



University of Kent

# WINTER JOURNEYS, WINTER NIGHTS

A weekend of seasonal musical adventures

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***Winter Journeys,  
Winter Nights:***  
**a weekend of seasonal  
musical adventures**

**COLYER-FERGUSON HALL**

Friday 6 December, 19:30

and

Saturday 7 December, 19:30

**String Sinfonia**

Floriane Peycelon director

**Concert Band**

Ian Swatman director

**Chorus, Symphony Orchestra  
and Cecilian Choir**

Daniel Harding conductor

Welcome aboard two nights of musical revelry, in which the University Chorus, Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band, String Sinfonia and Cecilian Choir come together to take you on magical journeys through snowy landscapes, travelling by sleigh, a magical steam engine, and by the imagination.

The whole weekend launches with Torelli's well-loved seasonal concerto grosso, the 'Christmas Concerto,' and travels via a re-imagining of Vivaldi's 'Winter' from *The Four Seasons* by Max Richter and dancing acrobats from Rimsky-Korsakov's opera, *The Snow Maiden*, to the majesty of the Canadian mountains in the company of Concert Band performing Ralph Ford's scenic *Shannon Falls*.

The second night undertakes a wintry odyssey in the company of Chorus and Orchestra, as they come together in the UK premiere of *Winter Nights*, a magical seasonal cantata by the Canadian composer, Stephanie Martin, who joins us for the performance. Sleigh rides across landscapes by Leopold Mozart and Frederick Delius move us briskly into movements from Tchaikovsky's scintillating ballet-score for *The Nutcracker*, and the entire weekend comes to a cinematic close as we take everyone on board the Polar Express, heading towards the North Pole and the first gift of Christmas for all those who truly believe...

The weekend represents the culmination of all the hard work in this first term from everyone involved, both within the University community as well as members of the local community, from Folkestone to Faversham and from Whitstable to Wye. Extra-curricular music-making here at Kent offers the marvellous opportunity to explore creative projects and come together in weekly rehearsal sessions to develop repertoire and programmes to present to you, the audience, at the end of each term.

But the music doesn't stop there! Next week, the University Big Band unwraps its ever-popular *Christmas Swingalong*, the final event before we all head into a well-deserved break. On behalf of everyone here tonight (and next Wednesday!), thank you for coming to support all our musicians over these several, winter, nights.

**Dan Harding** and **Sophie Meikle**



# Programme

Friday 6 December, 19:30

**String Sinfonia** directed by **Florian Peycelon**

**Concert Band** directed by **Ian Swatman**

**Guiseppe Torelli** *Christmas Concerto Grosso op 8 no 6*

**Guyla Beliczay** *Serenade for strings*

**Jean Sibelius** *Impromptu for strings op 5*

**Max Richter** *Winter 1 – Vivaldi Recomposed*  
(arr. Flo Peycelon)

**Rimsky-Korsakov** 'Dance of the Tumblers' from  
*The Snow Maiden*

## Interval

A scenic odyssey in the company of Concert Band, including:

**Ralph Ford** *Shannon Falls*

**R Vaughan Williams** *Movements from the*  
*English Folk Song Suite*

*A Duke Ellington Selection*



## **FLORIANCE PEYCELON**

### **Director, String Sinfonia**

Floriane Peycelon is a versatile professional musician, accomplished both as a busy freelance violinist and a very experienced teacher. She studied the violin in France, at the Lyon Conservatoire. After completing an MA in Politics and International Relations whilst playing in the Lyon Sinfonietta, Flo decided to make Kent her home. She has been the visiting Violin tutor at the University of Kent and the Musical Director of the University String Sinfonia since 2015. A prominent figure in the musical scene throughout Kent, Flo leads many orchestras and chamber groups throughout the county. As a chamber musician, she leads the Orsay Piano Quartet. Flo has given numerous solo and chamber music recitals in the UK and abroad. She recently performed the Lalo *Symphonie Espagnole* and the Mendelssohn *Violin Concerto* in Canterbury.



## **IAN SWATMAN**

### **Director, Concert Band**

Ian arrived in Canterbury in 1981 and apart from an eight year 'interval,' he has been here ever since.

Following a year at the prestigious National Centre for Orchestral Studies at Goldsmiths College, Ian worked in ballet orchestras, chamber music ensembles, West End productions and, as a member of 'Spats Dillinger and the Buzzing Half Dozen' playing at jazz festivals across Europe.

