



News from the Royal School of Church Music

RSCM MILLENNIUM YOUTH CHOIR APPEARANCES AT ROYAL ALBERT HALL, AND ON TV AND RADIO.

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir (MYC) will be getting a high media profile during the month of September, with a debut appearance with other leading British youth choirs at the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall, as well as broadcasts in their own right on BBC One and Radio 3.

The first appearance will be a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday September 6th at 6:30pm, which will also be broadcast on BBC Radio 3. The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir, which draws its membership from church, collegiate and cathedral choirs from all over the UK, will provide 40 of the 250-300 voices forming the massed choir for the occasion. All the singers, (including members of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain and Wales, as well as youth choirs from the CBSO and Hallé) will spend four days in intensive rehearsals in Newcastle, before travelling to London for a final run through on the morning of the concert. They will be accompanied by the Northern Sinfonia, conducted by Handel specialist Nicholas McGegan.

As a choir in its own right, the MYC takes part in a *Songs of Praise* on Sunday September 20th on BBC One, from the Lleyn Peninsula on the theme of pilgrimage. The choir recorded musical items for the programme in Chester Cathedral during their summer course.

10 days later on September 30th, the Millennium Youth Choir can be heard again, this time in a broadcast of choral vespers at 4.00pm on BBC Radio 3 from San Rufino Cathedral, Assisi, Italy. This service was recorded during a week-long choral pilgrimage with the BBC at Easter this year, when the choir also broadcast a number of daily services and Sunday worship on Radio 4.

"It's been a busy and exciting year for the choir," says David Ogden, the choir's director.

"However, we are always on the lookout for new singers, and anyone between the ages of 16 and 23 who sings in a church, college or cathedral choir, will be welcome to get in touch to arrange an audition." More information can be found at www.millenniumyouthchoir.com.

Ends
21 August 2009

Notes for Editors

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir was founded in 1999 at the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, offering young singers from the ages of 16 to 23 years the opportunity to sing in some of the UK's most beautiful sacred buildings. Residential courses are held during school and university holidays, and include individual musical and vocal tuition, as well as participation in services and performance in public concerts.

Recent courses have taken the choir to Assisi in a choral pilgrimage with the BBC, singing in Daily Service broadcasts, a live broadcast of Radio 4 Sunday Worship from the Upper Basilica of San Francesco in Assisi, and recording Choral Vespers for BBC Radio 3 in the San Rufino Cattedrale.

In recent years the choir has sung in a variety of venues from prisons to some of the UK's most beautiful sacred buildings including St Paul's Cathedral in London, the Cathedrals of St Mary's and St Giles in Edinburgh, St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, Salisbury Cathedral and many others. The choir has recorded two CDs, the most recent in 2007 which was recorded and produced by the composer and conductor, John Rutter.

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir is conducted by David Ogden, assisted by the organist Daniel Moulton and the vocal coach Hilary Llystyn Jones.

For more information go to www.millenniumyouthchoir.com.

An internet blog can be found at <http://millenniumyouthchoir.wordpress.com>

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an educational charity that promotes the best use of music in worship, church life, and the wider community. The RSCM also publishes music and training resources, and organises courses, short workshops and activities. With over 8,500 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries it is an international network, supported by over 750 volunteers and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

For further media enquiries contact:

Stuart Robinson: RSCM Media Relations Organiser srobinson@rscm.com 01492 556378 / 07831 827701

Heather Bamber: RSCM Marketing & Communications Administrator hbamber@rscm.com 01722 424847