

BRISBANE CONCERT CHOIR at St Andrew's
Debra Shearer-Dirié, Musical Director

with the

SINFONIA OF ST ANDREW'S

present



POULENC STABAT MATER
FAURÉ REQUIEM

Sunday, 22 April 2012

St Andrew's Uniting Church

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the event of fire or other emergency, walk promptly to the rear of the building and exit through the glass doors. Do not congregate in the café area, but continue walking up the footpath to ensure that the exits are not blocked.

Assemble across the road outside the Suncorp building until advised by a responsible person that it is safe to re-enter the building.

Only if access to the main glass-door exit is blocked should you attempt to leave via the door to the right of the stage.

Poulenc STABAT MATER Fauré REQUIEM

WELCOME FROM THE CHOIR



Welcome to our first concert for 2012 which features two sublime French pieces – Poulenc’s *Stabat Mater* and Fauré’s *Requiem* in D Minor. The Choir has greatly enjoyed having the opportunity to prepare and sing these works for you.

Last year Italian pieces were our focus. The Choir was very well received on its tour of Northern and mid Italy last September, which included singing in some magnificent churches, including mass in St Mark’s in Venice. The highlight was possibly our last concert — a performance of Handel’s *Dixit Dominus* with a local orchestra at St Paul’s within the Walls in Rome. The singers (and the “choir groupies” from our family and friends who came with us) greatly enjoyed the whole experience. Many thanks to those who came to our fundraising events which supported this tour.

I would also like to publicly thank Ian Maurer, who, after eight years of stalwart service to the running of the Choir, has stood down as Chairman.

I hope you enjoy this afternoon’s performance and that you will join us downstairs for refreshments afterwards.

JANET McKEON

Chairperson, Brisbane Concert Choir

WELCOME FROM ST ANDREW’S UNITING CHURCH



It is a great pleasure to welcome you to St Andrew’s for this concert presented by the Brisbane Concert Choir. Appropriately for a concert that falls between Easter and ANZAC Day, the two pieces chosen today help us reflect upon issues of life and death. While death is always associated with pain and grief, Christians believe that it marks a new beginning in our relationship with God. I trust that this concert will bring joy and blessing.

REV'D BRUCE JOHNSON

Minister, St Andrew’s Uniting Church

The Works, Poulenc and Fauré

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963) was one of the fine French composers that was labeled *Les Six* by the French critic Henri Collet. Poulenc's setting of the *Stabat Mater* sequence was composed in response to the death of his friend, artist Christian Bérard. This work is Poulenc's first choral work with orchestra and was composed in only two months.

The text represents the Mother of the Redeemer plunged in grief and weeping beneath the Cross on which He was suffering an unmerited and agonizing death. The historical event is narrated in the first (*Stabat Mater dolorosa*), second (*O quam tristis*), and fourth (*Vidit suum dulcem natum*) stanzas. The remaining strophes are made up of reflections, affections, petitions, and resolutions arising from the

contemplation of Jesus' bitter sufferings and death.

The twelve sections which make up this work are built carefully around returning motifs in sections 1, 6 and 12, acting as pillars for the work to stand

upon. The instrumental writing is perfectly orchestrated to enhance the meaning of each stanza of the text. From the opening, the minor scale, given to the strings,

sets the stage for the 'Mother who stood grieving while her Son hung on the cross.' The second (*Cuius animam gementem*), fifth (*Quis est homo*), and the beginning of the eleventh (*Inflammatum et accensus*) sections come closest to Poulenc's settings of the Judgment, whilst the a cappella sections allow the sensitivity of the text

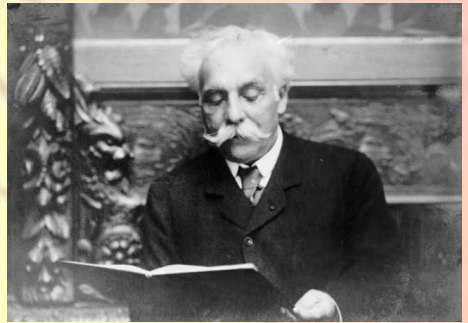
In contrast to the grandiose requiem settings of Berlioz and Verdi ... Fauré's setting concentrates on the idea of eternal rest and peace...

Poulenc STABAT MATER Fauré REQUIEM

to be coloured by the warmth of the choral timbre. The soprano soloist brings forth the voice of Mary.

