptional career spanning more than three decades as a conductor, composer and educator in six countries, Melbourne-born Dr McGuire commenced her leadership of Star Chorale in 2017.

Leading orchestras and choirs, as well as opera, musical theatre and ballet productions, she has conducted at such renowned venues as Melbourne Recital Centre, Sydney Opera House, the Kennedy Centre and Carnegie Hall.

Studying with and receiving mentoring from some of the world's finest

conductors, her qualifications include:

B.Mus [Melbourne Conservatorium of Music], Diploma of Arts in Music

[Victorian College of the Arts], GradDipEd [Monash University], M.Mus

with Distinction [University of Surrey, UK], Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting [University of Colorado, USA].

Kathleen has devoted much of her career advocating for social justice causes, for which she has received acclaim including San Francisco mayors Gavin Newsom and Edwin Lee each designating "Kathleen McGuire Day" (2010 and 2013) on behalf of the City. In 2017 she received the inaugural University of Surrey's Vice Chancellor Alumni Achievement Award.

Returning permanently to Australia in 2013 after 19 years abroad, Kathleen is now Music Director of both the Star Chorale and the Tudor Choristers, teaches music at Brunswick Secondary College, and lectures at Australian Catholic University in the Faculty of Education and Arts. Her compositions — published by Wirripang, Shawnee Press and Tresona Music — are performed widely and she appears frequently as a guest conductor and presenter at festivals and conferences.



The Star Chorale Committee

Dianne Vale [President], Suzanne Locadou-Wells [Vice-President], Christopher Davie [Secretary], Dr. Jeff Castles [Treasurer], Alan Bailey, Robyn Fraser, Jill Sanguinetti, Jennifer Stengards.

Judith Dodsworth, Soprano

Judith Dodsworth is a graduate of the Australian National University and the Australian National Academy Of Music, and she has a masters degree in performance from the University Of Melbourne. She has come to be regarded as one of Australia's finest interpreters of contemporary vocal repertoire and has studied in Vienna and London, including with legendary new music soprano, Jane Manning.

She has created leading roles in the premiere seasons of *From A Black Sky* for the Canberra Street Theatre, *Midnight Son* and *Metamorphosis* for Victorian Opera, *The Hive* for Chambermade Opera, *Opiume* at the Singapore and Hong Kong Arts Festivals and in *HIOB* for Neue Oper Wien in Vienna.

On the concert stage, in addition to her extensive performances of 18th and 19th century oratorio works, she has appeared in the title role of Maxwell Davies' *Miss Donnithorne's Maggot*, with Syzygy Ensemble, at the Melbourne Recital Centre, has collaborated with the Plexus Collective, with Perth-based Tura New Music and been presented in the Sydney Opera House Utzon Series.

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Margaret Arnold, Contralto



Following tertiary studies in music as a pianist, singer and music educator, Margaret has enjoyed a long period as Director of Music at Wesley College, Methodist Ladies' College, and the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School. She sings professionally as a soloist and in ensemble, having performed with such groups as Victorian Opera, and numerous choirs in Melbourne and overseas.

Margaret enjoys a wide range of freelance musical endeavours, including preschool,

primary and secondary music classes and choirs, voice tuition, and reviewing concerts. She has many years' experience as an adjudicator and a music performance assessor and continues to work in these fields.

Tomas Dalton, Tenor

Tomas Dalton completed a Bachelor of Music in voice performance at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, and also holds an AMuA in piano. He subsequently undertook further study at the Fondazione Pergolesi Spontini in Italy as the recipient of the Acclaim Awards Italian Opera Fellowship.

Tomas made his European debut creating the role of Ernest in the world premier of *Women In War* at Ancient Theatre Ifaistia, Lemnos. He subsequently reprised the role at the Filippi Festival, Kavala, and at Arts Centre Melbourne.

Tomas has also sung the roles of B F Pinkerton in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* [The Classics], The Villager in Respighi's *The Sleeping Beauty* [Victorian Opera], The Notary in Bellini's *La Sonnambula* [Victorian Opera] alongside internationally acclaimed Soprano Jessica Pratt, and Tamino in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* [Opera Australia, Victorian Schools tour].

Tomas's concert repertoire includes Mozart's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Symphony IX*, and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*. He has toured Australia, Germany, Denmark, and France as a soloist with the Australian Chamber Choir.

In a touring production of Terrence McNally's *Master Class* [The King's Head, London/Andrew Kay & Assoc] Tomas recently played the role of Tony Candolino alongside Helpmann Award winner Amanda Muggleton, making a critically acclaimed Sydney Opera House debut in the process.

Tomas has also been a finalist in several prestigious competitions, including the Opera Foundation for Young Australians: Deutsche Oper Berlin Award, the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Aria, and for the German Australian Opera Grant.

In 2018 Tomas returns to Victorian Opera as The Witch in their production Humperdinck's *Hansel & Gretel*.



