



# *Moscow Oratorio Society*

CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT

MOSCOW CONSERVATORY  
3 NOVEMBER 2002

MOSCOW ORATORIO  
SOCIETY

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

N B Every Ticket will admit either one Gentleman,  
or Two Ladies.

COVENT-GARDEN.  
By SUBSCRIPTION.

*The Ninth Night.*

**A**T the Theatre-Royal in Covent-Garden,  
Wednesday next. will be perform'd

**A NEW SACRED ORATORIO.**

A CONCERTO on the ORGAN.

And a Solo on the Violin by Mr. DUBOURG.

Tickets will be deliver'd to Subscribers on Tuesday next, at Mr.  
Handel's House in Brook-street.

Pit and Boxes to be put together, and no Person to be admitted  
without Tickets, which will be deliver'd that Day, at the Office in  
Covent-Garden Theatre, at Half a Guinea each. First Gallery 3 s.  
Upper Gallery 3 s. 6 d.

The Galleries will be open'd at Four o'Clock. Pit and Boxes at Five.

*For the Benefit and Increase of a FUND esta-  
blish'd for the Support of Decay'd MUSICIANS, or their  
Families*

Original of the Ticket for the premiere of Handel's Messiah

MAIN SPONSORS:



**PHILIPS**



# PROGRAM

## THE MESSIAH

-1741-

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

### PART THE FIRST

1. SYMPHONY  
Orchestra
2. COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE ...  
Accompagnato Tenor
3. EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE EXALTED...  
Air for Tenor
4. AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD...  
Chorus
5. THUS SAITH THE LORD...  
Recitative for Bass
6. BUT WHO MAY  
ABIDE THE DAY OF HIS COMING...  
Air for Alto
7. AND HE SHALL PURIFY...  
Chorus
8. BEHOLD! A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE...  
Recitative for Alto
9. O THOU THAT  
TELLEST GOOD TIDINGS TO ZION...  
Air for Alto and Chorus
10. FOR BEHOLD DARKNESS SHALL  
COVER THE EARTH...  
Accompagnato for Bass
11. THE PEOPLE THAT WALKED  
IN DARKNESS...  
Air for Bass
12. FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN...  
Chorus
13. PASTORAL SYMPHONY  
Orchestra
14. THERE WERE  
SHEPHERDS ABIDING IN THE FIELD...  
Recitative for Soprano

15. AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM...  
Recitative for Soprano
16. AND SUDDENLY  
THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL...  
Accompagnato for Soprano
17. GLORY TO GOD...  
Chorus
18. REJOICE GREATLY,  
O DAUGHTER OF ZION!...  
Air for Soprano
19. THEN SHALL BE  
THE EYES OF THE BLIND BE OPENED...  
Recitative for Alto
20. HE SHALL FEED  
HIS FLOCK LIKE A SHEPHERD...  
Duet for Alto and Soprano
21. HIS YOKE IS EASY,  
AND HIS BURTHEN IS LIGHT...  
Chorus

### INTERMISSION

### PART THE SECOND

22. HE WAS DESPISED  
Air for Alto
23. THY REBUKE  
HATH BROKEN HIS HEART...  
Accompagnato for Tenor
24. BEHOLD, AND SEE  
IF THERE BE ANY SORROW...  
Airioso for Tenor
25. HE WAS CUT OFF OUT  
OF THE LAND OF THE LIVING...  
Accompagnato for Tenor
26. BUT THOU DIDST NOT  
LEAVE HIS SOUL IN HELL...  
Air for Tenor

27. LIFT UP YOUR HEADS,  
O YE GATES...  
Chorus
28. HOW BEAUTIFUL  
ARE THE FEET OF THEM...  
Duet for Soprano and Alto
29. THEIR SOUND  
IS GONE OUT INTO ALL LANDS...  
Chorus
30. HE THAT DWELLETH IN HEAVEN...  
Recitative for Tenor
31. THOU SHALT BREAK THEM...  
Air for Tenor
32. HALLELUJAH...  
Chorus

