



Programme

Handel - Zadok the Priest
Britten – Soirées Musicale
Fauré – Cantique de Jean Racine
Bach - Magnificat (Sicut, Locus est, Gloria)
Rossini - Thieving Magpie
Handel - Messiah (Worthy is the lamb)

**** Interval ****

Berlioz - Roman Carnival
Bach – Christmas Oratorio (Glory to the Lord)
Elgar – Nimrod
Unaccompanied - Glinka - Cherubic Hymn,
Mendelssohn – Lift thine eyes
Rheinberger – Abendlied
Schumann – Finale, Symphony No 3
Bach - B minor Mass (Ossana)
Carol - O Little Town of Bethlehem
Strauss – Radetsky March
Carol - Hark the Herald

Next concert – 26th March, 2012

Instant Verdi Requiem – 20th February, 2012

Barts Academic Festival Choir and Orchestra

BAFCO

Conductor: John Lumley
Leader: Margaret Banwell



1971 - 2011

And here's to another 40 years!

40th Anniversary Concert

Monday, 12th December, 2011

The Great Hall, St Bartholomew's Hospital.



BAFCO had its origins in the choir of Christ Church, Woburn Square where John was organist. The idea of an orchestra came from Michael Salter, head of music at Repton School. Christmas 1971 saw the first performance of the combined

choir and orchestra when they performed Part 1 of Messiah at Christ Church. Christ Church closed two years later and the group took up residence at Barts. The group has variously been named Barts, Festival, Barts Festival, Barts Academic Festival and Hunterian Chorus and Orchestra, but is now known as Barts Academic Festival Chorus and Orchestra ó BAFCO for short. The members come from many walks of life although the venue means that there is a medical bias. We are privileged to have as our home the Great Hall at Barts. It's one of the most beautiful halls in London with its eighteenth century panelling recording donations back to the sixteenth century. The great staircase leading to the hall houses the magnificent mural of *Christ at the Pool of Bethesda*, painted by Hogarth who was a governor of the hospital. The group has performed in the Guildhall, the Merchant Taylor's Hall, Queen Elizabeth II Congress Centre, Royal Festival Hall, Palace of Westminster and many churches around London and in churches in Oxford and Ipswich. There have been tours abroad to Rome, Florence, Eilat in Israel, Istanbul, Prague, Crete, and Lebanon. There has been a bus tour to Northern Europe which included Lyon, Geneva, Gstaad, and another bus tour which took in Normandy, Chartres and Paris,.

None of this would be possible without the singers and players who turn up regularly to rehearse and perform. John our conductor has masterminded the group for the last forty years. Margaret Banwell was introduced to the Orchestra in the early 80's and took over as leader and string fixer when

David, our leader at the time, had to move on. Margaret is actually in charge of the orchestra but don't tell John as he thinks he is! Thanks also go to the brass and woodwind fixers who make sure that every section is as complete as possible for every performance ó not as easy a task as might be imagined.



We have evolved into a pattern of



termly concerts with regular workshops and at

least one "instant "opera and one "instant" oratorio day every year. We also have a concerto



day which has resulted in some outstanding performances, mostly from



players within the orchestra. No singers from the choir have offered to come along and give us a voice and orchestral item while I've been playing

with the orchestra – perhaps that's a challenge one of them might take up for the next concerto day? During the year we raise over £1000 from the concerts and all proceeds go to charity, mainly to Barts Cancer Charity.

There's so much more that could be said but no space to say it - but we have now come up to date and moved into the age of the computer with our own web-site **www.bafco.org** . It's being updated regularly so if you're an ex-member wanting to keep up with the news or travel down memory lane, or if you're interested in joining the choir or if you're just interested, do log on to see what we get up to.