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Karl Jenkins

Three choral premieres *Stella natalis* on CD and tour



Karl Jenkins
Stella natalis
Joy to the World
(world premieres)
Chelmsford Cathedral
28 November 2009, 7.30 pm

Stella natalis
...star of birth heralds message
of peace and goodwill...

Joy to the World
...nine new carol arrangements
from around the world...

tour dates

This autumn brings premieres of three new choral works by Karl Jenkins, following on from the success of *The Armed Man*, *Requiem* and *Stabat Mater*. Two new Christmas-themed works for chorus and orchestra, *Stella natalis* and *Joy to the World*, as featured on a new disc from EMI, are toured in November and December with their world premieres at Chelmsford Cathedral on 28 November.

Stella natalis comprises twelve Jenkins pieces celebrating aspects of Christmastide – winter, the sleeping child, tidings of peace, thanksgiving – with words ranging from the Psalms to new texts by Carol Barratt. Karl Jenkins describes how “*Stella natalis* means ‘star of birth’ or ‘star of origin’, and the music conveys the Christmas message of peace, goodwill, compassion and a new beginning whilst using a wider palette of inspiration than is usual in such treatments: Zulu text, reference to Hindu gods, as well as the Old Testament, all make an appearance!”

The second work, *Joy to the World*, casts the net internationally, assembling nine traditional carols from Germany, France, Spain and the Caribbean, in new arrangements by the composer. Jenkins will be accompanied on tour by Tenebrae, the renowned choir led by Nigel Short, as well as a specially created ensemble of musicians led by John Gibbons. Tickets for the tour can be booked online via www.jenkinsstellanatalis.com or call See Tickets on 0871 230 0010.

28 Nov - Chelmsford Cathedral **19 Dec** - St Mary's Church, Banbury
2 Dec - St Albans Cathedral **22 Dec** - Norwich Cathedral
4 Dec - Clifton Cathedral, Bristol



The new EMI recording of *Stella natalis* and *Joy to the World* (50999-6886482-8) features Tenebrae, and guest appearances by soprano Kate Royal, trumpeter Alison Balsom and BBC Radio 2 Young Chorister of the year Alice Halstead, with the Marylebone Camerata conducted by the composer. The EMI disc is available from The Shop at Boosey.com at www.boosey.com/stellanatalis.

Both *Stella natalis* and *Joy to the World* are scored for string orchestra, keyboards and percussion and will be available for performance by choirs in the run up to Christmas 2010, with choral scores published by Boosey & Hawkes mid-year.

Jenkins 65th birthday concert

Karl Jenkins
65th birthday concert
Ysbrydoliaeth
(world premiere)
Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff
14 November 2009, 7.30 pm
www.wmc.org.uk

A Wales Millennium Centre concert on 14 November celebrating Karl Jenkins's 65th birthday includes a further choral premiere. The new five-minute setting of poetry by Graeme Davies for choir and orchestra, entitled *Ysbrydoliaeth (Inspiration)*, marks 10 years of devolution in Wales. As well as excerpts from *Adiemus*, *Requiem*, *Stabat Mater* and *The Armed Man*, the concert includes excerpts from the *Stella natalis* disc. Joining the Jenkins celebrations are massed Welsh choirs, harpist Catrin Finch and singers Rebecca Evans and Elin Fflur.

For further information visit www.boosey.com/jenkins or contact:

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