He has enjoyed considerable success as a teacher with pupils attending leading conservatoires, playing in the National Youth Orchestra and all the county ensembles. He feels eternally lucky to have been a pupil of the legendary clarinettist Jack Brymer. As Head of Performance at St Edmund's School Canterbury he is very proud of the recent award of Independent School of the Year for Performing Arts. Ian also established the 'Festival on the Hill' which combines pupil events with international recognised performers.

## Student feature: Biochemistry student Ricky Chan on musical life at Kent

Thanks to the support of the Barry Wright Legacy, a generous bequest left to the Music department specifically to support international students and their involvement in extra-curricular music, we have welcomed Biochemistry student and cellist Ricky Chan into the musical life of the University. Here, Ricky reflects on what music means to him and the opportunity to get involved.

'I joined the Symphony Orchestra and the String Sinfonia in my second year. I had always been an enthusiastic listener of all types of music, including classical. At school I learned to play the cello and joined the school orchestra. I liked the cello because its range is so similar to that of the human voice, which makes it sound more expressive and rich.

I was thrilled to hear that I can participate in the Orchestra and String Sinfonia through the support of hiring a cello by the Music department. This meant that I could continue my hobby even though I could not bring my instrument which was kept far away at home. I thank Sophie and Dan for this opportunity, enabling me to have an opportunity to do something musical outside of my Biochemistry degree.

Playing in the Orchestra and the String Sinfonia feels challenging but enjoyable. Some memorable highlights last year were the String Sinfonia concert in Folkestone and in Faversham, as well as the annual concert with the University Chorus in Canterbury Cathedral.

I thank Flo Peycelon for bringing so much enthusiasm and life in the String Sinfonia, and Dan Harding for the passion he brings to the Orchestra. I look forward to the rest of my final year with Kent Music Society.'

**Ricky Chan**



# Programme

Saturday 7 December, 19:30

**University Chorus, Orchestra and Cecilian Choir**

**Daniel Harding** conductor

## ***Winter Journeys, Winter Nights***

**Stephanie Martin** *Winter Nights* (UK premiere)

- i *Cold is the night* words anonymous
- ii *Loud Rings the Frozen Earth* words by James Thomson
- iii *Christmas Cattle* words by Cori Martin
- iv *Ring Out Wild Bells* words by Tennyson
- v *Now winter nights enlarge* words by Thomas Campion

## **Interval**

**Delius**

*Sleigh Ride*

**Coleridge-Taylor**

*Forest of Wild Thyme*  
(Christmas Overture)

**Prokofiev**

'Troika' from *Lieutenant Kijé*

**Leopold Mozart**

*Sleigh Ride*

**Tchaikovsky**

Movements from *The Nutcracker Suite*

i *March*

ii *Chinese Dance*

iii *Dance of the Reed-pipes*

iv *Trepak*

**Alan Silvestri**

*Polar Express* concert suite



# Stephanie Martin

## *Winter Nights*

Tonight's concert opens with the UK premiere of the wonderfully-evocative *Winter Nights*, a seasonal cantata for choir, strings and percussion by Canadian composer and conductor, Stephanie Martin.

From the opening 'Cold is the night,' which conjures a suitably wintry scene with sparse harmonies and textures, the piece sets five contrasting poems; ranging across icy landscapes in the strident 'Loud rings the frozen earth,' evoking the bitter season with restless, rumbling *timpani* and brittle percussion, whilst a trio of soloists ushers in Winter 'Sullen, and sad, with all his rising Train;' to the reflective closing movement setting 'Now winter nights enlarge.' The third movement explores the magic and mystery of Christmas Eve, and Hardy's legend of the animals: 'Could it be true, old Thomas Hardy's tale / At midnight, Christmas Eve / The oxen kneel to Bethlehem,' in a poem by Cori Martin that depicts a real episode, where poet and composer went into the barn on the family farm at that very moment to see if the legend were true; 'Our parents slept / We kept a vigil 'till the magic hour / then crept outside across the glitt'ring, frozen snow to see this vision promised long ago.'

Tennyson's 'Ring out, wild bells' draws an energetic response, with the choir dancing nimbly at 'Ring out the old, ring in the new,' and then moving in more stately, ceremonial fashion at the chorale-like 'Ring in the valiant man and free.' The last movement unfurls Campion's 'Now winter nights enlarge' with subtle drama, before lurching in delightfully drunken fashion as the choir sings 'Let now the chimneys blaze / And cups o'erflow with wine.' The vibrant colours come to a pastoral close with the hymn-like 'The summer hath his joys / And winter his delights,' ending with a marvellous 'English cadence' at 'Let well-tuned words amaze with harmony divine.' The whole cantata captures the full range of the season's contrasts - its warmth, magic, wonder, jollity, bitterness, wildness, and revelry - bringing the different scenes to vivid life with a vibrant energy.

