

17-20 January 2019



an **EPIPHANY FESTIVAL**
at Worcester College

Epiphany Carol Service | Early Music and Gin Tasting
Handel's *Messiah* | Harpsichord events | Tours | *plus* Come and Sing!



ASHMOLEAN *Gino's*

MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

from the **PROVOST**

The Chapel of Worcester College is a hidden gem of Jericho: every corner of it, from the frescoes on the walls to the mosaic on the floor and the carved wooden animals (including a dodo!) on the pews, is testimony to the glorious art and design of the pre-Raphaelite era. Week by week during university term, this special place is filled with something equally glorious: the sound of the Worcester College Choir, singing Choral Evensong, sharing the astonishing centuries-long repertoire of great religious choral music and providing an opportunity for wonder, for peace, and for meditation.

On behalf of Worcester College, I warmly invite the people of Oxford to join us for our second annual Epiphany Festival. It will showcase our amazing musical students and Chapel Choir, linking performance with scholarship through collaborations between academics and performers. There will be a wide range of music from the Georgian glory of Handel to intricate Renaissance polyphony, offering something for everyone!

As well as sharing our music and our Chapel, we will also be providing a glimpse of the award-winning Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre, overlooking our lake and our sports field.

Welcome to Worcester!

Sir Jonathan Bate CBE



Thursday 17th January **CAROL SERVICE**



The Festival begins with a **celebration of the Epiphany** in a special carol **service of readings and music**, featuring iconic choral works as well as lesser-known gems. The service opens with the famous Coventry Carol and includes **hymns and carols for all to sing**. Come and join us for this **traditional, candle-lit** service, with drinks to follow in the Cloister.

Thursday 17 January, at 6 pm, in the College Chapel.
Please arrive by 5.50 pm in order to be seated.
Free admission; no ticket required.

HARPSICHORD MASTERCLASS

Music students from Worcester College participate in a **masterclass** given by the harpsichordist Julian Perkins, who is Artistic Director of Cambridge Handel Opera and Sounds Baroque. He has appeared in major concert venues including New York's Lincoln Center, Sydney Opera House and London's Wigmore Hall, and has performed concertos with leading groups including the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Royal Northern Sinfonia and The Sixteen.

Thursday 17 January, in the Chapel.
2–4.30pm. Free admission to the audience.

Friday 18th January **COME AND SING!**



In this special event, you become the performer as Worcester's Director of Chapel Music Thomas Allery directs a Come and Sing afternoon working on the famous choruses from *Messiah*!

After your recital, you may wish to join us for a light Festival Supper at Gino's Spaghetti House before 'Gibbons and Gin'.

Friday 18 January, in the Chapel.
From 3 pm. Recital (free to audience) at 6.30 pm.
Festival Supper at 7 pm. £15 Come and Sing (only).
£30 (including supper and Gibbons & Gin ticket).

RECITAL AT THE ASHMOLEAN

Ensemble Hesperii presents a varied programme of music from the thrilling musical scene of 18th century London, including music by leading Scottish Baroque composer James Oswald, who in the 1740s created a secret musical society called 'The Temple of Apollo'. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about this fascinating moment in London's musical story, and to hear some rare gems of Scottish-influenced Baroque music.

Friday 18 January, in the Atrium of the Ashmolean Museum.
1-2 pm. Free.

Friday 18th '**GIBBONS & GIN**'

Come along to our Friday night event to experience **early music and carefully crafted beverages!** This year, after the success of 'Byrd and Beer', we feature amazing music by sixteenth-century composers (including Orlando Gibbons) for choir and keyboard, together with a curated gin tasting.

This event is **not a formal concert** but presents dazzling keyboard pieces and exquisite choral music in a different light to the traditional concert setting with performances happening amongst the guests. Not heard Early Music before? This could be the event for you!

Friday 19 January, in the Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre.
8–10 pm. £10 (£5 Worcester students). 18+.



INFO: The landmark **Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre** was given to the College by HRH Sultan Nazrin Shah (PPE 1976), ruler of Perak, Malaysia, and opened by HRH the Duchess of Cornwall in 2017. It is RIBA South Building of the Year 2018 and was short-listed for the Stirling Prize.

Saturday 19th **MESSIAH**



The Chapel Choir performs **Handel's famous masterpiece, *Messiah***, in the College Chapel. There is a **great deal of variety** in this work dating from 1741, which tells the story of the life of Christ and of the prophecy of the Messiah in **great choruses and colourful arias**. In this performance, the choir is joined by by period instrument *ensemble* 1714.

