

# Phoenix Songs

**1pm-2pm, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**Gonville and Caius College**

**Harvey Court Gardens**

**Cambridge**



**THE  
PHOENIX SOCIETY**

## THE PHOENIX MUSIC SOCIETY:

Senior Musical Associate: Timothy Brown  
Senior Treasurer: Dr Alan Howard  
Artistic Director: Oliver Rudland

President: Rajan Lal  
Secretary: Maxim Meshkvicev  
Publicity Officer: Rebecca Doherty  
Junior Treasurer: Vivek Haria  
Concert Manager: Richard Woods Rogan  
Orchestral Manager: Ujjawal Kumar  
Social Secretary: Lucy Walker

*The Phoenix Music Society* was founded in 2017 at the University of Cambridge. We are a group dedicated to the discussion, creation and performance of new music who aim to create an open and viable environment for the creation of music, which is rooted in the past, whilst looking to the future. The society takes its lead from thinkers such as the American composer Steve Reich, who has written, 'the reality of cadence to a key or modal centre is basic in all the music of the world – Western and non-Western'. So far, the society has produced five successful events and concerts:

***Musical Fables: Five Symphonic Poems:*** a concert of new orchestral music at the Fitzwilliam College Auditorium conducted by Mark Biggins, chorus director for English National Opera (March 2018).

***Encounters with Persian Verse, Art & Music:*** a festival of Islamic artwork, Persian music, and new vocal chamber music with the Iranian Duo, Nasim-e Tarab, Cambridge choral scholars and the Ligeti String Quartet (May 2018).

***WWI Armistice Centenary Concert:*** a commemorative concert of new choral and orchestral music with choral scholars from Gonville & Caius, St John's, Queen's, Homerton and Selwyn Colleges at Great St. Mary's, the University Church, Cambridge (November 2018).

***New Chamber Music on Romantic Themes:*** a chamber concert at the St John's Old Divinity School performed by Instrumental Award Scheme holders and other chamber musicians from across the University (June 2019).

***Concerto Concert:*** a concert of three new orchestral concertos at St John's College Palmerston Room, featuring soloists from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the Royal College of Music and Cambridge University (February 2020).



DERIVATIONES MELIUS QUAM UTOPIA

## Wild Deer

Whither fled, wild deer?  
I knew thee well in days gone by  
When we were fast friends, thou and I;  
Two solitary travellers now,  
Bewildered, friendless, I and thou,  
We go our separate ways, where fear  
Lurks ambushed, front and rear.  
Come, let us now inquire  
How each is faring; let us gain  
(If gain we may, upon this plain  
Of trouble vast, where pastures pure  
From fear secure  
Are not to find) the spirit's far desire.

Words by Hafiz (1315 - 1390)

خواجہ شمس الدین محمد حافظ شیرازی

Translated by A. J. Arberry

*Set to music by Oliver Rudland*

*Soprano: Rachel Oyawale*

*Guitar: Declan Hickey*

## Mary's Aria

Ah -- My dear sweet Lord,  
gentler than a lamb, mightier than a sword,  
who pierced my wayward heart,  
with sprinklings of well-water,  
and softly flowing words.

Ah -- My dear sweet Master,  
minister to the poor, curer of the leper,  
who rebuked the crooked Pharisees,  
and raised the dead Lazarus,  
with wisdom and sad laughter.

Ah -- My tender Messiah,  
recalling Lot's wife, and the fierce hellfire,  
endured suffering and rejection,  
for this corrupted generation,  
with teachings, love and care.

And so be in His Day, will the Son of Man,  
save all lost souls; like this once lost woman.

