

Morley Choral Fest

FRIDAY, 7TH JULY - 7PM



PROGRAMME

Can't Sing Choir (Tutor: Una McMahon, Leader & Piano: Gina Kruger):

- **Smile** - John Turner and Geoffrey Parsons/ Charles Chaplin
- **Blow the Wind Southerly** - traditional song
- **Sing** - Joe Raposo

Folk Choir at Morley (Leader & Concertina: Kate Portal):

- **Country Life (traditional)** - The singing of the Watsons
- **A-Beggin' I Will Go** - traditional song
- **If I Had a Hammer** - Pete Sieger

Morley Jazz Choir (Leader: Germana La Sorsa, Piano: Chris Lee):

- **Circle Song** - A vocal improvisation
- **Centerpiece** - Harry Edison/ Jon Hendricks
- **Mood Indigo** - Duke Ellington
- **Don't Worry Be Happy** - Bobby McFerrin

INTERVAL (15 mins)

Morley Chamber Choir (Leader: Giannis Giannopoulos):

- **Since my tears and lamenting** - Thomas Morley
- **Ave verum corpus** - William Byrd
- **Virgencita** - Arvo Pärt
- **Yesterday** - John Lennon & Paul McCartney, choral arrangement

The Kenningtones (Leader & Piano: Cerys Hogg):

- **I Love to Love (But My Baby Loves to Dance)** - Jack Robinson / James Bolden
- **Something's Coming** - Leonard Bernstein
- **Up Up and Away** - Jimmy Webb
- **Wichita Lineman** - Jimmy Webb

Meridian Choir (Leader: Benedict Collins-Rice, Piano: Gina Kruger):

- From 'Summer' in The Seasons by Joseph Haydn:

Ach, das Ungewitter naht!

Mädchen, Bursche, Weiber, kommt!

- From 'Porgy and Bess' by George Gershwin:

'Summertime' -choral arrangement

Finale (all choirs, Leader: Cerys Hogg)

- **'I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free'** (Billy Taylor, arr. Cerys Hogg)

BIOGRAPHIES

Una McMahon trained at the Royal Irish Academy of Music and completed her opera training at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She has performed with the chorus of Scottish Opera, Glyndebourne Festival and Glyndebourne on Tour. Her roles include Angelina (La Cenerentola), Rosina (Il Barbiere di Siviglia), Olga (Eugene Onegin), Dorabella (Cosi fan Tutte), and Dorothee (Cendrillon).

In addition to her opera work Una is a concert and recital performer.

Una has been a sectional coach for the Ulster Youth Choir and has been a voice tutor for Morley College for nine years coaching beginners' groups to advanced solo singers.

Gina Kruger won the Fossat Award for Chamber Music whilst studying at RCM, performing in France. Her performance in the National Concert Hall, Dublin was deemed a 'finely turned performance' by the Irish times. Having worked as a vocal coach at Manhattan School of Music/ The Juilliard School, performances in the US/ UK include broadcasts of solo piano works (Messiaen, Beethoven, Schumann). She has played in Merkin Concert Hall, Holywell Music Rooms, Chichester Cathedral and various UK and Croatian music festivals.

Gina is organist at St Mary's Tottenham and director of choirs at All Saints'/ St Augustine's, Highgate, as well as accompanist at Morley College.

Kate Portal has been running the Morley Folk Choir since January this year, covering for the maternity leave of Raphaela Papadakis. She also runs the music class for students with learning disabilities at Morley, and a local drop-in singing group for over 50s based at the Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre SE 1. Kate also belongs to the Inner Vision Orchestra, set up by Baluji Shri Vastav for visually impaired musicians. Kate has had a life-long interest in folk music, and as well as singing, plays various instruments including the Hayden duet concertina and fiddle.

Kate invites you to the Coin Street Community Day tomorrow afternoon, (8th July) at The Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre, 108 Stamford Street SE1 9NH. www.coinstreet.org

Also, She is involved in the Waterloo Festival at St John's Church, 73 Waterloo Road SE1 which runs between Friday 14th-Monday 17th July. Website: www.stjohnswaterloo.org

Italian London-based Jazz Singer and Storyteller **Germana Stella La Sorsa** was inspired to compose new material by moving to the UK in 2017. Her debut album 'Vapour' was released on the London based label 33 Jazz Records, and now available on all major platforms. She's currently working on her second album, due to be released in 2024 with the support of Help Musicians.

