

Midweek
MUSIC

WITH

THE CHOIR OF ROYAL
HOLLOWAY

SONGS OF FAREWELL

THE CHOIR PAY HOMAGE TO C. H. H.
PARRY BY PERFORMING HIS BELOVED AND
SENTIMENTAL 'SONGS OF FAREWELL'

MAR 1 / 1.15PM

ROYAL HOLLOWAY CHAPEL OR
ONLINE AT CHAPELCHOIR.CO.UK/LIVE



THE CHOIR OF
ROYAL HOLLOWAY



CHORALADMIN@RHUL.AC.UK



ROYALHOLLOWAY
CHOIR



WWW.CHAPELCHOIR.CO.UK



ROYALHOLLCHOIR



ROYALHOLLOWAY_CHOIR

PROGRAMME

Songs of Farewell

Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

i. My soul, there is a country

*My soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a wingèd sentry
All skilful in the wars:*

*There, above noise and danger,
Sweet Peace sits crown'd with smiles,
And One born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.*

*He is thy gracious Friend,
And—O my soul, awake!—
Did in pure love descend
To die here for thy sake.*

*If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flower of Peace,
The Rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress, and thy ease.*

*Leave then thy foolish ranges;
For none can thee secure
But One who never changes—
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.*

ii. I know my soul hath power to know all things

*I know my soul hath power
to know all things,
Yet she is blind and ignorant in all:
I know I'm one of Nature's little kings,
Yet to the least and vilest
things am thrall.*

*I know my life's a pain
and but a span;
I know my sense is mock'd in ev'rything;
And, to conclude, I know myself a Man,
Which is a proud and yet
a wretched thing.*

iii. Never weather-beaten sail

*Never weather-beaten sail more
willing bent to shore.
Never tired pilgrim's limbs
affected slumber more,
Than my wearied sprite now longs
to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord,
and take my soul to rest.*

*Ever blooming are the joys of
Heaven's high Paradise.
Cold age deafs not there our ears
nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines
whose beams the blessed only see:
O come quickly, glorious Lord,
and raise my sprite to thee!*

iv. There is an old belief

There is an old belief,
That on some solemn shore,
Beyond the sphere of grief
Dear friends shall meet once more.

Beyond the sphere of Time
And Sin and Fate's control,
Serene in changeless prime
Of body and of soul.

Rest

O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes;
Seal her sweet eyes
weary of watching, Earth;
Lie close around her;
leave no room for mirth
With its harsh laughter,
nor for sound of sighs.
She hath no questions, she hath no replies,
Hushed in and curtained
with a blessed dearth
Of all that irked her from the hour of birth;
With stillness that is almost Paradise.

vi. Lord, let me know thine end

Lord, let me know mine end
and the number of my days,
That I may be certified
how long I have to live.
Thou hast made my days
as it were a span long;
And mine age is as nothing
in respect of Thee,
And verily, ev'ry man living
is altogether vanity,
For man walketh in a vain shadow
And disquieteth himself in vain,
He heapeth up riches
and cannot tell who shall gather them.
And now, Lord, what is my hope?
Truly my hope is even in Thee.
Deliver me from all mine offences
And make me not a rebuke to the foolish.
I became dumb and opened not my mouth
For it was Thy doing.

That creed I fain would keep
That hope I'll ne'er forgo,
Eternal be the sleep,
If not to waken so.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Darkness more clear
than noon-day holdeth her,
Silence more musical than any song;
Even her very heart has ceased to stir:
Until the morning of Eternity
Her rest shall not begin
nor end, but be;
And when she wakes
she will not think it long.

Take Thy plague away from me,
I am even consumed
by means of Thy heavy hand.
When Thou with rebukes
does chasten man for sin
Thou makest his beauty
to consume away
Like as it were a moth
fretting a garment;
Ev'ry man therefore is but vanity.
Hear my pray'r, O Lord
And with Thy ears consider my calling,
Hold not Thy peace at my tears!
For I am a stranger with
Thee and a sojourner
As all my fathers were.
O spare me a little,
that I may recover my strength
before I go hence
And be no more seen.

2023-24 APPLICATIONS EXTENDED FOR THE CHOIR OF ROYAL HOLLOWAY

MORE INFO AT WWW.CHAPELCHOIR.CO.UK/APPLY



SPRING TERM

MIDWEEK MUSIC: WEDNESDAYS, 1.15PM

COMING UP NEXT WEEK

Feb 8th – Messe da Pacem: The choir revisit the music of Pierre Villette for a deliciously French concert showcasing his spectacular 'Messe da Pacem', arranged for choir and organ by Rupert Gough.

OTHER DATES FOR THE DIARY

Mar 3rd: Closing date for scholarship applications

Mar 11th: Concert in Wells Cathedral, 7pm

May 17th: Set at Guildford Jazz Festival with Acoustic Triangle, 7pm

May 19th: Jazz Concert at St Bartholomew the Great, 7pm

Scan to find out more
on our website!