We are delighted to welcome the composer amongst tonight's audience.

**The second half of tonight's programme** features an array of well-known tunes; Prokofiev's fast-paced 'Troika' sleigh-ride from the film *Lieutenant Kije*; Coleridge-Taylor's 'Christmas Overture' employing orchestral variations on 'Good King Wenceslas' and 'Hark the herald angels sing;' movements from Tchaikovsky's glittering suite drawn from music for ballet, *The Nutcracker*; and two slightly less familiar (but no less enthusiastically seasonal!) sleigh-rides from Leopold Mozart, father of Wolfgang, and Frederick Delius; all coming to a gloriously cinematic finale in the concert-suite from the film *Polar Express*, in which we invite you to climb aboard the magical steam-train that appears on Christmas Eve, transporting us to the North Pole to witness the first gift-giving at Christmastime by Santa Claus.

Hold tight – here we go!





## Dan Harding conductor

A former Music Scholar at Lancing College, Daniel read Music at York University, specialising in French piano repertoire. He was awarded a Major Research Fellowship in Conducting, after conducting Britten's first operetta, *Paul Bunyan*, working with Donald Mitchell, and Kurt Weill's *The Seven Deadly Sins*, as well as works by Mahler and Dvorak, as an undergraduate.

During his post-graduate studies, he went on to conduct the University Symphony and Chamber Orchestras, the University Choir and Chamber Choir, as well as various New Music ensembles. He also founded the Early Classical Orchestra, focusing on historically-informed performances from the period. He also conducted Steve Reich's *Tehillim* on the Contemporary Music Studies course at Bretton Hall College, Wakefield. Other roles have included Director of the Senior and Junior Choirs at York Minster Songschool, and a Lecturer in Music for ten years in Further Education.

As Head of Music Performance at the University of Kent, Dan conducts University Chorus, Symphony Orchestra, the Cecilian Choir, Minerva Voices, and (when the line-up permits), *General Harding's Tomfoolery*, a twelve-piece dance-band performing from original scores from the 1930's and 40's. Finding performing opportunities for students, staff and members of the local community takes Dan and University musicians into venues from Faversham to Wye, including singing Choral Evensong at Canterbury Cathedral and performances in the Cathedral Nave and Crypt. He also accompanies Music Scholars in recitals in Colyer-Fergusson Hall; together with the Music Administrator, he also curates the Lunchtime Concert series, a monthly series bringing professional musicians to the campus to perform and to work with students. Recent performances include Fauré's *Requiem*, Brahms Symphony no.4, Mendelssohn's *Die erste Walpurgisnacht*, Tchaikovsky's suite to *Swan Lake*, Haydn's *Nelson Mass*, Shostakovich Symphony no.8, and Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*, as well as the first performance of Russell Hepplewhite's *Magnificat*, commissioned by the Music department in 2023.



## **Stephanie Martin**

Canadian composer and conductor Stephanie Martin is associate professor of music at York University's School of the Arts, Media, Performance, and Design. She directs Schola Magdalena, a women's ensemble for chant, medieval and modern music. She is conductor emeritus of Pax Christi Chorale, and past director of music at the historic church of Saint Mary Magdalene in Toronto.

An accomplished composer of works for both voices and instruments, Martin's awards include the York University AMPD research award (2019), the Exultate Chamber Singers' competition (2009), and the Association of Anglican Musicians competition (2010). She became an associate of the Canadian Music Centre in 2011, and was composer in residence for the Barrie Music Festival (2012). She accompanied Mosaic choir as resident composer on their tour to Israel (2019). Producing in the booth, or performing for the mics, Stephanie has recorded with many ensembles on the Naxos, Marquis and Dorian labels.

