

Haydn - Stabat Mater

Bach - Cantata 12: Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen

Albinoni - Adagio in G minor

REFLECTIONS

City of Birmingham Choir
conducted by Adrian Lucas

Lichfield Cathedral
Saturday, 2 March 2024, 7pm



Tickets: £20 (Students £10 | U16s Free)
From : ticketsource.co.uk and search
for '*City of Birmingham Choir*'

REFLECTIONS



The Music

Haydn's ***Stabat Mater*** is a musical gem, composed and first performed in 1767. It was Haydn's (1732-1809) first major work for choir and soloists but shows his mastery of composition and harmony. Using the text of the medieval Latin hymn on the suffering of the Virgin Mary at the Crucifixion, Haydn's music is beautifully arranged around five choruses, seven arias and one duet. In the final movement the chorus presents a vision of Paradise in a triumphant fugue.

The great Johann Sebastian Bach was a prolific composer and his output included over 200 cantatas. ***Cantata 12*** dates from 1714 and was written for Lenten performance. It is a wonderful example of Bach's skills. The chorus ***Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen*** (*Weeping, wailing, mourning, fearing*) was eventually reworked as the first section of the Crucifixus movement of the Credo in his B minor Mass, three decades later.

Tomaso Albinoni (1671 – 1751) was a master of opera and contemporary of Bach, who lived in Venice. Today he is best known for his instrumental works but the work that has done most to restore his reputation is the gentle ***Adagio in G minor*** for strings and organ; a beautiful piece in the Baroque style.

The Choir

The **City of Birmingham Choir** was founded in 1921. Since then it has been a stalwart of Birmingham's musical life performing a wide range of classical and modern music in Town Hall and Symphony Hall, often with the CBSO. Previous conductors have included Sir David Willcocks and Christopher Robinson CBE. For the last twenty years the Choir has been skilfully led by the charismatic Adrian Lucas.

This is the Choir's first ever performance in Lichfield Cathedral and along with our excellent soloists and orchestral accompaniment we look forward to entertaining you on 2 March 2024.

For further information regarding the Choir and this concert please go to www.citychoir.org.uk.