After relocating to London, La Sorsa's unique talent was quickly recognised leading to developing her own projects (including JiC_Jazz in Cinema_Project, alongside the english double bass player Joe Boyle) and performances at main London jazz venues, such as the iconic Ronnie Scott's, The Spice of Life, Vortex Jazz Club, Toulouse Lautrec Jazz Club, Oliver's Jazz Bar and Kansas Smitty's.

Besides her singing career, Germana currently teaches singing technique and jazz singing privately and at Morley College (London).

A classically trained pianist, and graduate of the Royal College of Music, London, **Chris Lee** subsequently expanded his musical interests in the direction of jazz and now also works as a composer, arranger and songwriter. He has performed and recorded with some of the leading singers on the London scene, and an album of his arrangements of rock/pop standards, *Second Take*, recorded with Jenny Howe, garnered critical praise from Dave Gelly of the Observer: "To recast well-known tunes in a new idiom is difficult enough, but to come up with such convincing results takes talent and imagination". He has recently completed a song-cycle portraying the fictional detective Kurt Wallander in Swedish author Henning Mankell's Nordic noir crime novels, entitled *A Troubled Man*, in collaboration with singer Mark Jennett.

London-based pianist/conductor, **Giannis Giannopoulos** has been conducting the Morley Chamber Choir since 2020 in numerous concerts and on a wide range of repertoire.

He has given recitals and chamber music concerts in Greece, UK, France, Germany, Russia and a tour in Japan, having also performed with the major orchestras in Greece.

Giannis has been working as a pianist and conductor in the opera in the United Kingdom and abroad, specialising in Mozart and the Italian bel canto. He is also a piano and orchestral conducting tutor in Morley College.

Cerys Hogg is a vocalist, multi-instrumentalist, composer, and music educator whose work includes teaching jazz harmony and improvisation, directing choirs and working with community groups.

Cerys originally studied Fine Art later gaining a scholarship to study on the Post-Graduate Jazz course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama

Cerys is one half of experimental, electronic duo KOGG - a collaboration with composer and fellow Morley tutor Selena Kay. Last year KOGG were commissioned to compose new music for the Aldeburgh Festival. They performed 'Belastica' with the Ligeti Quartet. This year KOGG are appearing at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival.

<https://www.koggmusic.com>

<https://www.ceryshogg.com>

Benedict Collins-Rice held two conducting scholarships at Cambridge University before studying with the heads of conducting at the Royal College of Music, Royal Northern College of Music, Vienna University of Music and Birmingham University where, under Simon Halsey, he gained the course's highest-ever conducting mark.

Benedict is founder and artistic director of The Facade Ensemble, a dynamic group of instrumentalists and singers which specialises in 20th-century chamber music. They are currently Ensemble in Residence at The Courtauld Institute.

He conducts the West Kent County Youth Orchestra, Ipswich Chamber Choir, Bath Bach Choir, Bury Bach Choir, Rose Opera, and Mid Norfolk Singers. In demand as a guest conductor, he has worked with the Berlin Sinfonietta, the Southbank Sinfonia, British Youth Opera, and assisted the BBC Concert Orchestra. This season includes debuts with the St Alban's Symphony Orchestra and Farnborough Symphony Orchestra.

Benedict has performed through Europe and the US (from The Royal Albert Hall to Carnegie Hall), recorded for several labels and Radio 4, worked for BBC and NBC Television, the BFI, and broadcast live on Radio 3.

Are you interested in joining a choir?

No matter what your experience and tastes are, you will find the right choir for you at Morley College!

Check out our dates for the year 23/24 and try one of our first rehearsals without commitment!

Can't Sing Choir:

<https://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/courses/course/cant-sing-choir-2/>

Folk Choir at Morley:

<https://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/courses/course/folk-choir-at-morley-2/>

Jazz Choir:

<https://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/courses/course/jazz-choir-2/>

Morley Chamber Choir:

<https://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/courses/course/morley-chamber-choir-2/>

The Kenningtones:

<https://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/courses/course/the-kenningtones/>

Meridian Choir:

<https://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/courses/course/meridian-choir-2/>

The Morley Opera School presents

OPERA SCENES

13 & 14 July @7.30pm
& 15 July at 12pm

The Bridewell Theatre

14 Bride Lane, London EC4Y 8EQ

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