

The Fourth Choir  
with the London Gay Symphony Orchestra

# Joyeux Noël!



Saturday 9 December 2017  
St Clement Danes, The Strand

**A collection will be taken for Educate & Celebrate. Please give generously.**



Educate & Celebrate are experienced teachers who transform schools into LGBT+Friendly places by eradicating homophobia, biphobia and transphobia through tried and tested Ofsted recognised strategies.

**THE FOURTH  
CHOIR**

Artistic Director  
Dominic Ellis-Peckham

Welcome to

# Joyeux Noël!

## Special Guests

Instrumentalists from The London Gay Symphony Orchestra

Actor Akiya Henry

The Fourth Choir's Christmas concert is always a special event – and this year we are delighted to be joining forces with the London Gay Symphony Orchestra to bring you an evening of traditional Christmas music, including the London premiere of Les Douze Noël's by baroque master Louis-Claude Daquin.

For the first half of the concert we are travelling across the Channel and back in time to 18th century France. Daquin's set of twelve pastoral songs tell the story of the shepherds who tended their flocks and paid homage to the baby Jesus - with words derived from medieval texts that match perfectly the rustic splendor of the music.

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772) was a glittering musical star of his day, whose fame surpassed Rameau in the 18th century but faded after his death. He was a virtuoso organist and violinist who rarely transcribed his compositions, preferring, like a modern-day jazz musician, to improvise them. This is a shame for us, as it means most of his wonderful music went to the grave with him! Luckily, the 12 Noël's made it onto paper and we can share them with you.

We will be performing nine of the Noël's, orchestrated by Simon Wright from the keyboard originals. With remarkable imagination, this arrangement captures the magic of Daquin's composition and brings its baroque elegance to life for an ensemble of modern instruments and choir. Excitingly, this is only the second time the set have been performed in public, and the first time ever in London.

The second part of tonight's concert will be more familiar, as we perform beautiful carols and traditional Christmas repertoire from Spain, France, Germany and England.

We will be joined by the LGSO, under the leadership of Matthew Bain, throughout - and are delighted to be celebrating the festive season with such an acclaimed LGBT+ musical ensemble.

Joyeux Noël tout le monde!

## Les Douze Noëls

### Noël XI

Solo: Michaela Caunter

*A young maiden of noble heart  
Was praying to her Creator in her small room  
When an angel from Heaven came down on earth  
And told her the mystery of our Redeemer  
The maiden was astonished to hear this voice,  
And made to say at once :  
How can such a matter be  
For never have I had dealings with any man?  
My soul magnifies God my Saviour  
And my spirit glorifies its Creator.  
Because he had regard for his handmaiden  
May the whole earth accord him glory and honour*

### Noël V

*I arose of a morning  
That was clothed by the white robe of dawn  
Let us sing Noël...*

*That was clothed by the white robe of dawn  
I took my jacket and my fine high bonnet  
Let us sing Noël...*

*I took my jacket and my fine high bonnet  
And my short coat of gret and violet  
Let us sing Noël...*

*And my short coat of grey and violet  
And went to look for Colinet  
Let us sing Noël...*

*And went to look for Colinet  
Who was walking in his garden  
Let us sing Noël...*

### Noël III

Soloist: David Dellaire

*A pretty shepherdess arose one morning;  
Leading her flock she was going  
Into the countryside  
When an angelic voice resounded in the air  
Which ravished her ears with its sweet music.*

### Noël IX

Soloists: Eleanor Wolfe, Annabelle Southern, Leila Stroud

*Come Shepherds, let us awake!  
A God descends among us.  
Now is no time to be sleeping  
When we may see the star of day.*

### Noël I

*At the coming of Christmas  
All should rejoice  
For it is a new testament  
For all the world*

*Within the Virgin a child  
Was conceived and grew within her womb  
Christmas night brought forth the child  
Without suffering or pain*

*No sooner had God been born  
Than the angel went to tell the shepherds  
Who were moved to sing  
A song full of grace*

*After but a little time  
Three Kings came to worship the Child  
Bringing Him myrrh, incense,  
And gold which is so costly*

*Amen Noël, Noël, Noël!  
I cannot forbear to sing Noël  
When I see my saviour appear*

### Noël VI

*What a poor fellow was Adam  
To bring us to damnation  
For the sake of a piece of apple  
That he could not swallow.*