## STRING SINFONIA

### Violin I

Emily Su  
Rae Sembrano  
Gvantsa Gvadzabia

### Violin II

David Glover  
Emily Henningsen  
Millie Gibbins  
Luke Simpson  
Maya Shalita

### Viola

Ronja Haller  
Sara Thorpe

### Cello

Lily Taylor  
Simon Kristensson  
Ricky Chan  
Tabitha Dobson  
Rachel Waltham

### Double bass

George Doubtfire  
Sophie Meikle

### Piano

Ida Bright



## CONCERT BAND

### Flutes

Louisa Gardner  
Heather Harrow  
Molly Holmes  
Emma Jeffree  
Florence Kingdon  
Micah Leon  
Melissa Munday  
Oceanne  
Ryckembeusch-  
Todd  
Juliette Sonnet

### Oboes

Helen Isom  
Ashanti Proctor

### Clarinets

Polly Feeney  
Annabel Fulcher  
Katie Glover  
Alessandro Logioia  
Shalid Mohamed  
Holly Porton  
Rebecca Smith  
Sophie Spillett

### Bass clarinet

James Ingham

### Alto saxophones

Meg Daniel  
Eleanor Carlyon

### Tenor saxophones

Adam Rose

### Baritone saxophone

Andy Friday

### French horns

Deni Celestine  
Jack Fitzgerald  
Helen Knight  
Vanisha Marcelene

### Trumpets

Oscar Bray  
Steve Castle  
Kevin Dickens  
Blake Kent  
Kevin Wang

### Trombones

Rob Bailey-Cliff  
Andrew Cuthbert  
Oli McGinnes  
Zoë-Asia Ravalier

### Tuba

Emily Higgs  
Steve Wassell

### Bass

George Doubtfire

### Drums

Matt Raymond

### Piano

Ida Bright  
Ronja Haller

### Percussion

Lizzy Swinford



## CHORUS

### Repetiteur

Matthew Raisbeck

### Sopranos

Paula Bell

Vritika Bhunjun

Lyndall Bywater and  
Venus

Rosemary Cane

Sonia Copeland  
Bloom

Sara Davies

Gema de Castro  
Santos

Jamie Dratz

Maddy Duffek

Lucy Fernando

Judi Gladman

Tayla Hodgson

Amy Howard

Lea Kamitz

Elizabeth Knell-  
Taylor

Anna-Lena Köhler

Florence Kingdon

Ginny Lingwood

Alison McLeod

Sheila McNaught

Catharine Masters

Helen Matthews

Sandy Monaghan

Deborah Monje-Jelfs

Emily Neighbour

Ashanti Proctor

Isobel Reed

Sally Robinson

Penelope Schofield

Amanda Schott

Eleftheria Skrika-  
Alexopoulos

Louisa Steinrücke

Ellen Swift

Julie Teulings

Kathryn Thomas

Denise Twomey

Jamie Voller

Virginia Webb

### Altos

Helen Alaszewski

Nicola Allen

Halle Berry-Brown

Jill Bland

Christine Bilyard

Lottie Bond

Stephanie Brunton

Gill Burton

Louise Carter

Pru Cherry

Alison Coles

Jane Drouot

Linda Genower

Amilia Gillies

Tiffany Gillies

Svenja Glaß

Stephanie Green

Carol Hall

Cassie Haughton-  
James

Sarah Holliday

Sue Hopkinson

Ann Jurgan

Sue Kerr

Mio Kimura

Mags Korczak

Micah Leon

Amanda Martin

Callie Milton

Valerie Moffit

Jan Pahl

Adriana Perera

Lucy Pitfield

Valerija Rojenko

Mandy Sharman

Sheila Smith

Abigail Suewing

Alison Swatman

Gigi Tate-Gargour

Liz Thompson

Rudy Todd

Hannah Tudor

Rennie Voegel

Ros Waltho

Joyce Wilson

### Tenors

John Cook

Israel Mensah

Simon Myers

David Ormrod

Vitalijs Strelcuks

Guy Wiggans

## CHORUS (cont)

### Basses

Alexander Akiode  
John Allen  
Michael Bartley  
Chris Brealy  
Phil Bywater  
Roshan Dosanjh  
Freddie Fallon  
Jack Fitzgerald  
Michael Forrester  
David Glover  
Keith Lampard  
Charles Lord  
Edward Mundy  
Julian Waltho  
Kevin White

### Solo trio in

#### *Winter Nights*

Leonie Carrette  
Rachel Fung  
Florence Kingdon

## CECILIAN CHOIR

### Soprano

Emily Higgs  
Lea Kamitz  
Florence Kingdon  
Ramya Madduri  
Jo Pearsall  
Amanda Schott  
Eleftheria Skrika-  
Alexopoulos  
Valerie Wicker