Jerzy Kozlowski, Bass-Baritone

Jerzy worked regularly with the Victoria State Opera, and has performed with Opera Australia in every Melbourne season since 1996. He has also worked with Ozopera, Melbourne Opera Company, Operalive, Melbourne City Opera, and Victorian Opera in roles such as Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, the title role in Nyman's *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, Grandpa Moss in Copland's *The Tender Land* and Dr Bartolo in *Barber of Seville*. Jerzy has sung solo with all major Melbourne choral groups in repertoire ranging from Handel's *Messiah* to Verdi's *Requiem* and solo recitals include performances of Shostakovich's *Suite on Verses by Michelangelo* and *Four Verses of Captain Lebyadkin*. He



has performed in many premieres of works by Australian composers such as Richard Mills, Johanna Selleck, Helen Gifford, Iain Grandage, including two song cycles written especially for him by Michael Bertram and Lawrence Whiffin.

Orchestra

Violin 1: Loretta Meagher, Ben Spiers, Chantal Roddy, John Pokorny, Jack Cross

Violin 2: Peter Sampsonidis, Sophie Dunn, Anthony Rossiter, Samantha Richardson

Viola: Rosia Pasteur, Peter Neustupny, Louise Ray

Cello: Megan Smithies, Rosemary Ingram

Double Bass: Ivan Sultanov

Oboe: Bob Millar

Clarinet: Chris Ondaatje

Bassoon: Megan Waugh

Flute: Samantha Cooke

French Horn: Cate Waugh

Trumpet: Robert Harry

Trombone: Ethan Doe

Timpani: Ben Dickson

Harpichord: David Macfarlane

Choristers

Sopranos:

Heather Birch, Seraphina Carthew, Ruby Crysell, Joy Darbyshire, Helena Dunn, Lisa Fitzpatrick, Helen Gibbins, Louise James, Melissa Karakaltsas, Leslie Kelly, Angel Lee, Sue MacLeod, Margaret Mayers, Barbara McLaughlin, Megan McLaughlin, Liz McLeish, Lyn Miller, Colleen Mosley, Helen Norman, Veida Paul, Nancy Pizzi, Carol Pullar, Maren Rawlings, Audrie Sexton, Jillian Thorpe, Patricia Tyler

Altos:

Fiona Beale, Nerida Beresford, Peta Bigum, Kim Cahill, Joan Callahan, Mary-Anne Carmody, Liz Clarke, Anne Collins, Margaret de Paiva, Sally Draper, Robyn Fraser, Janet Hall, Elaine Hobbs, Trish Johnson, Laura Kininmonth, Julie Lancashire, Roseanne Loh, Janet Matthew, Ann Matthews, Fiona Matthews, Johanna Metcalf, Clare Morton, Renuka Potter, Judy Prowse, Margaret Sherburn, Deidre Smith, Samantha Szeredi, Dianne Vale, Nell White, Barbara Williams

Tenors:

Alan Bailey, Chris Davie, Julian de Kretser, John Dunham, Houston Dunleavy, Angela Harris, Geoffrey Harris, Chris Murray, Bill Stringer, Michael Wishaw

Basses:

Jeff Castles, David Cotterill, Lindsay Cracknell, Alan Epstein, Tony Parsons, Joshua Perrin, Reg Polson, Bill Potter, Bill Raper, Andrew Rawlings, Colin Robertson, Keith Robertson, Peter Saville, Vic Say

Life Members of the Star Chorale

Judy Downie

Leonie Thompson

Christopher White

About the Choir

The Star Chorale was established by its exceptional founder and leader, Jane Elton Brown OAM, whose passion and ethos shaped the choir it is today. Her drive for excellence, profound musical knowledge and attention to detail created The Star Chorale's reputation as one of Melbourne's leading choirs.

Founded in 2000, the choir was named Star Chorale in 2004. It is a Melbourne-based community choir dedicated to continuing and enhancing a tradition of excellence in the performance of choral music. The choir includes, but is not limited to, former students, staff members and families of students or friends of Methodist Ladies' College [MLC] in Kew, Victoria, and maintains a close informal relationship with the school.

The Star Chorale is a member of the Australian National Choral Association [ANCA].

The Star Chorale welcomes new members. We do not hold auditions, but the ability to hold a tune is essential, and the ability to read music is highly desirable. We usually present three concerts annually, including a major work mid-year. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings at MLC.

If you would like to join the choir, please visit join.starchorale.org.

Our Next Performance

Our next concert will be our annual Christmas Concert on Saturday 8th December 2018 in the James Tatoulis Auditorium, Methodist Ladies' College, Kew. Keep an eye on our website for details, or email secretary@starchorale.org to be put on our mailing list.

Acknowledgements

The choir extends its heartfelt gratitude to:

- our music director Dr Kathleen McGuire;
- rehearsal pianists Sue Goessling, Jodie Lockyer, Kathryn Pisani and Adeline Han;
- Methodist Ladies' College;
- the staff of the MLC Music School;
- Jennifer Stengards for the wonderful job she did in putting together the orchestra;
- our choir librarian Lyn Miller;
- Elaine Hobbs and Angela Harris for their tireless efforts in providing choir refreshments and cakes each week.
- David Grigg for technical assistance with our website and TeamApp, and for the design and production of publicity materials;
- part leaders: Megan McLaughlin, Trish Johnson, Bill Stringer, Julian de Kretser, Lindsay Cracknell;
- the many choir members who make a special contribution to our enjoyment, well-being and presentation;
- Snap Printing, Hawthorn
- all the volunteers assisting at the concert.

You Are Invited...

Our audience is warmly invited for afternoon tea (via gold coin donation) at the conclusion of our concert.



**Please visit our website:
www.starchorale.org**