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) composed his Requiem when he was at the height of his career as a church musician for liturgical use. It is uncertain whom this Requiem was composed for, as there have been three distinct orchestrated versions of the Requiem since its first performance in 1888. It is the 1893 version of this work, for chamber orchestra, choir and soloists that will be performed this afternoon.

Fauré's choice of text illustrates a personal selection rather than the complete liturgical Requiem, and he chooses to end the work with text from the Burial service (*Libera me* and *In Paradisum*). In contrast to the grandiose requiem settings of Berlioz and Verdi, where the terrors of the Last Judgment are exploited to the full, Fauré's setting concentrates on the idea



of eternal rest and peace; little prominence is given to the Day of Judgment. As the composer said:

"My Requiem has been said to express no fear of death; it has been called a lullaby of death. But that is how I feel about death; a happy deliverance, a reaching for eternal happiness, rather than a mournful passing."

DEBRA SHEARER-DIRIÉ
Musical Director

SOLOISTS



LUKE STOKER BARITONE

Luke studied at The University of Queensland, graduating with a Bachelor of Music in 2009, and in 2011 graduated with a Master of Music Degree with the Dean's Commendation at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. **For Opera Queensland:** Understudied the role of José Castro and performed in the Chorus of *La Fanciulla del West* (2011). Member of the *Young Artist Program* (2011 and 2012). **For Opera Australia:** Performed in the chorus for *Turandot* (2012) and *La Traviata* on Sydney Harbour (2012). **Other engagements:** Prime Minister in *Cendrillon*; Totengräber in *Der Rose Pilgerfahrt*; Hymen in *The Fairy Queen*; Simone in *Gianni Schicchi* (Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University). **Concert repertoire:** Handel's *Messiah*; Haydn's *Nelson Mass*; Fauré and Mozart *Requiems*; Bach's *Magnificat*; Vaughan Williams' *Songs of Travel*. **Upcoming engagements:** Understudying Zuniga and performing in the chorus for *Carmen* (Opera Queensland); performing in the chorus for Opera Australia's productions of *The Magic Flute* (Brisbane 2012) and *Aida* (Sydney 2012).



STEPHANIE LLOYD SOPRANO

Stephanie began her musical education at an early age, undertaking singing and instrumental study with the Violin, French Horn and Viola. For many years she sang with several Brisbane based choirs with which she has toured nationally and internationally. Since beginning her classical voice studies at the University of Queensland in 2008, Stephanie has had a number of performance opportunities. She was a soloist in the University of Queensland's QPAC performances of Schumann's *Requiem für Mignon* and Rutter's *Magnificat*. She was also a soloist in a joint performance between The University of Queensland and The Queensland Symphony Orchestra at QPAC. In 2011 Stephanie gained her Bachelor of Music (Performance) from The University of Queensland and is now undertaking postgraduate studies at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, which includes presenting the role of 'Contessa' from *Le Nozze di Figaro* in the 2012 Conservatorium Val Machin Opera Scenes.

Poulenc STABAT MATER Fauré REQUIEM

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Dr Debra Shearer-Dirié

Originally from Perth, Dr Debra Shearer-Dirié maintains an active career as a choral conductor, music educator, clinician and scholar. She holds a Master of Music Education degree and Doctor of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Indiana University. During her time there she directed the Indiana University Children's and Youth Choir, was assistant director to maestro Paul Hillier with the Pro Arte Singers, and Director of the International Vocal Ensemble at Indiana University for two years. From 2000 to 2001, she conducted the Northwest Girlchoir in Seattle, a 400-voice organization of young women who perform frequently with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.

Debra has received numerous invitations to present at national conferences both abroad and in Australia, including the National Conference of the American Choral Director's Association in New York in 2003, and has been invited to present at each Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) Choralfest since she has returned to Australia in 2003.

Upon arriving in Brisbane mid 2003, she conducted the Queensland Young Conservatorium Chamber Choir through diverse repertoire which led to an



invitation to perform at the ANCA conference in 2004. In 2005, she was appointed Musical Director of Brisbane Concert Choir, and in 2006 founded Vox Pacifica Chamber Choir. In 2009 she founded Fusion, a semi-professional adult a capella ensemble. She continually searches for opportunities to collaborate with other musical groups, composers, dancers, visual artists and cultural groups. Debra's most recent vocal ensemble is Vintage Voices, a programme for older people in the community to join in song. She began leading this group 18 months ago.