Words by Oliver Rudland

*Set to music by Rajan Lal*

*Soprano: Rachel Oyawale*

*Piano: Rajan Lal*

## Love Never Lost

Like watching the creation of a work of art,  
Someone enters your life. Their mind and heart  
Form within yours, a feeling oft in life so rare.  
Through words or the quiet, a comfort within you.  
Your heart gently beats like the wings of a dove.  
You cannot describe it, but through one word: love.  
Time goes on, they are lost from your life, always feels too soon,  
Like dark clouds covering a shining moon.  
You never wanted them to leave,  
So let your poor heart fully grieve,  
Your time with them was meant to end, but not the love you had too.  
This lets you start to think anew.  
You think of how it helped you grow; become the person you are.  
You share the love with others in the future near and far.  
You take it with you through the good and the bad,  
Always grateful it was a love you had.  
Years will pass, your mind may move on.  
But the love stays within you.  
From your heart they're never truly gone.

Words by Rebecca Doherty

*Set to music by Rebecca Doherty*

*Soprano: Rachel Oyawale*

*Piano: Adrian Tsui*

## Tristes guerras

Tristes guerras si no es amor la empresa. Tristes, tristes.	Sad wars if the company is not love. Sad, sad.
Tristes armas si no son las palabras. Tristes, tristes.	Sad weapons if not the words. Sad, sad.
Tristes hombres si no mueren de amores. Tristes, tristes.	Sad men if they don't die of love. Sad, sad.

Words by Miguel Hernández

Translated by Oliver Rudland

*Set to music by Ignacio Mañá Mesas*

*Arranged for guitar by Declan Hickey*

*Soprano: Phillyda Martignetti*

*Guitar: Declan Hickey*

## **He wishes his Beloved were Dead**

Were you but lying cold and dead,  
And lights were paling out of the West,  
You would come hither, and bend your head,  
And I would lay my head on your breast;  
And you would murmur tender words,  
Forgiving me, because you were dead:  
Nor would you rise and hasten away,  
Though you have the will of wild birds,  
But know your hair was bound and wound  
About the stars and moon and sun:  
O would, beloved, that you lay  
Under the dock-leaves in the ground,  
While lights were paling one by one.

Words by William Butler Yeats

*Set to music by David Paterson*  
*Soprano: Phillyda Martignetti*  
*Piano: Oliver Rudland*

## **How Great My Greif**

How great my grief, my joys how few,  
Since first it was my fate to know thee!

Have the slow years not brought to view  
How great my grief, my joys how few,

Nor memory shaped old times anew,  
Nor loving-kindness helped to show thee

How great my grief, my joys how few,  
Since first it was my fate to know thee?

Words by Thomas Hardy

*Set to music by Maxim Meshkvicev*  
*Tenor: Owen Elsley*  
*Piano: Richard Woods Rogan*

## Through the Forest

Through the forest have I gone.  
But Athenian found I none,  
On whose eyes I might approve  
This flower's force in stirring love.  
Night and silence: who is here?  
Weeds of Athens he doth wear:  
This is he, my master said,  
Despised the Athenian maid;  
And here the maiden, sleeping sound,  
On the dank and dirty ground.  
Pretty soul! She durst not lie  
Near this lack-love, this kill-courtesy.  
Churl, upon thy eyes I throw  
All the power this charm doth owe.  
When thou wakest, let love forbid  
Sleep his seat on thy eyelid:  
So awake when I am gone;  
For I must now to Oberon

Words by William Shakespeare (a.k.a. Edward de Vere)

*Set to music by Richard Woods Rogan*  
*Countertenor: Maxim Meshkvicev*  
*Piano: Richard Woods Rogan*

## Le Pont Mirabeau

Sous le pont Mirabeau coule la Seine  
Et nos amours  
Faut-il qu'il m'en souvienn  
La joie venait toujours après la peine  
Vienne la nuit sonne l'heure  
Les jours s'en vont je demeure  
Les mains dans les mains restons face à face  
Tandis que sous  
Le pont de nos bras passe  
Des éternels regards l'onde si lasse  
Vienne la nuit sonne l'heure  
Les jours s'en vont je demeure  
L'amour s'en va comme cette eau courante  
L'amour s'en va  
Comme la vie est lente  
Et comme l'Espérance est violente  
Vienne la nuit sonne l'heure  
Les jours s'en vont je demeure  
Passent les jours et passent les semaines  
Ni temps passé  
Ni les amours reviennent  
Sous le pont Mirabeau coule la Seine  
Vienne la nuit sonne l'heure  
Les jours s'en vont je demeure.

