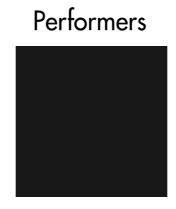


# Spoken Word:

Tonight's programme is interspersed with performances of poetry. They are all centred around our portrayal of Heaven and Earth.



# Poems and Speeches:

Address to the U.N.'s Climate Action Summit. Climate activist Greta Thunberg, 16, addressed the U.N.'s Climate Action Summit in New York City. This is an abridged section of Thunberg's speech, beginning with her response to a question about the message she has for world leaders.

Spring by
Star Gazer by
The WaterFall by



Scan the above QR code to read the speech and poems

# Message from the Director of Music



Welcome to our concert; an evening where we explore music whose influence originates in the beauty and wonder of the natural world, and in what lies beyond. Tonight, we will be showcasing our most senior large ensembles and choirs: Symphony, and Chamber Orchestras, Chorale, Chapel Choirs, Senior Woodwind, Brass and Percussion Ensemble, and Clarino Brass.

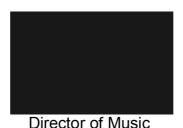
#### A note on the repertoire tonight:

Our hope is that tonight's concert will help bring us together to understand what the natural environment means to us, and its importance. Heaven/Earth has given us a focal point for our efforts to work more sustainably and we believe that we must all make changes to protect and nurture our powerful, and delicate planet.

This evening's concert is the product of a huge amount of work from pupils, staff and parents. My sincere thanks go to:



I do hope that you enjoy this concert inspired by our beautiful and precious planet.



"We will not let you get away with this. Right here, right now is where we draw the line. The world is waking up. And change is coming, whether you like it or not."

# <u>Programme</u>

Earth

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND CHORALE

- Conductor

'Nocturne' from Piano Concerto No.1

1810 - 1849

A. Vivaldi

1678 - 1741

F. Chopin

H. Zimmer

1957 -

- piano

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

'Spring' from The Four Seasons

- Conductor

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - Conductor

- violin,

l- viola

Quiet City

Soloists:

Soloist:

A. Copland 1900 - 1990

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Soloists: - trumpet, - cor anglais

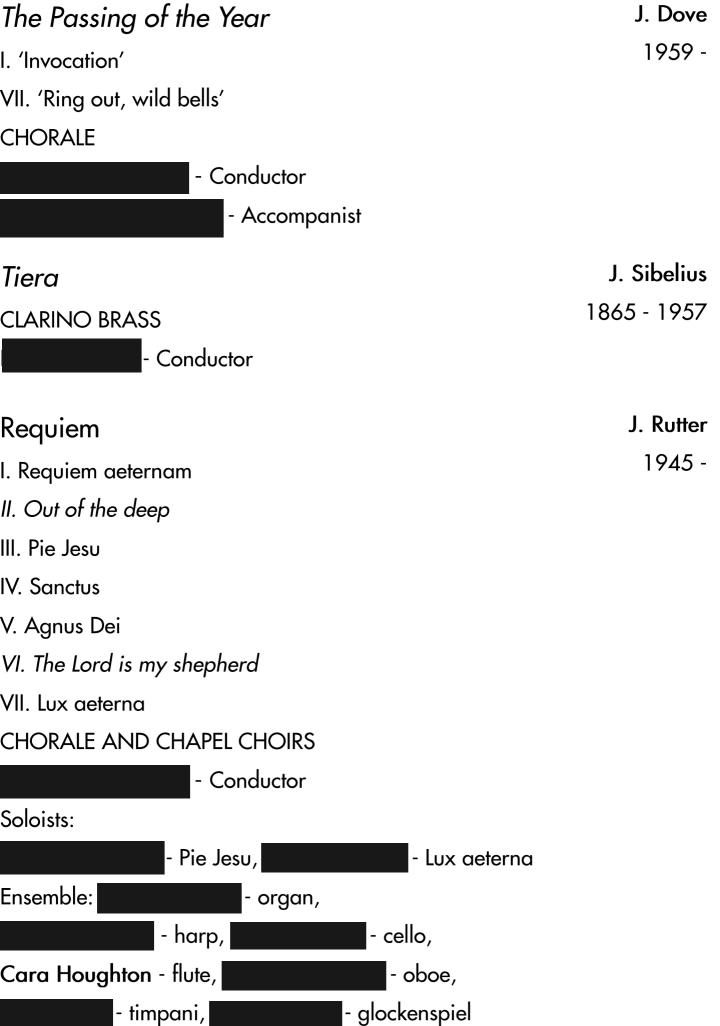
- Conductor

'Jupiter' from *The Planets* 

SENIOR WIND, BRASS AND PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

G. Holst 1874 - 1934

- Conductor \*Interval\* Arr. S. King



H. Zimmer (1957 - )

### SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND CHORALE

- Conductor

With a portfolio of over 150 films, Hans Zimmer has had an undeniable impact on the field of composition for screen. *Earth* was composed as a stand-alone piece, though it is easy to visualise the sweeping shots of colourful landscapes as Zimmer set out to capture the majesty and beauty of our home, as if seen from space.

His works are instantly recognisable for their epic lines and goosebump-inducing harmonies, using the sound of the choir to inject 'breath' into the music. A gentle glimpse of the melody can be heard by the french horn in the opening, which develops into a triumphant theme underpinned by the driving heartbeat of the percussion section.

## 'Nocturne'

F. Chopin (1810 - 1849)

From Piano Concerto No.1

#### SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Soloist - - piano

The central movement to Chopin's first piano concerto demonstrates the composer's remarkable ability to enrich simple melodies with romantic ornamentation, allowing the instrument to sing whilst maintaining an element of intimacy.

