



The Cecilian Singers

# A BABE IS BORN

Conducted by Kent Lee

St John's Cathedral, Garden Road, Central

Wednesday 9th December, 7.30pm

Tickets: \$200  
(concessions \$100)  
to include mulled wine  
& mince pies

Available from  
the Cathedral Bookstore  
[www.ceciliansingers.com](http://www.ceciliansingers.com)  
telephone 2570 3783  
or on the door

Proceeds to Helpers for  
Domestic Helpers (HDH)  
& Crossroads



[www.ceciliansingers.com](http://www.ceciliansingers.com)

**Conductor: Kent Lee, Organist and Pianist: Jackie Fung**

**About this Concert:** Featuring music from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present day, some of our highlights include: In Dulci Jubilo arr. Robert Lucas Persall, O Magnum Mysterium by Tomas Luis de Victoria and A Babe is Born by William Mathias. Proceeds go to Helpers for Domestic Helpers (HDH) and Crossroads Foundation.

## **Christmas Concert 2015, Programme**

### **Audience Carol 1: Once in Royal David's City**

- *Soloist: Lydia Lu (Soprano)*

Welcome Message

1. In Dulci Jubilo, by R.L. De Pearsall (1795-1856), melody first published in 1570
2. O Magnum Mysterium, by Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

### **Audience Carol 2: O Come All ye Faithful**

3. Nativity Carol, by John Rutter (b. 1945)
  - *Soloist: Pamela Roper (Soprano)*
4. Coventry Carol, arr. by Martin Shaw (1875-1958)
  - *Soloist: Liz Sullivan (Soprano)*

### **Audience Carol 3: The First Nowell**

5. Balulalow, from 'A Ceremony of Carols' by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
  - *Soloist: Emily Botsford (Alto)*
6. This Little Babe, by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
7. For Unto Us A Child is Born, from 'Messiah' by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Charity Talk

- Crossroads - David Begbie
8. Gabriel's Message, an old Basque Christmas folk carol, arr. by Jonathan Rathbone
  9. A Babe is Born, by William Mathias (1934-1992)

### **Audience Carol 4: Silent Night**

10. Carol of the Stable Dog, by Corylann Hanney
  - *Soloists: David Kidd (Tenor), Ying Fu and Stephanie Goma (Altos)*
11. So Said The Angel, by Peter Skellern, 2001
12. Do You Hear What I Hear? by Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne, arr. by Harry Simeone, 1962
  - *Percussionist: Naomi Ra*
13. The Song of Christmas, by Mel Tormé and Robert Wells, arr. by Roy Ringwald, 1945
  - *Soloist: Hugh Tyrwhitt-Drake (Tenor)*
14. Jingle Bells, arr. by Ralph Allwood (b. 1945)

### **Audience Carol 5: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing**

Closing thanks by Jenni Sparks, Chairperson of the Cecilian Singers

## **AUDIENCE CAROLS**

### **1) Audience: Once In Royal David's City**

[SOLO] Once in royal David's city,  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her Baby,  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little Child.

[CHOIR] He came down  
to earth from heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,

And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall:  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

[ALL] Not in that poor lowly stable  
With the oxen standing by  
We shall see him, But in heaven  
Set at God's right hand on high  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around

## **2) Audience Carol: O Come All Ye Faithful**

O Come all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels

### ***Chorus:***

*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!*

God of God, light of light  
Lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb,  
Very God, begotten, not created:

### **Chorus**

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation.  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God, in the highest:

### **Chorus**

## **3) Audience Carol: The First Nowell**

The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as  
they lay; In fields where they lay,  
Keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

### ***Chorus:***

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel!*

They looked up and saw a star,  
Shining in the east, beyond them far  
And to the earth, it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night

### **Chorus**

## **4) Audience Carol: Silent Night**

Silent night, Holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin, mother and child  
Holy infant, tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, Holy night  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heav'nly host sing: Alleluia  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!

Silent night, Holy night  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

## **5) Audience: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings;  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

#### **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. For more information, visit: [www.kentleemusic.com](http://www.kentleemusic.com)

#### **The Cecilian Singers: Christmas Singers, 2015**

**Bass:** Steven Benton, Mark Baker, Lucas Scriptor, Will Newman, Ed Beesley, Charles Goldsmith and Gustav Johansson

**Tenors:** Stephen Burrows, Judy Butler, David Kidd, Hugh Tyrwhitt-Drake and Paul Tang

**Altos:** Jenni Sparks, Rebecca Austin, Emma Baker, Eleanor McColl, Sophie Barclay, Eva Iding, Ying Fu, Lindsay Lyons, Gina Littlefair, Emily Botsford, Meagan Collar, Judith Oelschlagel, Stephanie Gomaa, Berny Brzyska, Kayla Hill and Sofia Suarez

**Sopranos:** Callie Botsford, Margaret O' Brien, Theadora Whittington, Helen Peters, Naomi Ra, Harjeet Kaur Grewal, Bernadette Wo, Lydia Lu, Joyce Hau, Betty Wong, Pamela Roper, Shirley Adrain, Mariam Alexander and Liz Sullivan

#### **ABOUT THE CHARITY**

Crossroads Foundation, a Hong Kong based non-profit organisation aiming to connect people in a broken world. As their name suggests, their goal is bringing together people in need and those with resources to make a difference, donating and distributing excellent quality goods to people in need in Hong Kong and around the world.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Our thanks go to our conductor, Kent Lee for his excellent conducting, insightful choral knowledge, joyful and positive enthusiasm. Thanks go to our pianist/organist Jackie Fung. Special thanks go to the Cecilian Singers for their wonderful singing, Theadora Whittington for designing the poster, and to CLARES who help us every year with the mulled wine. Grateful thanks go to the committee and choir members who have helped this year.

#### **HISTORY OF THE CECILIAN SINGERS**

We began on December 18<sup>th</sup> 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 acappella harmonies or pieces with accompaniment. We are also a registered charity that sings for other charities and a significant percentage of profits from our concerts go to various charities chosen by the choir.

#### **THE CECILIAN SINGERS COMMITTEE MEMBERS: 2015-2016**

Chair: Jenni Sparks

Secretary: Gustav Johansson

Treasurer: Steven Benton

Officers: Judy Butler, Ciara Shannon and Harjeet Kaur Grewal

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

New singers are always very welcome to sing with us; we also welcome concert sponsorship to help maximise our charitable donations.