

# CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY

**Conductor - Graham Bull**

**Piano - Richard Kubiak**

**and special guests**



**Music for Independence Day**

**and**

**Trial By Jury**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 @7pm

Arts Hall, Chepstow School

CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd – Music Centre Wales and Making Music – The National Federation of Music Societies. Registered charity no.

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## **Welcome to our Summer Concert 2018 !**

On behalf of Chepstow Choral Society may I extend a warm welcome to you all to our traditional Summer concert & social. As it is the 4<sup>th</sup> July, we thought we would mark the occasion with some traditional American songs and medleys, and with this also being the centennial year of the birth of Leonard Bernstein, we just couldn't pass up the opportunity to include some of his wonderful West Side Story !

You are also in for a real treat, as we are joined this evening by members of the Bristol Gilbert & Sullivan Operatic Society for tonight's performance of Trial by Jury, a one act comic opera concerning a "breach of promise" of marriage lawsuit. We are thrilled to welcome our guests taking on the leading characters in the case.

We hope you enjoy our very varied programme and then do join us afterwards for a glass of wine and light refreshments.

Sue Carter, Chair, Chepstow Choral Society.

## **Next Concerts**

### 1918 Remembrance Concert

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 3pm St Mary's Church, Chepstow

### Christmas Concert

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 3pm St Mary's Church, Chepstow

## **CCS welcomes new members!**

Choral singing lifts the spirits and gives a sense of collective pleasure, and everyone in CCS is a member because they love singing. We welcome new singers in all voice sections, but particularly would love to see more men ! We do not have a formal audition policy and prospective members can contact Marjorie Duerden (01291623310) or via the website link [www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk)

***And why not follow us on Facebook & Twitter ? @ChepstowChoral***

## Programme

West Side Story Medley	L Bernstein, Arr. W Stickles
American Song Selection	Arr. R Kubiak
Tell My Father (violin soloist – Billy Wildefield)	F Wildhorn & J Murphy
Rodgers & Hammerstein On Broadway	Arr. Mac Huff

### ***Brief Interval***

Trial By Jury	Gilbert & Sullivan
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### Characters :

The Learned Judge	John Ditcham
Defendant	Mike Gormley
Plaintiff	Hannah Coleman
Counsel for the Plaintiff	Marianne Murray
Usher	Adrian Cooper
Foreman of the Jury	Andrew Murphy (CCS member)

Chorus of Bridesmaids, Gentlemen of the Jury, Barristers, Attorneys and Public played by Chepstow Choral Society members

## **Westside Story Medley**

West Side Story is the award-winning adaptation of the classic romantic tragedy, "Romeo and Juliet". The feuding families become two warring New York City gangs- the white Jets led by Riff and the Puerto Rican Sharks, led by Bernardo. Their hatred escalates to a point where neither can coexist with any form of understanding. But when Riff's best friend (and former Jet) Tony and Bernardo's younger sister Maria meet at a dance, no one can do anything to stop their love. Maria and Tony begin meeting in secret, planning to run away. Then the Sharks and Jets plan a rumble under the highway - whoever wins gains control of the streets. Maria sends Tony to stop it, hoping it can end the violence. It goes terribly wrong, and before the lovers know what's happened, tragedy strikes and doesn't stop until the climactic and heartbreaking ending.

## **American Song Selection**

This selection of 9 traditional songs hails mainly from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and are still popular and very well known today for a number of reasons. Some such as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" have transitioned from a spiritual into a popular sporting anthem of the English rugby team, whilst others such as the tune to "Simple Gifts" are perhaps best known as the hymn tune to "Lord of the Dance". Beginning with "Camptown Races" (ideal for singing in the racing town of Chepstow !) and ending with the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" , we hope you enjoy our selection. We've printed the words in this programme so why not sing along with us ?

## **Rodgers & Hammerstein On Broadway**

In 1943, a new musical was presented on Broadway that changed musical theatre forever. It was "Oklahoma" the first of 9 musicals written by the brilliant team of Richard Rogers & Oscar Hammerstein. From "The King & I" to "Carousel", from "The Sound of Music" to "South Pacific", their shows are known and loved throughout the world. From these shows have come a variety of song classics, songs of every style & emotion, songs that will last forever. This medley contains 13 of our "favourite things" for you to savour and sing along to if the mood takes you !

## **Trial By Jury**

Can you sue someone for breaking off an engagement? In Gilbert and Sullivan's courtroom farce Trial by Jury, it's a very serious crime! The fickle and bigoted defendant, Edwin, has fallen in love with another woman and has jilted the plaintiff, the beautiful Angelina. Unfortunately for Edwin, all of the members of the jury (and the judge) have fallen for Angelina themselves. Edwin proposes that in order to

solve the conflict, he “marry this lady today and the other tomorrow,” which, naturally, Angelina objects to. Ultimately, the resolution that pleases everyone is for the judge to marry Angelina himself! This delightfully ludicrous one-act operetta was initially written as a companion piece to Offenbach’s comic opera *La Périchole*, but quickly outran it in popularity and critical praise. It is often performed as a double or triple bill with other comic pieces, but it just as often performed alone. Hailed by theatre scholar Kurt Gänzl as “probably the most successful British one-act operetta of all time,” *Trial by Jury* is a bite-sized portion of Gilbert and Sullivan’s signature witty lyrics, catchy tunes, and ridiculous plotlines.