The composer preferred smaller settings to share his music, being less interested in creating music for large orchestras and concert halls. Typically, concertos of this period would contain more of a balanced dialogue between the orchestra and soloist, but Chopin chose to use the strings to provide a silvery backdrop for the soloist, never intruding on the pianist's spotlight.

As Chopin wrote to a friend:

"[this movement] is intended to convey the impression that one receives when the eye rests on a beloved landscape that calls up in one's soul beautiful memories - for instance, on a fine, moonlit spring night."

From The Four Seasons

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

- Conductor

Soloists - violin, viola

The Four Seasons is based on four poems written by the composer himself, with Spring transporting us to the realm of nature's renewal. Vivaldi's use of descriptive elements such as bird calls and flowing brooks demonstrates his innovative approach to programmatic music, with contrasting musical ideas highlighting different elements of the season.

Vivaldi's mastery of the violin can be heard in the virtuosic lines written for the instruments, and as a result cemented him as one of the greatest composers of

### I. Allegro--

Festive Spring has arrived,
The birds salute it with their happy song.
And the brooks, caressed by little Zephyrs,
Flow with a sweet murmur.
The sky is covered with a black mantle,

And thunder, and lightning, announce a storm.

When they are silent, the birds Return to sing their lovely song.

II. Largo e pianissimo sempre--And in the meadow, rich with flowers,

To the sweet murmur of leaves and plants, The goatherd sleeps, with his faithful dog at his side.

III. Danza pastorale. Allegro--

To the festive sound of pastoral bagpipes,
Dance nymphs and shepherds,
At Spring's brilliant appearance.

A.Vivaldi

# **Quiet City**

the Baroque era.

A. Copland (1900 - 1990)

#### **CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

- Conductor

Soloists - cor anglais

Quiet City originated as incidental music to a play written by Irwin Shaw. The play was dropped before opening night, so Copland took his themes and weaved them into a stand-alone piece a year later.

The play followed a man who had abandoned his Jewish ancestry and poetic aspirations to pursue material success, at the price of leading a fulfilling life. He experiences the anxiety and loneliness of living in a great city, imagining the night thoughts of those around him.

# From The Planets

'Jupiter'

G. Holst (1874 - 1934)

# SENIOR WIND, BRASS AND PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Conductor

Inspired by his interest in astrology, Holst composed 'Jupiter' as part of his 7movement suite, The Planets. Characterised as "the Bringer of Jollity", 'Jupiter' contains the melody which was later extracted to create the patriotic hymn I Vow To Thee, My Country. Surrounded by triumphant brass themes that are accompanied by sparkling patterns in the woodwind, this is an energetic

# The Passing of the Year

depiction of the largest planet in our solar system.

J. Dove (1959 - )

VII. 'Ring out, wild bells'

### **CHORALE**

I. 'Invocation'

- Conductor

- Accompanist

Jonathan Dove is one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary music, and his writing for choral forces is charged with intensity and beauty. The Passing of the Year is dedicated to the memory of his mother and sets seven texts with moving directness and a beguiling sense of the seasons' passing.

The seven movements, set to poems by several prominent poets, trace a journey through the seasons, from the anticipation of summer and its eventual steamy arrival, to autumn's sense of mortality, ending in winter with the promise of rebirth and hope to come...

# Tiera

J. Sibelius (1865 - 1957)

# CLARINO BRASS

- Conductor

percussion. Sibelius frequently embodied cultural nationalism within his works, with this piece taking inspiration from the *Kalevala*, a 19th century compilation of poems in Karelian and Finnish folk-lore and mythology. The piece has two distinct sections: a chromatic fanfare-esque opening, characterised by its space to breathe and rhythmic unisons. This is followed by a march, a style of music that suits the rich and intense sound of brass and

Translating to "Earth", Tiera is a tone-poem composed for brass septet and

Requiem

percussion.

J. Rutter (1945 - )

I. Requiem aeternam

II. Out of the deep

IV. Sanctus

V. Agnus Dei VI. The Lord is my shepherd

VII. Lux aeterna

# CHORALE and CHAPEL CHOIRS

- Conductor

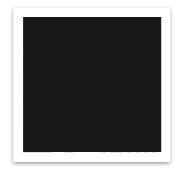
Soloists: - Pie Jesu Lux aeterna

Rutter's Requiem is not strictly a setting of the Requiem Mass as laid down in Catholic liturgy, but instead is made up of a personal selection of texts, some taken from the Requiem Mass and some from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. The seven sections of the work form an arch-like meditation on the themes of life and death; the first and last movements (Requiem geternam and Lux geterna) are

The seven sections of the work form an arch-like meditation on the themes of life and death: the first and last movements (Requiem aeternam and Lux aeterna) are prayers on behalf of all humanity; movements II and III (Out of the deep and The Lord is my shepherd) are psalms; III and V (Pie Jesu and Agnus Dei) are personal prayers to Christ; and the central Sanctus is an affirmation of divine glory.

## Erde

Close your eyes ~ listen to the music ~ breathe in the precious scent of soil
A selection of tonight's programmes have been perfumed by 'Erde'. Scan the QR
code below to find out more about the scent.





Erde - meaning 'Mother Earth' in Anglo Saxon - is a perfume developed by award-winning landscape architect Johanna Gibbons of J&L Gibbons, and artisanal organic perfumier, Madalina Heneck of Wild Olive Artisans. They bring the complex and evocative scent of the soil into a perfume that could inspire and connect us through our senses to the profound biodiversity of soil.

# Forthcoming Events

