

CHRISTMAS ON FIFTH AVENUE

THE BOYS OF THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR



Bridget Kibbey, *Harp*
Nicolas Haigh, *Organ*
Jeremy Filsell, *Conductor*

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

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CONCERTS *at* SAINT THOMAS

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*
Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *The Nancy B. & John B. Hoffmann Organist and Director of Music*
Mr. Christopher Seeley, *Head of School*
The Saint Thomas Choir School

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024 AT 12 P.M.

A Ceremony of Carols, Op. 28

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

- i. Procession - "Hodie Christus natus est"
- ii. Wolcum Yole!
- iii. There is no rose
- iv. That yongë child
- v. Balulalow
- vi. As Dew in Aprille
- vii. This Little Babe
- viii. Interlude
- ix. In Freezing Winter Night
- x. Spring Carol
- xi. Deo gracias - Adam lay i-bounden
- xii. Recession - "Hodie Christus natus est"

Puer Nobis Nascitur

Pierre Dandrien
(1664-1733)

Nicolas Haigh and Maks Adach, *organ*

Magnificat, from "Christmas Oratorio"

Calvin Hampton
(1938-1984)

Kommst du nun, Jesu, vom Himmel herunter, BWV 650 *J.S. Bach*
(1685-1750)

Little Lamb, who made thee?

William B. Roberts
(b. 1947)

A Song of Wisdom

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

BRIDGET KIBBEY, *Harp*

Extraordinary harpist Bridget Kibbey is in demand for her virtuosic and soulful performances that transcend her instrument. From concerti appearances to unique collaborations with today's top artists, "...*she makes it seem as though her instrument had been waiting all its life to explode with the energetic figures and colors she was getting from it* [New York Times]." Most recently, Kibbey performed in duo with Soprano Kathleen Battle for her remarkable return to the Metropolitan Opera Main Stage, toured works of Debussy, Caplet, and Ravel in festivals across the United States, and was an Artist In Focus for The Schubert Club (Minneapolis)—bringing three of her own produced touring projects to venues across the city. Last season Kibbey released her newest solo record, "Crossing the Ocean" with Pentatone Records – a set of newly-commissioned solo works by composers hailings from seven countries, to great critical acclaim. Kibbey is a winner of a prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, Premiere Prix at the Journées de les Harpes Compétition, made her NPR Tiny Desk Solo Debut, and is the only harpist to win a place in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Bowers Program. She has appeared as concerto soloist with Orchestras across the United States, Europe, and Middle East.

NICOLAS HAIGH, *Organ*

Nicolas Haigh serves as Associate Organist at Saint Thomas Church in New York City where he appears regularly with the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Originally from the United Kingdom, Nicolas previously held positions with the multiple Gramophone Award-winning Choir of New College, Oxford, and York Minster. He is a recipient of the coveted Limpus Prize from the Royal College of Organists and held the Sir William McKie Organ Scholarship at Clare College, Cambridge. Active as a historical keyboardist, continuo performer, and conductor, Nicolas appears regularly with American Bach Soloists, Oxford Bach Soloists, and Bach Akademie Charlotte. He is also the co-founder of early music consort L'Académie du Roi Soleil with which he has performed throughout the United States and the United Kingdom. Nicolas has been privileged to perform as both a soloist and accompanist to countries including Australia, France, Italy, Hong Kong, The Netherlands, and Israel. He can be heard on numerous recordings including *Veni Emmanuel* and *Imogen Holst: Choral Works* (Harmonia Mundi USA) and has performed frequently on radio (BBC Radio 3 and BBC Radio 4). Nicolas' teachers have included Malcolm Archer, Clive Driskill-Smith, James McVinnie, and Jonathan Moyer.

JEREMY FILSELL, *Conductor*

Jeremy Filsell is one of only a few virtuoso performers as both a pianist and organist. He has appeared as a solo pianist in Russia, Scandinavia, New Zealand and Australia and throughout the USA and UK. His concerto repertoire encompasses Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Shostakovich, John Ireland, and the Rachmaninov cycle. He has recorded the piano music of Herbert Howells, Bernard Stevens, Eugène Goossens and Johann Christoph Eschmann, and recent releases have included albums of Rachmaninov's piano music, that of Francis Pott, and the first and second Rachmaninov Concertos. Jeremy is on the international roster of Steinway Artists and has recorded for BBC Radio 3, USA, and Scandinavian radio networks in solo and concerto roles. His discography comprises more than 35 solo recordings as both pianist and organist, and as a solo artist he has toured across the USA and UK, in Germany, France, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Australia and New Zealand. In North America, he concertizes

under the auspices of Philip Truckenbrod Concert Artists. Jeremy Filsell studied first as an Organ Scholar at Oxford University, then as a pianist at the Royal College of Music in London, and gained a PhD in Musicology from Birmingham City University. Before moving to the USA in 2008, he held Academic and Performance lectureships at the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal Northern College of Music, and was a lay clerk in the Queen’s choir at St. George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle. In the US, he has served programs at the Church of the Epiphany, and the National Cathedral in Washington DC, and was Professor of Organ at Peabody Conservatory, before moving to New York in 2019 to become Organist & Director of Music at Saint Thomas, Fifth Avenue.

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

Saint Thomas Choir School is home to the treble choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. The small student-to-staff ratio ensures that the needs and well-being of the boys are at the forefront, and the focus on music ensures that boys with a passion for singing can grow in extraordinary ways. At Saint Thomas, full-time staff members live at the school, some raising families alongside students and sharing in the many routines of daily life—family-style meals, afternoon sports and recreation, bedtime snacks and books. Staff nurture and guide the students, helping them grow into young men who exhibit poise, presence, and a deep sense of serving the community. Students’ families are welcomed into the heart of the choir school and find kinship among other parents and siblings who share this unique and life-changing experience. Through their central role in a professional choir, the boys learn such skills as discipline, responsibility, hard work, and teamwork that carry over into the broader curriculum. Beyond academics, students partake of all that the city and school can offer. From skating in Central Park or catching a Yankees game, to attending an opera at the Met or ringing the opening bell on the stock exchange, the boys embark on adventures both ordinary and extraordinary. They are invited to perform at some of the most renowned venues around the world. These experiences prepare choristers for a meaningful and rewarding journey through adolescence and beyond, regardless of their professional goals. Do you know a boy who loves to sing? Contact us to learn more about our Choir School.

THE BOYS OF THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR

Edric Baty	Jacob Hwang	Julian Moreno
Julian Calemмо	Jayden Hwang	Aiden Park
Bakore Camara ¹	Royce Jung ⁴	William Park
Daniel Conrado	Ian Kim ⁶	Emrys Pengelly
Andrew Guyer	Allan Lee	Dominic Scarozza ⁸
Rocco Halvey ⁵	Arthur Li ²	Joshua Shin ⁷
Ephrem Henthorn	Henry Mohan	Arthur Stowe ³

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| 1. The Ogden Northrop Lewis, Jr. Choristership | 5. The Richard Heschke Choristership |
| 2. The Francis S. Falconer Choristership | 6. The T. Tertius Noble Centennial Choristership |
| 3. The John G. Scott Memorial Choristership | 7. The William C. Stubing and Ronald L. Thomas Choristership |
| 4. The James L. Tuohy MD Choristership | 8. The Rev. Charles Wallace Choristership |

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