Under the Mirabeau Bridge flows the Seine  
Must I recall  
Our loves recall how then  
After each sorrow joy came back again  
Let night come on bells end the day  
The days go by me still I stay  
Hands joined and face to face let's stay just so  
While underneath  
The bridge of our arms shall go  
Weary of endless looks the river's flow  
Let night come on bells end the day  
The days go by me still I stay  
All love goes by as water to the sea  
All love goes by  
How slow life seems to me  
How violent the hope of love can be  
Let night come on bells end the day  
The days go by me still I stay  
The days the weeks pass by beyond our ken  
Neither time past  
Nor love comes back again  
Under the Mirabeau Bridge flows the Seine  
Let night come on bells end the day  
The days go by me still I stay.

Words by Guillaume Apollinaire

Translated by William Rees

*Set to music by Samuel Gibb*  
*Tenor: Maxim Meshkvicev*  
*Piano: Adrian Tsui*

## **Elegy**

My prime of youth is but a frost of cares,  
My feast of joy is but a dish of pain,  
My crop of corn is but a field of tares,  
And all my good is but vain hope of gain.  
The day is gone and yet I saw no sun,  
And now I live, and now my life is done.

The spring is past, and yet it hath not sprung,  
The fruit is dead, and yet the leaves are green,  
My youth is gone, and yet I am but young,  
I saw the world, and yet I was not seen,  
My thread is cut, and yet it was not spun,  
And now I live, and now my life is done.

I sought my death and found it in my womb,  
I lookt for life and saw it was a shade,  
I trode the earth and knew it was my tomb,  
And now I die, and now I am but made.  
The glass is full, and now the glass is run,  
And now I live, and now my life is done.

Words by Chidiock Tichborne

*Set to music by Dominic Martens*  
*Bass-Baritone: James Ward*  
*Piano: Adrian Tsui*

## **Oh Rain You Relieve**

Oh rain relieve us.  
Relieve the aching hands  
of this now bloodied country.

Relieve us, oh rain!  
Swell the pavement puddles  
And soak the soil sodden

Patter the clatter of the empty trains  
Oh rain. Lull us to sleep  
with your steady breathing.

Words by Anna Willmoth

*Set to music by Adrian Tsui*  
*Bass-Baritone: Vivek Haria*  
*Piano: Adrian Tsui*

*The Phoenix Music Society* was founded in 2017 at the University of Cambridge to nurture the composition, performance and promotion of new music – music rooted in the past, whilst looking towards the future.

Our society primarily organises concerts for student composers to write freely in a wide variety of different styles, and to create performance opportunities for themselves.

We also hold an annual dinner for members who compose and/or perform for our concerts, which is always a fun and social occasion, filled with interesting debate and discussion!

We encourage freshers to get in touch and share their music with us if they would like to join the society.

For more information, please email our President, Rajan Lal, at:  
**[thephoenixmusicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:thephoenixmusicsociety@gmail.com)**

or visit our Facebook page:

**[www.facebook.com/thephoenixmusicsociety](http://www.facebook.com/thephoenixmusicsociety)**

follow **[@cambridgephoenixsoc](https://www.instagram.com/cambridgephoenixsoc)** on Instagram

or our **[@phoenixmusicsoc](https://twitter.com/phoenixmusicsoc)** account on Twitter

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We receive no departmental funding from the University and, therefore, require external support to fund our concerts.

If you would like to donate to our society, your support would be greatly appreciated. All donations small or large are welcome.

If you wish to offer more longstanding support, you can become a **Friend of the Phoenix Music Society** which comes with a variety of benefits such as attendance at the society's annual dinner.

If you would like to support us, or for more information, please visit:

**[www.thephoenixmusicsociety.com/support-us](http://www.thephoenixmusicsociety.com/support-us)**





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