



*The Cecilian Singers*  
*A World War One*  
*Tribute Concert*

*Conducted by Kent Lee*

*Wednesday May 14th 2014, 8 pm*

*The Opus Building, Level 3*  
*53 Stubbs Road, The Peak*

*Tickets: to include canapés & drinks*  
*\$280 (seated)*  
*\$150 (concessions, standing)*

*Tickets sold online via*  
***www.ceciliansingers.com***  
*or telephone 2570 3783*



*Proceeds to the Hong Kong and China Branch*  
*of the Royal British Legion*

**About this Concert:** During this centenary year of the start of the First World War, the Cecilian Singers in partnership with the British Consulate-General (BCG), dedicate this concert to all those who fell and fought during the Great War. The programme begins with thoughtful songs evoking the memories of the start of the war and then includes well known trench, patriotic and peace songs. Please sing along with us for the audience songs - **go the next pages for words.**

## THE PROGRAMME

Welcome by Karen Bell, Deputy Director of the British Consulate- General

1. As Torrents in Summer by Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
2. The Blue Bird by CV Stanford (1852-1924) and words by Mary E Coleridge
3. Les Chansons Des Roses (La rose complete) by Morten Lauridsen (1943-)
4. Les Chansons Des Roses (Dirait-on) by Morten Lauridsen (1943-)
5. Hear My Prayer (Wings of a Dove) by Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847)
  - Solis: Emily-Jane Walker and Pamela Roper

### 15 MINUTES CHARITY TALK AND POETRY READINGS

- Lt Col Peter Messervy MBE, Chairman of the Hong Kong/ China Branch of the Royal British Legion
  - A Whispered Tale by Siegfried Sassoon, 1918. Read by Karen Bell
  - In Flanders Field by John McCrae, May 1915. Read by Janice Record
  - We Shall Keep the Faith by Moina Michael, November 1918. Read by Margaret Van
6. Black Bird. Words and music by John Lennon (1940-1980) and Paul McCartney (1942-)
  7. Imagine. Words and music by John Lennon (1940-1980). Arr. Roger Emerson
    - Solis: Ciara Shannon, Alison Clark and Tom Raggett
  8. In Remembrance from Requiem (Do Not Stand At My Grave and Weep) by Eleanor Daley (1955-)
  9. O Danny Boy. Arr. John W. Ward and words by Frederick Weatherby (1913)
  10. Pack Up Your Troubles by Jack Judge (1878-1938) and Harry Williams (-1930)
    - Choir and audience sings
  11. Keep the Home Fires Burning (Till the Boys Come Home) by John McCormack (1884 -1945)
    - Solo: Sue Jackson
  12. Good-bye- ee! (Oh What a Lovely War). Music and words by Bert Lee and R. P. Weston (1917)
    - Choir and audience sings
  13. It's a Long Way to Tipperary. Music by Felix Powell and words by George Henry Powell (1915)
    - Solo: Hugh Tyrwhitt-Drake
    - Choir and audience sings
  14. God be With You by William G. Tomer (1833-1896) Arr. By Henry S Sawyer
  15. Channel of Peace. Melody by Sebastian Temple (1928-1997). Arr by William Llewellyn (b.1925)
  16. Flying Free. Words and music by Don Besig (contemporary composer) Flautist: Helen Wong

Close by Ciara Shannon, Chairperson of the Cecilian Singers

## World War One (1914-1918) POEMS

### A WHISPERED TALE

I'd heard fool-heroes brag of where they'd been,  
With stories of the glories that they'd seen.  
But you, good simple soldier, seasoned well  
In woods and posts and crater-lines of hell,  
Who dodge remembered 'crumps' with wry grimace,  
Endured experience in your queer, kind face,  
Fatigues and vigils haunting nerve-strained eyes,  
And both your brothers killed to make you wise;  
You had no babbling phrases; what you said  
Was like a message from the maimed and dead.  
But memory brought the voice I knew, whose note  
Was muted when they shot you in the throat;  
And still you whisper of the war, and find  
Sour jokes for all those horrors left behind.

**Siegfried Sassoon, 1918**

### IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place, and in the sky,  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead; short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe!  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high!  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

**by John McCrae, May 1915**

### WE SHALL KEEP THE FAITH

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,  
Sleep sweet - to rise anew!  
We caught the torch you threw  
And holding high, we keep the Faith  
With All who died.

We cherish, too, the poppy red  
That grows on fields where valor led;  
It seems to signal to the skies  
That blood of heroes never dies,



But lends a lustre to the red  
Of the flower that blooms above the dead  
In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red  
We wear in honor of our dead.  
Fear not that ye have died for naught;  
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought  
In Flanders Fields.