*His wife ceaselessly urged and cajoled him  
To taste a little of the apple,  
Believing the devil who had said  
That all wisdom lay within this fruit.*

*But noticing that she was far from wise or good,  
And seeing that she was naked  
Following this fine meal,*

*Ashamed, trembling, piteous, grief stricken,  
She ran to the fig tree  
Took a green leaf and tried to fold it  
To make an apron.  
The Author of all nature  
From whom nothing is hidden  
Discovered Adam lying beneath  
A heap of green leaves  
All sad, pale and trembling in the dirt  
In which he'd dragged himself.  
He replied It's the woman you gave me  
Who has all but damned me*

*This sad misfortune caused all our misery  
The trials of old age, complaining and tears  
The plague and all the suffering of war  
Extended our damnation  
And all to expiate the offense of our father Adam  
Through each of his descendants.*

## Noël X

*When God was born in Judea  
On this solemn day a boundless joy was to be seen;  
Young and old, lowly and great, brought presents  
And offered over and again all their wealth.*

*With great zeal one brought a lamb,  
Another some fresh milk in a bowl :  
Others brought from beneath their poor clothes  
A little brown bread.  
For the holy Virgin, and for Joseph as her caretaker.*

*May this Divine Child grant us grace  
To have a place in his triumphant reign  
And should we ever attain the place,  
We would taste  
Within his Kingdom, a lasting peace.*

## Noël II

Soloists: Annabelle Southern, Leila Stroud

*I pray you let us sing in exaltation  
And in honour of Mary of high renown ;  
To save all human kind from danger  
A message was sent to a Virgin most rare.*

## Noël XII

Soloist: David Dellaire

*God of mercy, come and by your presence  
Fulfil our desires, and appease our sorrows.  
Redeeming Saviour, appear to our sight!  
Come to open Heaven to guilty man  
Celestial Victim, close off for man the abyss of Hell.  
God of mercy, come and by your presence  
Fulfil our desires, and appease our sorrows.*

*Eternal wisdom, immortal light,  
Come from Heaven above,  
To bring light to our eyes  
May worshipful justice appear for ever  
Come lovely Heavenly peace!  
May your ineffable blessings last for ever  
Eternal wisdom, immortal light,  
Come from Heaven above,  
To bring light to our eyes*

*Inconsolable people, propitious Heaven  
Sensitive to your weeping,  
Is bringing to an end your distress.  
A just God fulfils your deepest needs  
He will look kindly on your humble sighing  
Which will reach as far as the throne  
Of the forgiving God*

*Inconsolable people, propitious Heaven  
Sensitive to your weeping,  
Is bringing to an end your distress.*

*Glory to His birth, Glory to his Infancy!  
As in Heaven, may Glory and  
Love belong in every place!  
May the Angel choir in divine song  
Sing his praises to weak mortals,  
And may the envious land and sea re-echo the theme!  
Glory to His birth, Glory to his Infancy!  
As in Heaven, may Glory and  
Love belong in every place!*

INTERVAL – Please join us for a glass of mulled cider and a mince pie

## Once in Royal David's City

Music: Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876), Text: Mrs. Frances Alexander (1818-1895)  
Arrangement: Arthur H. Mann (1850-1929), last verse arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

*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.*

*Audience joins:  
For he is our childhood's pattern;  
Day by day, like us he grew;  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew;  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.*

*Choir only:*

*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.*

*And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above,  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.*

*Audience joins:*

*And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.*

*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;  
Where like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.*

## All This Time

Music: William Walton (1902-1983), Text: 16th century

## Away In A Manger

Music: Traditional Normandy tune, arranged by Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)

## Riu Riu Chíu

Music: Mateo Flecha the Elder (1481 – 1553), Text: Anonymous Spanish carol

*"Riu Riu Chíu" is the warning cry that the kingfisher gives when it sees the wolf. It protects the lamb on the riverbank, just as God protected Mary from original sin, allowing Christ to be born whilst a thousand angels sing "Glory in heaven and peace on earth".*

## The Night

Music: Toby Young (b.1990), Text: Henry Vaughan (1621-1695)

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

Music: John Wade (1711-1786), arranged by David Willcocks

Text: English translation by Fr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)

*Audience joins:*

*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;*

*Refrain:*

*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:  
(Refrain)*

*Choir Only:*

*See how the shepherds, summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;  
(Refrain)*

*Audience joins:*

*Lo! star led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child bring our hearts' oblations.  
(Refrain)*

*Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace Thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly?  
(Refrain)*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, in the highest;  
(Refrain)*

## Gabriel's Message

Music: Traditional Basque Carol, arranged by Edgar Pettman (1866-1943)

Text: Translation by Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

## Ding, Dong! Merrily on High

Music: 16th century French tune, arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926), Text: G.R.