Debra is currently serving as editor of the ANCA journal *Sing Out*, and on the National Council for ANCA. She is in demand as an adjudicator, clinician and conductor for festivals and eisteddfods throughout Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

STABAT MATER

FRANCIS POULENC (1899-1963)

*Stabat mater dolorosa
iuxta Crucem lacrimosa,
dum pendebat Filius.*

The grieving Mother stood
weeping beside the cross
where her Son was hanging.

*Cuius animam gementem,
contristatam et dolentem
pertransivit gladius.*

Through her weeping soul,
compassionate and grieving,
a sword passed.

*O quam tristis et afflicta
fuit illa benedicta,
mater Unigeniti!*

O how sad and afflicted
was that blessed woman,
Mother of the Only-begotten!

*Quae moerebat et dolebat,
pia Mater, dum videbat
nati poenas inclyti.*

Who mourned and grieved,
the pious Mother, while looking at
the torment of her glorious Child.

*Quis est homo qui non fleret,
matrem Christi si videret
in tanto supplicio?*

Who is the person who would not weep
seeing the Mother of Christ
in such agony?

*Quis non posset contristari
Christi Matrem contemplari
dolentem cum Filio?*

Who would not be able to feel compassion
on beholding Christ's Mother
suffering with her Son?

*Pro peccatis suae gentis
vidit Iesum in tormentis,
et flagellis subditum.*

For the sins of his people
she saw Jesus in torment
and subjected to the scourge.



Poulenc **STABAT MATER**
Fauré **REQUIEM**

*Vidit suum dulcem Natum
moriendo desolatum,
dum emisit spiritum.*

She saw her sweet offspring
dying, forsaken,
while He gave up his spirit.

*Eia, Mater, fons amoris
me sentire vim doloris
fac, ut tecum lugeam.*

O Mother, fountain of love,
make me feel the power of sorrow,
that I may grieve with you.

*Fac, ut ardeat cor meum
in amando Christum Deum
ut sibi compleceam.*

Grant that my heart may burn
in the love of Christ my Lord,
that I may greatly please Him.

*Sancta Mater, istud agas,
crucifixi fige plagas
cordi meo valide.*

Holy Mother, grant that
the wounds of the Crucified drive
deep into my heart.

*Tui Nati vulnerari,
tam dignati pro me pati,
poenas mecum divide.*

Share with me the pain,
of your wounded Son,
who so deigned to suffer for me.

*Fac me vere tecum flere,
crucifixo condolere,
donec ego vixero.*

Let me indeed weep with you,
bemoan the Crucified,
for as long as I live.

*luxta Crucem tecum stare,
Te libenter sociare
in planctu desidero.*

To stand beside the cross with you,
to freely join with you in your weeping,
this I desire.

*Virgo virginum praeclara,
mihi iam non sis amara,
fac me tecum plangere.*

*Fac, ut portem Christi mortem,
passionis fac consortem,
et plagas recolere.*

*Fac me plagis vulnerari,
Cruce hac inebriari,
ob amorem Filiii.*

*Inflammatum et accensum,
per te, Virgo, sum defensum
in die iudicii.*

*Christe, cum sit hunc exire,
da per Matrem me venire
ad palmam victoriae.*

*Quando corpus morietur,
fac, ut animae donetur
paradisi gloria. Amen.*

Chosen Virgin of virgins,
be not bitter with me,
let me weep with thee.

Grant that I may bear the death of Christ,
share his Passion,
and commemorate His wounds.

Let me suffer the wounds
of that Cross, steeped
in love of your Son.

Fired and excited,
may I be defended by you, Virgin,
on the day of judgement.

Christ, when it is time to pass away,
grant that through your Mother I may come
to the palm of victory.

When my body dies,
grant that to my soul is given
the glory of paradise. Amen.

A short interval will follow.

Poulenc STABAT MATER
Fauré REQUIEM

REQUIEM IN D MINOR

GABRIEL FAURÉ (1845-1924)

OPUS 48

INTROÏT

*Requiem æternam 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.*

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
A hymn becomes you, O God, in Zion,
and to you shall a vow be repaid in Jerusalem.
Hear my prayer;
to you shall all flesh come.