**by Moina Michael, November 1918**

#### **AUDIENCE SONG WORDS**

##### **PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES**

**Chorus:** Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag,  
And smile, smile, smile,  
While you've a lucifer to light your fag,  
Smile, boys, that's the style.  
What's the use of worrying?  
It never was worth while, so  
Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag,  
And smile, smile, smile.

##### **GOOD-BYE-EE**

**Chorus:** Goodbye-ee, goodbye-ee,  
Wipe the tear, baby dear, from your eye-ee,  
Tho' it's hard to part I know,  
I'll be tickled to death to go.  
Don't cry-ee, dont sigh-ee,  
there's a silver lining in the sky-ee,  
Bonsoir, old thing, cheer-i-o, chin, chin,  
Nah-poo, toodle-oo, Goodbye-ee.

##### **IT'S A LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY**

**Chorus:** It's a long way to Tipperary,  
It's a long way to go.  
It's a long way to Tipperary  
To the sweetest girl I know!  
Goodbye, Piccadilly,  
Farewell, Leicester Square!  
It's a long long way to Tipperary,  
But my heart's right there.

### **About The Conductor: Kent Lee**

Kent Lee graduated from the Trinity College of Music, London in 2007 where he studied piano performance and conducting. He has conducted performances at St James's Church Piccadilly, London and was the assistant conductor of Trinity College of Music's opera production. Kent studied orchestral conducting with Colin Metters (Head of Conducting of the Royal Academy of Music) and with George Hurst at the Canford Music Summer School. Kent is currently conducting the Cecilian Singers, the English Mass at The Hong Kong Catholic Cathedral of The Immaculate Conception, the Hong Kong Wind Symphony and tutoring at the Hong Kong Institute of Education and HKU SPACE. To learn more visit: [www.kentleemusic.com](http://www.kentleemusic.com)



### **The Cecilian Singers**

**Bass:** Peter Anderson, Steven Benton, Sam Hilton and Tom Raggett

**Tenors:** Judy Butler, Hugh Tyrwhitt-Drake, Mike Rooney, Owen Bailey-Waltz and Margot Waltz

**Altos:** Rebecca Austin, Caroline Chang, Lisa Colldén Hemberg, Nissa Marion, Cesilia Poon, Sue Jackson and Masako Sanai

**Sopranos:** Mary Brouwer, Allison Clark, Harjeet Kaur Grewal, Yen Lee, Beatrice Lin, Helen Peters, Janice Record, Pamela Roper, Ciara Shannon, Margaret Van, Emily-Jane Walker and Theodora Whittington

### **About the Royal British Legion (RBL) - HK**

The Royal British Legion was formed on 15 May 1921 bringing together four National Organisations of ex-Service men that had established themselves after the Great War of 1914-1918. The Legion is not just about those who fought in the two World Wars of the last century, but also about those involved in the many conflicts since 1945. Nowadays, they provide financial, social and emotional care and support to all members of the British Armed Forces - past and present and their families. The Legion is best known for the annual Poppy Appeal and its emblem the red poppy. All the money raised by the RBL in Hong Kong goes towards the welfare of ex-servicemen, their widows, and dependents who have fallen on hard times, all of whom are resident in Hong Kong and all the money raised remains in Hong Kong. They also offer support to any ex-servicemen regardless of their rank or ethnicity (i.e local / Gurkha) who are resident in Hong Kong. Visit [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk) and then find the Hong Kong Royal British Legion page.

### **Acknowledgements**

Our thanks go to the British Consulate -General for hosting our World War One Tribute Concert at this exceptional venue. Grateful thanks go to our conductor, Kent Lee for his excellent conducting and insightful choral knowledge and to our pianist/organist Jackie Fung and to Flautist: Helen Wong.

Special thanks go to the Cecilian Singers for their wonderful singing and to Theodora Whittington for her creative design of the flyer (this concert and every concert!).

### **History of the Cecilian Singers**

We began on December 18th 1962 and we are one of the oldest mixed choirs in Hong Kong, singing a myriad repertoire from madrigals and world music to Mozart - in the style of a cappella harmonies or pieces with accompaniment. We are also a registered charity that sings for other charities - a significant percentage of our profits from our concerts go to various charities chosen by the choir.

### **The Cecilian Singers Committee Members: 2013-2014**

Chairperson: Ciara Shannon

Treasurer: Tom Raggett

Secretary: Helen Peters

Officers: Judy Butler, Steven Benton, Harjeet Kaur Grewal and Nissa Marion

**www.ceciliansingers.com. For enquiries email: [info@ceciliansingers.com](mailto:info@ceciliansingers.com)**

**New singers are always welcome.**