Woodward (1848-1934)

## Silent Night

Music: Franz Gruber (1787-1848), arr. Wolfgang Lindner (1949-2008), Text: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848)

Soloists: Will Goldsmith, Ben Lumb, Sophia Allen

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847), Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

*Audience sings all verses:*

*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 th'angelic host proclaim,*

*"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,*

*"Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Christ, by highest Heav'n adored;*

*Christ the everlasting Lord;*

*Late in time, behold Him come,*

*Offspring of a virgin's womb.*

*Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;*

*Hail th'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 Sun of Righteousness!*

*Light and life to all He brings,*

*Ris'n 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!"*

## Educate & Celebrate

Educate & Celebrate are experienced teachers who transform schools into LGBT+Friendly places by eradicating homophobia, biphobia and transphobia through tried and tested Ofsted recognised strategies.

*'The Educate & Celebrate initiative is innovative and visionary'*

Ofsted, Jan 2016.



They are recognised by the Department for Education as a Best Practice Award Programme who focus on training, policy, curriculum, environment and community to give staff, student, parents and governors the confidence, skills and resources to successfully make positive institutional change by eradicating discrimination in all its forms by responding to the needs of the 48% of young trans people under 26 who attempt suicide (PACE), the 55% of LGB students who have experienced direct bullying (Stonewall), yet moreover to create safe educational environments free from discrimination. This is the driver and is the problem that can be solved through their interventions.

Their interventions are life changing for young people, teachers and families. A year 10 student recently commented on an event: 'I've never sat in a room full of people before who were all from different walks of life, ages, races, religions, genders and sexual orientations, all supporting and campaigning for the same thing. It made me proud to be part of a collective community who one day will change lives and opinions and will make this world a better place.'

Educate & Celebrate currently have 170 schools who are part of their Best Practice Accredited Award and PRIDE Youth Network Programmes along with 100's of other schools and organizations who access staff training, Continuing Professional Development days, resources, policy guidance, student workshops and consultation.

They are thrilled to be working in partnership with The Fourth Choir and wish everyone a wonderful festive evening. For further information or to access their training, resources and guidance please see [educateandcelebrate.org](http://educateandcelebrate.org) or contact their CEO Dr Elly Barnes MBE at [ellybarnes@educateandcelebrate.org](mailto:ellybarnes@educateandcelebrate.org)



## The Fourth Choir

The Fourth Choir was founded in September 2013 by a group of LGBT+ singers aspiring to sing classical and modern choral works to the highest possible standard. Led by Artistic Director Dominic Ellis-Peckham, our goal is to represent the LGBT+ community in London's world-class classical music scene.

At four years old, the Choir is going from strength to strength. We have performed in many of the city's top cultural venues, including twice at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse at Shakespeare's Globe, Hall One at King's Place, the Royal Festival Hall, the British Museum and the British Library. The Choir has also performed abroad, in Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, at Antwerp's Queer Arts festival and, last summer, in the stunning Palazzo Doria Pamphilj in Rome. In addition to our own charitable aims, we are proud to support other causes. We celebrated the legalisation of same-sex marriages in the UK, appearing on Newsnight and singing at an event in 2014 where Sandi and Debbie Toksvig renewed their vows in front of an audience of thousands.

The choir welcomes experienced singers of all backgrounds and identities. While our members are not all LGBT, we assume that anyone who works with us celebrates diversity and equal rights. To register your interest, visit [thefourthchoir.com](http://thefourthchoir.com).

*The Fourth Choir is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales, number 1156769.*

# A Red, Red Rose

Songs for a Beloved



THE  
FOURTH  
CHOIR

Wheatsheaf Hall, Vauxhall  
Saturday 17 February 2018

Tickets at [www.thefourthchoir.com](http://www.thefourthchoir.com)

## Dominic Ellis-Peckham, Artistic Director

Dominic Ellis-Peckham is regarded as one of the UK's finest young orchestral and choral conductors. A conductor of immense energy and focus, Dominic is renowned for his dedication to the Renaissance and Baroque era, whilst also passionate about the delivery of new works and inspirational collaborations.

