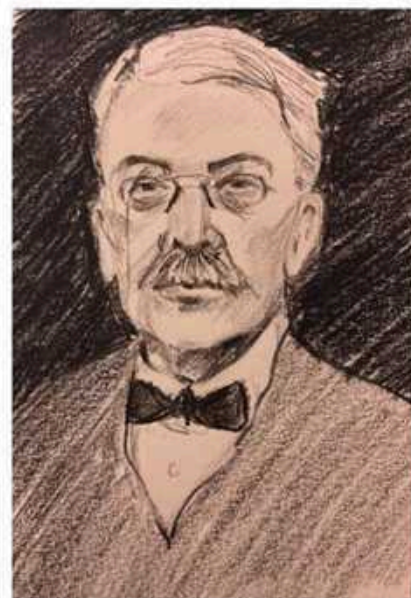


Cuore Chamber Choir

Conducted by Amy Ryan

Stanford 100: Music for Choir and Organ with Siobhán Kilkelly (organ)

Bloomsday, Sunday 16th June 2024 @ 4pm



Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Programme

Evening Service in C major (Op. 115):

Magnificat and *Nunc Dimittis*

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Three Latin Motets (Op. 38):

Justorum animae

Coelos ascendit hodie

Beati quorum via

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Postlude in D minor (Op. 105, No. 6)

Intermezzo on an Irish Air (Op. 189, No. 4)

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Sweet Innisfallen (Irish premiere)

The Bluebird (Op. 119, No. 3)

For Lo I Raise Up (Op. 145)

Welcome to our *Stanford 100* concert in the historic and atmospheric surroundings of Saint Stephen's Church (more popularly known as the Pepper Canister). In commemoration of the 100-year anniversary of Stanford's death, we perform a selection of his choral and organ works. It is particularly apt that we are performing in Stanford's childhood parish church where he was a boy chorister, beside 2 Herbert St., where he was born! We now invite you to sit back and enjoy this musical celebration.

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Cuore Chamber Choir is an internationally award-winning chamber choir based in Dublin. We sing challenging and rewarding music in a friendly but committed environment with a wide range of ages and nationalities. Founded by conductor Amy Ryan in 2014, Cuore has consistently achieved high standards at festivals in Ireland and abroad. In May of this year, Cuore achieved a Gold Rating at the 6th International Choral Competition *Ave Verum* in Baden bei Wein, Austria. At the 17th International Choir Festival "Tallinn 2023", they were awarded 2nd prize in Chamber Choirs, 2nd prize in Contemporary and a special prize for best performance of the obligatory contemporary piece. They were awarded 1st prize in Mixed Voice, 1st prize in Corn Hardebec and a special prize for best performance of a modern Irish language piece at Dublin's Feis Ceoil in March 2023. In the Fleischmann International Trophy Competition at Cork Choral Festival in 2022 they were awarded a special prize for best performance of a contemporary Irish piece. At Cork in 2018, the choir was awarded 1st in Mixed Voice, 2nd in Ireland's Choir of the Year, plus special prizes for best performance by a chamber choir and of a contemporary Irish piece. Other 1st prizes include Mayo (2016), Sligo (2016) and New Ross (2015).

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Amy Ryan is a conductor, performer and educator from Killarney. She currently lectures at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, and previously at Trinity College Dublin. As a conductor, Amy founded Cuore Chamber Choir, leading them to first prizes at all the major choral competitions in Ireland. Artistic Director of UCD Philharmonic Choir since 2014, she has also taught conducting at UCD, and has guested with UCD Symphony Orchestra on multiple occasions. Amy also directs the professional church choir here at St Stephen's Church, and has worked as chorus director with Irish National Opera, Blackwater Valley Opera Festival, North Dublin Opera, and Lyric Opera chorus. She has studied conducting with Peter Erdei, Dr László Nemes, Robert Houlihan, Alice Farnham, Simon Carrington, Alan Cutts and Volker Hempfling. She completed postgraduate studies with distinction at the Kodály Institute of the Liszt Academy of Music, Hungary, following her undergraduate studies at MTU Cork School of Music. Amy was Chairperson of Kodály Ireland from 2018-2022, directing their annual summer course. She was appointed to the board of Sing Ireland in December 2022.

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Siobhán Kilkelly's career in organ was encouraged when, as a pupil of John Dexter in St Patrick's Cathedral Dublin, she became organ scholar. She later took the same post in Trinity College and continued further studies with Peter Sweeney in the College of Music. She holds an FTCL diploma in organ performance and a Masters in Organ (Performance) from DIT, specialising in nineteenth-century French organ music under the guidance of renowned Dutch organist Ben van Oosten. Today she combines her post as lecturer in piano in TU Dublin Conservatoire with that of freelance organist, and regularly collaborates with choirs and instrumentalists. She performs as a duo with flautist Ciarán O'Connell and together they have explored a wide range of repertoire and uncovered exciting contemporary music for flute and organ. This has led to many concerts throughout Ireland, in particular Dublin, Tullamore, Dún Laoghaire, Galway and Limerick, all as part of organ recital series. As a soloist Siobhán has performed recently in St. Fin Barres's Cathedral, Cork and Sandford Church in Dublin. Collaboration with Irish harpists Grainne Hambly and Anne-Marie O'Farrell resulted in a commissioned work from Anne-Marie for Irish Harp and Organ, *Airs and Grace Notes*. Siobhan is also organist here in St Stephen's Church.

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We are grateful to Caitriona Shaffrey for the poster artwork, and to David Anderson for uncovering and publishing his edition of Stanford's choral setting of *Sweet Innisfallen*, which we believe is an Irish premiere.