### Alto

Halle Berry-Brown  
Sara Davies  
Rachel Fung  
Svenja Glass  
Gigi Tate-Gargour

### Tenor

Callum Hunter  
Nikhil Sengupta  
Guy Wiggans

### Bass

Roshan Dosanjh  
David Glover  
Morgan Goodall  
John Moore

## SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

### **Violin I**

Jo Saul (leader)  
Gvantsa Gvadzabia  
Felicity Haslett  
Louise Naylor  
Mick Norman  
Jo Pearsall  
Rae Sembrano  
Guy Wiggans

### **Violin II**

David Glover \*  
Georgina Downie  
Millie Gibbins  
Emily Henningsen  
Holly Porton  
Luke Simpson

### **Viola**

Sara Thorpe\*  
Jacob Bride  
Ivan Illingworth  
Emily Sayers

### **Cello**

Emma Whitehead \*  
Rebecca Beaumont  
Ricky Chan  
Simon Kristensson  
Lily Taylor  
Julia Vorhalik

### **Double bass**

George Doubtfire \*  
Adam Beaman  
Sophie Meikle  
Frederick Nicholls

### **Flute**

Katie Hinton  
Anna Beuerman

### **Piccolo**

Daniel Robson

### **Oboe**

Dan Lloyd  
Rishi Gunaratnam  
Ashanti Proctor

### **Clarinet**

Ian Swatman  
Annabel Fulcher

### **Bassoon**

Ben Exel

### **French horn**

Helen Knight  
Vanisha Marcelene  
Katrina Lauder

### **Trumpet**

Chi Ting Lam  
Jonathan Harris-  
Harding  
Rebecca Walkley

### **Trombone**

Geoff Mason  
Colin Reid

### **Tuba**

Emily Higgs

### **Timpani**

Chris Murrell

### **Percussion**

Molly Hollman  
Anna Jurgan

### **Flute choir**

Anna Beuerman  
Katie Hinton  
Hannah Lim  
Micah Leon  
Océanne  
Ryckembeusch-  
Todd  
Juliette Sonnet  
Emma Jeffree  
Chloe Connolly

\*denotes section leader

# University of Kent Music

gratefully acknowledges the support of the following individuals, friends, trusts and foundations and companies:

## **Lifetime Benefactors**

Sir James Colyer-Fergusson  
Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust  
The late David Humphries

## **Benefactors**

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Professor Clare Ungerson

## **Legacy Bequests**

Cynthia Hawes  
Carol Mary Vinson  
Barry Wright

and for the donation in memory of the late alumna, Ed Tyler, to establish the E H Tyler Fund in support of flute-playing and general music performance activities.

We also remain grateful to all those who have planned to remember the University of Kent Music in their will and are very grateful for the support of our many anonymous benefactors.



University of Kent  
**THE COLYER-FERGUSSON  
CONCERT: CHORUS AND  
ORCHESTRA**

Saturday 15 March, 19:30  
The Nave, Canterbury Cathedral

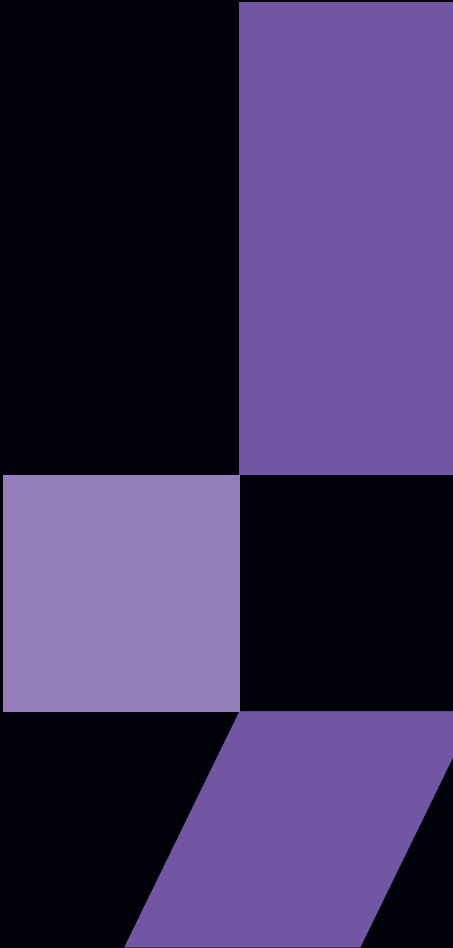
Daniel Harding conductor

Ola Gjeilo *Sunrise Mass*

Bizet Symphony in C major

Gjeilo's cinematic mass setting charting a spiritual odyssey from the stars to the earth, alongside Bizet's sparkingly youthful symphony.

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