KYRIE ELEISON

*Kyrie eleison;
Christe eleison;
Kyrie eleison*

Lord have mercy;
Christ have mercy;
Lord have mercy.

OFFERTOIRE

*O Domine Iesu Christe, Rex gloriæ,
libera animas defunctorum
de pœnis inferni et de profundo lacu.*

*O Domine Iesu Christe, Rex gloriæ,
Libera animas defunctorum de ore
leonis,
ne absorbeat Tartarus,
ne cadant in obscurum.*

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
free the souls of the departed
from infernal punishment and the deep pit.
Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
Free the souls of the departed from the
mouth of the lion;
do not let Tartarus swallow them,
nor let them fall into darkness.

*Hostias et preces tibi, Domine,
laudis offerimus;
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
quarum hodie memoriam facimus.
Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad
vitam.*

O Lord, we offer You
sacrifices and prayers of praise;
accept them on behalf of those souls
whom we remember today.
Let them, O Lord, pass over from death to
life,

*Quam olim Abrahæ promisisti et
semini eius.
O Domine Iesu Christe, Rex gloriæ,
libera animas defunctorum
de pænis inferni et de profundo lacu,
ne cadant in obscurum. Amen.*

SANCTUS

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth;
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis. Sanctus.*

PIE IESU

*Pie Iesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

AGNUS DEI

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem,
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

LUX AETERNA

*Lux æterna luceat eis, Domine,
cum sanctis tuis in æternum,
quia pius es.
Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine;
et lux perpetua luceat eis .*

as you once promised to Abraham and his
seed.

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
free the souls of the departed
from infernal punishment and the deep pit,
lest they might fall into darkness. Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of Hosts;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Holy one.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest;
grant them eternal rest.

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the
world, grant them rest,
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the
world, grant them eternal rest.

May everlasting light shine upon them,
O Lord, with your Saints forever,
for you are kind.
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and may everlasting light shine upon them.

Poulenc **STABAT MATER**
Fauré **REQUIEM**

LIBERA ME

*Libera me, Domine, de morte æterna,
in die illa tremenda:*

*Quando cæli movendi sunt et
terra.*

*Dum veneris iudicare sæculum per
ignem.*

*Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,
dum discussio venerit, atque ventura
ira.*

*Dies illa, dies iræ, calamitatis et
miseriæ, dies magna et amara valde.*

*Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine:
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

Deliver me, O Lord, from death eternal on
that fearful day,

when the heavens and the earth shall be
moved,

when thou shalt come to judge the world by
fire.

I am made to tremble, and I fear, till the
judgment be upon us, and the coming
wrath.

That day, day of wrath, calamity, and misery,
day of great and exceeding bitterness.

Grant unto them eternal rest, O Lord: and let
light perpetual shine upon them.

IN PARADISUM

*In paradisum deducant Angeli:
in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres,
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam
Ierusalem.*

*Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere
æternam habeas requiem.*

May Angels lead you into paradise;
may the Martyrs receive you at your coming
and lead you to the holy city of
Jerusalem.

May a choir of Angels receive you,
and with Lazarus, who once was poor, may
you have eternal rest.

*After the concert, please join us for
supper in the hall below the Church.*

THE CHOIR



The Brisbane Concert Choir at St Andrew's is an auditioned adult mixed voice choir. Formed in 1996 by Dr Guy Jansen, the Choir has established an excellent reputation for its performances of diverse repertoire ranging from a cappella pieces to full symphonic works. Performances have included appearances with The Queensland Orchestra, Queensland Pops Orchestra and in prestigious festivals such as Brisbane Cathedrals Week and the 4MBS Festival of Classics. The Choir toured the North Island of New Zealand in 1999 and in June 2002, following the release of its first CD, *Journey*, the Choir embarked on a very successful tour to north Queensland. 2008 saw the release of a second CD, *Radiance*, and a first European tour which visited Prague, Salzburg and Vienna. The Choir toured to Italy in September 2011, where it was very well received and in December of that year, the Choir released a CD of music for the festive season, entitled *Rejoice!* The Choir has recorded performances for broadcast on ABC-TV and 4MBS Classic-FM.