7 pm, in the College Chapel.
£10 (£5 Worcester students)

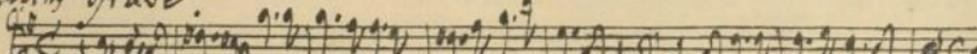


PRE-CONCERT TALK

Worcester College's Chaplain, the Revd Dr Tess Kuin Lawton, will explore and reflect on the theology behind some of Handel's famous *Messiah* choruses. She will try to unearth what exactly it is that has made this piece so popular with choirs and audiences alike through the centuries.

5.30 pm, in Lecture Room B. Free.

Messiah, an Oratorio, Part the first,
Resurrection



Sunday 21st **FESTIVAL EVENSONG**

Join the boy trebles and choral scholars of the Choir for this special service which concludes the Festival.

5.45 pm, in the College Chapel. Free.



GARDEN & CHAPEL TOUR

See the carved dodo and unicorn, discover why the Provost's stall is labelled 'God', and learn more about the Chapel's decoration, then explore the hidden delights of Worcester's gardens and grounds,

4 pm, beginning at the Porter's Lodge. £5.

how to **JOIN US**

To guarantee a place at **Handel's Messiah** or at '**Gibbons and Gin**', and in all cases for the **Come and Sing** event, you should either:

1. **book a ticket at our website:** www.worcesterchapel.org/tickets (incurs a small booking fee)
2. **pay in person in advance** at the Chapel to receive a ticket. The box office will be open before and after all Chapel services from 13 January (please see overleaf for times of services).

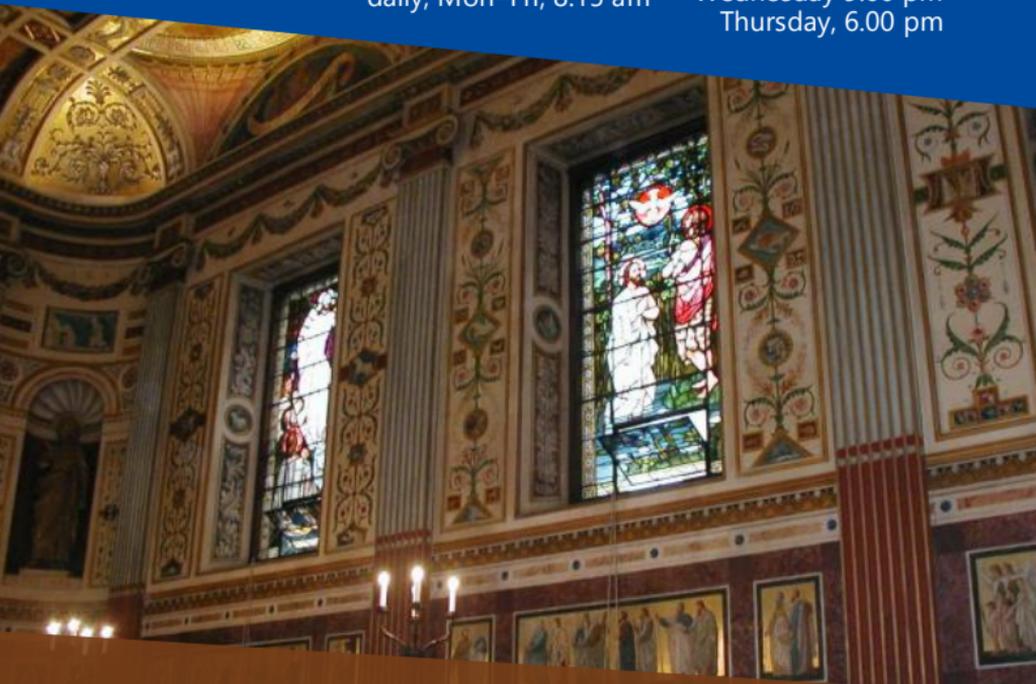
It may be possible to buy a ticket on the day, depending on availability. There is no need to book in advance for the Epiphany Carol Service or for other events.

regular **SERVICES**
throughout the University term

Everyone is welcome at all services.

Said Morning Prayer
daily, Mon–Fri, 8.15 am

Sunday, 5.45 pm
Monday, 6.15 pm
Tuesday, 6.15 pm
Wednesday 9.00 pm
Thursday, 6.00 pm



about the **CHAPEL**

Worcester College is a worshipping community where Morning Prayer is said every weekday throughout the year at 8.15 am. During term time, Worcester Chapel is unique in Oxford in maintaining a choral tradition in which alto, tenor, and bass choral scholars are joined alternately by adult sopranos (typically on Monday and Thursday) drawn from the College, and boy trebles (on Sunday and Tuesday), who are day pupils at Christ Church Cathedral School. There are few things as good for the soul as the chance to unwind at a choral service! You are most welcome to come and listen, or sit and reflect in the beautiful surroundings.

worcesterchapel.org @WorcCollChoirs