## **Tonight’s Guests.....**

### **Bristol Gilbert & Sullivan Society**

The Bristol Gilbert and Sullivan Operatic Society started performing shows over fifty years ago and grew out of an appreciation society called “The G&S Society Bristol Branch” which hosted talks and musical evenings given by members of the old D’Oyly Carte Opera Company and other actors, singers and interested musical groups.

We have around 30 acting and singing members, with ages ranging from teenagers through to pensioners! We rehearse in Bishopston every Tuesday evening, combining hard work with a cup of tea and a friendly chat with good friends! Come and join us, either on stage or backstage, and you’ll be very welcome. If watching and supporting is your thing then you can get all sorts of benefits by joining us as a Friend of the Society.

Over the last twenty years or so the Bristol G&S Operatic Society has been very fortunate to have had the services of a number of musical and stage directors with very prestigious backgrounds such as the BBC and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Each new member of the production team has brought a range of new and exciting skills to our productions which have helped to keep our performances energetic, bright, colourful and relevant to our twenty-first century audiences.

To learn more about BGSOS, or to hire us for a concert, email [secretary@bristolgsos.co.uk](mailto:secretary@bristolgsos.co.uk) or find us on Facebook or Twitter.

## Billy Wildefield

Billy is 14 years old and in year 9 at Chepstow school. He started learning the violin at 8 years old with a peripatetic teacher at the Dell. It was an initiative by the Welsh assembly who wanted everyone to learn an instrument - he loved it and continued to have lessons. He then auditioned for a place at the Junior Conservatoire at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, which he started at 11 years old. He goes every Saturday for a day of theory, individual tuition, chamber group and full orchestra rehearsals. He is at Grade 8 level now and has also just been offered a place with the National Welsh Youth Orchestra.

## American Medley – Lyrics

Camptown ladies sing this song, dooda, dooda,  
The Camptown racetrack's five miles long, dooda, dooda day  
*Goin' to run all night, goin' to run all day*  
*I bet my money on a bob tailed nag, somebody bet on the bay*  
I went down there with my hat caved in, dooda, dooda,  
I came back home with a pocket full of tin, dooda, dooda, day  
*Goin' to run all night...*

I come from Alabama with a banjo on my knee,  
I'm going to Louisiana for my true love for to see  
The buckwheat cake was in her mouth, a tear was in her eye  
I says "I'm comin' from the South" Susannah don't you cry.  
Oh Susannah, do not cry for me  
I come from Alabama with a banjo on my knee

She'll be coming round the mountain when she comes (rpt)  
She'll be coming round the mountain, coming round the mountain  
Coming round the mountain when she comes

Singing Ay Ay Yippee Yippe Yey, singing Ay Ay Yippee Yippe Yey  
Singing Ay Ay Yippee Yippe, Ay Ay Yippee, Ay Ay Yippee Yippe Yey

In the battlefront we stood, when their fiercest charge was made  
And they swept us off a hundred men or more  
But before we reached their lines, they were beaten back dismayed  
And we heard the cry of vict'ry o'er and o'er  
Tramp, tramp, tramp the boys are marching  
Cheer up comrades they will come  
And beneath the starry flag, we shall breathe the air again  
Of the free land in our own beloved home

Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home  
Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home  
I looked over Jordan and what did I see, comin' for to carry me home

A band of angels comin' after me, comin' for to carry me home

*Swing low, sweet chariot...*

Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you, look away you rollin' river  
Oh Shenandoah, I long to hear you, look away,  
We're bound away, across the wide Missouri

Shall we gather at the river where bright angels feet have trod  
With it's crystal tide for ever flowing by the throne of God  
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river  
Gather wit the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God

It's a gift to be simple, it's a gift to be free  
It's the gift to come down where you want to be  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right  
We'll be in the valley of love and delight  
When true simplicity is gained, to bow & to bend we will not be ashamed  
To turn, turn will be our delight  
Till by turning, turning we come round right

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword  
His truth is marching on  
He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before the judgement seat  
Oh be swift my soul to answer him, be jubilant my feet  
Our God is marching on  
Glory, glory , hallelujah, glory, glory , hallelujah,  
Glory, glory , hallelujah, his truth is marching on.

*Camptown Races – S Foster, Oh Susannah – S Foster, She'll Be Comin' Round The Mountain – Railroad Song, Tramp, Tramp, Tramp – George F Root, Swing Low – Trad Spiritual, Oh Shenandoah – Anon, Shall We Gather at the River – R Lowry, Simple Gifts – J Bracket, Battle Hymn of the Republic – J Ward Lowe*

## Patrons, Supporters And Friends

CCS promotes and encourages music within the community but our ticket sales rarely cover the costs of our concerts. Patrons (min subscription £30) receive a complimentary ticket for each concert, an invitation to our Patrons' evenings and their names are printed in each concert programme. If you would like to join us please contact Jean Parkes, Patrons and Membership Secretary ( 01291 620414)

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