Poulenc STABAT MATER
Fauré REQUIEM

SOPRANO

Shannon Atkin
Susan Burrows-Prilick
Katherine Chan
Helen Fredericks
Andrea Hall-Brown
Vanessa Hall
Jan Hungerford
Anne Hunt
Janet McKeon
Caitlin McMorow
Suzana Milosevic
Sarvenaz Monfaredi
Judy Neal
Amanda Powell
Stephanie Rodgers
Lucinda Thomson
Elizabeth Yee

TENOR

Simon Burgess
Ian Clarkson
Lourens Feuth
Allen Kloeden
Freddy Madsen
Michael Scott

ALTO

Milly Blakeley
Christine Campbell
Sorcha Delaney
Sue Gray
Grete Hindsberger
Melissa Hutchinson
Nicki Jenkins
Barbara Lamb
Barbara Maenhaut
Lynne Maurer
Joan Mooney
Jane Oliver
Tricia Pezet
Ceri Takken
Kathy Teakle

BASS

Turi Agostino
Malcolm Alexander
Robert Bray
Bruce Campbell
Geoff Hines
Ian Maurer
Robin Maurer
Mark McKeon
Timothy Reeves
Ross Salomon
Murray Smith
Sam Taylor
Chris Whight

MUSICAL

DIRECTOR

Debra Shearer-Dirié

REHEARSAL

ACCOMPANIST

John Woods

PATRON

Guy Jansen

MANAGEMENT

Chairperson

Janet McKeon

Secretary

Stella Jenks

Treasurer

Lourens Feuth

Committee

Christine Campbell

Sue Gray

James McNicol

Michael Scott

Librarian

Mary Gough

THE SINFONIA OF ST ANDREW'S

The Sinfonia of St Andrew's was formed in 1995 for a performance of Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise* conducted by Mansel Jones. Since then it has promoted its own orchestral concerts as well as appearing regularly with the Brisbane Concert Choir. The orchestra is an interesting mix of professional players, who perform regularly for the Queensland Orchestra and Queensland Pops Orchestra alongside students from the Conservatorium, University of Queensland and Queensland Youth Orchestra.

1ST VIOLIN

Margaret Connolly
(Leader)*

Lucy Bignall
Marie Spiller
Elisha Harrison
Lucy Sullivan

2ND VIOLIN

Katie Sillar
Maree Williamson
Celine Crellin
Sonia Wilson

VIOLA

Anna Jack
Hannah Rowland
Byron Mengel
Bronwyn Gibbs

CELLO

Lynne Backstrom
Ngaio Toombes
Sue Taylor

DOUBLE-BASS

John Verney
Murray Gay

FLUTE

Lee Norrell
Sophie Manoharan

OBOE

Natasha Kalous
Andrew Stower

CLARINET

Kate Jones
Christy Dykes

BASSOON

Trevor Williamson
Anne Hoare

FRENCH HORN

Andrew Kopitke
Ashley Skyring

TRUMPET

Malcolm Liddell
Lindon Weise

TROMBONE

Adrian Head
Griffin Young
Lisa Allely

TIMPANI

Jane MacKerras

HARP

Fay Lim

ORGAN

Steven Nisbet

MANAGEMENT

General Manager
Graham Evans

Orchestral Manager
Maree Williamson

Librarian

Kaye Harrison

*Violin soloist in this afternoon's performance of the Requiem.

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selection of
music for the
festive season.*

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CONCERT SEASON

2012

Come and Sing 'from scratch'

Haydn's *Nelson Mass*

Saturday 14 July 1.15pm/7.00pm

Each year we invite you to join with us for a day to workshop and perform a large choral work with orchestra and soloists. Last time we staged the *Nelson Mass* (in 2005) we hosted more than 200 singers for the event. Bookings will open in late April. Tickets will also be available for the performance.

A Cappella Concert

Sunday 26 August 3.00pm

Once a year we present a complete concert without orchestra. We invite you to share in this intimate choral experience.

Christmas Concert

Sunday 2 December 6.00pm

Join us for all the festive fun, with music to suit all ages in our annual Christmas concert. Sing along with choir and orchestra.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The Choir would like to thank St Andrew's Uniting Church and its congregation for their ongoing generosity in providing a home for the Choir and allowing us to use this beautiful, heritage listed building as our main concert venue. It is greatly appreciated.




Gambling

Community Benefit Fund

Queensland Government

The Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund proudly funded the purchase of specialised black choir folders, together with additional music books for our library.



Brisbane Concert Choir at St Andrew's
choir@brisbaneconcertchoir.com
www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com