In addition to being Artistic Director of The Fourth Choir, Dominic holds an impressive array of posts including Musical Director of The London Oriana Choir, Guest Conductor for The Royal Opera House, Assistant Music Director of The National Youth Choirs of Great Britain, Artistic Director and Founder of iSingUK, Artistic Director of The Ulster Youth Choir and Guest Conductor for Trinity Laban College of Music and Aldeburgh Music.

Other previous positions include Chorus Master for English National Opera (during which Dominic received critical acclaim from The New York Times 'a powerful and accomplished chorus' and The Guardian 'superbly prepared' for the world premiere of Julian Anderson's Thebans.

Always keen to promote and support new music, Dominic has commissioned many new composers and conducted numerous world premieres, notably Alexander Campkin's Unleash The Beauty of Your Eyes with The Fourth Choir, Oliver Searle's Pride, Poverty and Pianos for the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Toby Young's Love and Harmony for The London Mozart Players, and Friday Afternoons for Aldeburgh Music. In 2016 he launched a pioneering commissioning programme for women composers spanning five years, with performances across the world.

### Dates for your diary

Sunday 17 December - London Gay Symphony Orchestra joined by The Fourth Choir, St Giles' Cripplegate Church

Tuesday 9 January - Essential Ella, Jazz Cafe, Camden

Monday 29 January - Holocaust Memorial Event, Harrow Arts Centre

Saturday 17 February - Red Red Rose, Wheatsheaf Hall in Vauxhall

Get details at [thefourthchoir.com](http://thefourthchoir.com)

## The London Gay Symphony Orchestra

The London Gay Symphony Orchestra was founded in May 1996 by a group of friends led by Robin Gordon-Powell, who was the Orchestra's first conductor, to offer a safe and welcoming space where LGBT+ musicians and allies can come together and share their love of orchestral music. Two decades on, the LGSO now performs five full concerts per year, plus a variety of regular and ad-hoc extras. Currently the orchestra plays mostly in London, with concerts regularly held at St Giles-without-Cripplegate in the heart of the city's cultural hub, the Barbican.

Recent highlights for the orchestra were our 20th Anniversary tour to Cologne in 2016, and in the same year reaching the semifinals of the BBC TV series *All Together Now: The Great Orchestra Challenge*, presented by Katie Derham. 2017 saw the LGSO mark its 21st anniversary, which coincided with the 50th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality, with a gala concert at St John's Smith Square, performing the world premiere of *Natural Behaviour* – a work commissioned by the LGSO from award-winning British composer Michael Finnissy, specifically to celebrate both milestones.

Past highlights for the orchestra include being conducted by winner of BBC2's *The Maestro*, Sue Perkins, recording the score to the cult film *Pervirella*, concerts at the Southbank Centre, Cadogan Hall, Milton Court and Brighton Dome, and performing with Simon Callow, Rosalind Plowright, Jimmy Somerville, Petroc Trelawney, and Nina Wadia.

## Akiya Henry

Akiya Henry has an extraordinarily diverse career which includes performing in musical theatre, opera, classical and contemporary drama, physical theatre, animation and film. Her recent theatre credits include *Hermia* in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Bristol Old Vic, *A Sense of an Ending* at Theatre502 in Battersea, *Hello Dolly* and *The Tempest* at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre and *Henry V* and *Much Ado About Nothing* with the RSC in the West End and on Broadway. However, her favourite role so far was playing an eight year-old slave boy in *Coram Boy* at the National Theatre.

LONDON GAY SYMPHONY  
**ORCHESTRA**

**BORODIN**  
Polovtsian Dances

**DAQUIN**  
Les Douze Noels

**BEETHOVEN**  
Symphony No. 9

Christopher Braime  
*conductor*

with  
The Fourth Choir

Geraldine McGreevy  
Jessica Gillingwater  
Christopher Turner  
Henry Grant Kerswell  
*soloists*

7PM Sunday 17th December  
Saint Giles-without-Cripplegate  
Fore Street  
London EC2Y 8DA

advance tickets  
£10 / £8 concession  
on the door  
£12 / £10 concession

**L G S O**

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