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## New London Children's Choir

Launched by Ronald Corp OBE in 1991, the New London Children's Choir offers a unique opportunity for girls and boys aged between 7 and 18 to learn to sing and to enjoy all kinds of music. Members are drawn from schools from all over London and beyond, brought together by their love of singing. The children are offered extraordinary performance opportunities. The Choir has appeared in all the major London concert halls with some of the world's finest symphony orchestras and conductors, has collaborated with opera companies in the UK and abroad, and has made dozens of recordings and broadcasts. The choir enjoys a wide variety of music making including touring with Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, and numerous charity events. In 2013 the choir appeared at the Aldeburgh Festival performing Britten's *Friday Afternoons* in his centenary year, as well as a set of new commissions for children's voices. The choir also features on the soundtrack of the 2015 Disney film, *Cinderella* and performed at the 2017 BBC Proms. From the beginning the choir has commissioned new works for children's voices. A recent concert celebrating the choir's 25th anniversary featured six new works written especially for the occasion, including *Panis Angelicus* by Sir Karl Jenkins.

## Musical Director

Ronald Corp OBE, composer and conductor, founded the New London Children's Choir in 1991 and his work with young musicians remains a significant and important part of his musical life. He is also founder and Musical Director of the New London Orchestra and Musical Director of the London Chorus and the Highgate Choral Society. With the New London Orchestra he has recorded a number of award winning CDs for Hyperion. He has written an extensive body of works including the cantatas *And all the trumpets sounded*, *Laudamus*, *Mary's Song*, *Adonai Echad*, *A New Song* and *The Hound of Heaven* as well as works for unaccompanied choir (*Dhammapada*, *Things I didn't say*). His instrumental compositions include a symphony, concertos for piano and for cello, three string quartets (number one titled 'The Bustard') and a clarinet quintet ('Crawhall'). His work for children's voices include the opera *The Ice Mountain*. He has written over one hundred songs and recent cycles include *Songs of the Elder Sisters*, *Fields of the fallen*, *Dawn on the Somme* and *Letters from Lony*. Many of his works are recorded on CD.

## Alexander Wells (piano)

Alexander Wells has a varied career as an accompanist to singers and instrumentalists. His early teachers and mentors included the 90-year-old Leonie Gombrich (a friend of Mahler in her youth), Fanny Waterman and Benjamin Britten. After a Russian degree at Cambridge, he studied at the Royal College of Music with Stephen Savage and Alasdair Graham, and later spent a year as a trainee repetiteur at the National Opera Studio. He has worked on the music staff of many opera companies, including Covent Garden and ENO, at Glyndebourne, Wexford and the Aldeburgh

Festival, and for several years with Almeida Opera, where he was involved in the premieres of significant new works such as Thomas Adès' *Powder Her Face*. As pianist of the New London Children's Choir since its foundation he has made a number of recordings and broadcasts, and has appeared at the Aldeburgh Festival, the BBC Proms and London's South Bank. He is also the regular accompanist of the London Chorus and Highgate Choral Society, and plays for choirs and singers at the Centre for Young Musicians. Recent opera work has included Susie Self's *The Butt* (based on Will Self's novel of that name) in Vienna in 2016; and he is currently working with Susie on her new opera, *Quilt song*, to be premiered in Birmingham this October.

## **N10 choir**

The N10 Choir was formed in May 2014 by Musical Director, Lazina Gheyselinck. As the name suggests, the Choir is based in Muswell Hill, N10, where it regularly performs at eight homes for the elderly and disabled children. It also raises money for local and international charities through a diverse programme of concerts at St. Peter-Le-Poer Church. The N10 Choir consists of around twenty members of mixed ages, backgrounds and nationalities.

## **Musical Director**

Lazina Gheyselinck read music at Trinity College, Dublin, before training to be a teacher at Cambridge University and subsequently a music therapist at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She has worked in Italy, Nepal, the UK and Ireland in a variety of capacities from music teacher and therapist to choral conductor. Lazina currently works for North London Colourstrings and is organist and Director of Music at St. Peter-le-Poer Church. Lazina has enjoyed many years of singing in choirs across Europe including Christ's College Choir (Cambridge), Trinity College Singers (Dublin), the Torino Vocal Ensemble (Turin), the Coro Note Blu di San Ponziano (Rome), the Joyful Company of Singers (London) and the Crouch End Festival Chorus (London). Whilst living in Ireland she conducted Trinity College Singers and in Rome, the Castelli International Singers.