### **PART THE THIRD**

33. I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH...  
Air for Soprano
34. SINCE BY MAN CAME DEATH...  
Chorus
35. BEHOLD I TELL YOU A MYSTERY  
Accompagnato for Bass
36. THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND  
Air for Bass
37. THEN SHALL BE BROUGHT TO PASS  
Recitative for Alto
38. O DEATH, WHERE IS THY STING?  
Duet for Alto and Tenor
39. BUT THANKS BE TO GOD  
Chorus
40. IF GOD BE FOR US,  
WHO CAN BE AGAINST US? ...  
Air for Soprano
41. WORTHY IS THE LAMB...  
Chorus

## **PERFORMED BY**

### **MOSCOW ORATORIO SOCIETY**

Conductor      ALEXANDER TSALIUK

### **RUSSIAN SYMPHONY CAPPELLA**

Artistic Director      VALERY POLYANSKY

Accompanist      ZOYA ABOLITS

Soprano      ANNA SAMUIL

Alto      IRINA RAMISHEVSKAYA

Tenor      HUGH WINN

Bass      RODERICK WILLIAMS

Choir members come from following countries:

RUSSIA, USA, U.K., GERMANY,  
FRANCE, AUSTRIA, CANADA,  
BELGIUM, FINLAND, SWEDEN,  
SPAIN, CHILE, IRELAND, ARMENIA,



## PERFORMERS

### MOSCOW ORATORIO SOCIETY

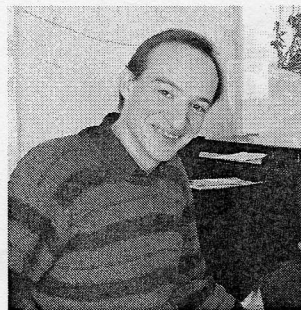
The choir, which was founded in 1993, has established an annual tradition of performing Handel's 'Messiah' at Christmastime. In the intervening years - under the direction of Alexander Tsaliuk - the Oratorio Society has grown and changed, undertaking new and exciting musical projects, and drawing strength and financial support from many sources. The choir has sung a wide repertoire ranging from Bach and Handel to Mussorgsky, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Poulenc and Bernstein. Today the Moscow Oratorio Society is a non-profit choral art society composed of members of the foreign diplomatic and business communities as well as students and graduates of Russian music schools. The choir welcomes new members at the beginning of each season. Spring season starts mid January 2003. For inquiries please contact Marlena Hurley, managing director of the choir, at 999-1829 or Alexander Tsaliuk at 163 3314.

Email: [moscoworatorio@hotmail.com](mailto:moscoworatorio@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.moscoworatorio.webzone.ru](http://www.moscoworatorio.webzone.ru)

#### ALEXANDER TSALIUK

is a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory, where he received a PhD in choral conducting under Professor Kulikov, Director of the Conservatory. He also has a PhD in symphonic opera conducting from the Jewish State Academy. In addition to directing the Moscow Oratorio Society, Alexander Tsaliuk is conductor of the Moscow Male Jewish Choir, the "Hasidic Cappella", which he co-founded in 1989. Under his direction, this award-winning choir -- whose repertoire includes Jewish



liturgical, classical, as well as Jewish and Russian folk music -- has given hundreds of acclaimed performances in distinguished venues in the CIS, Western Europe, and Israel.

In 1994, when Alexander Tsaliuk was invited to take on the role of conductor and artistic director of the choir, he gave the Moscow Oratorio Society its name. Since then, his unfailing commitment, energy, and artistic vision have provided a unique and vital source of continuity for a group that is, by its nature, always changing.

### RUSSIAN SYMPHONY CAPPELLA

The Russian State Symphony Cappella was founded in 1991 when the State Chamber Choir of the USSR directed by Valery Polyansky merged with the State Symphony Orchestra of the Ministry of Culture of the USSR, directed by Gennady Rozhdestvensky. In 1992 Valery Polyansky was appointed artistic director and chief conductor of the Cappella.

Polyansky's orchestra now ranks among the finest symphonic ensembles in Russia. Its repertoire covers a wide range of Russian and non-Russian music.

The Russian State Symphony Capella is renowned for its discipline, for flexibility of phrasing, warmth of sound, and purity of expression, as well as for its skillful balancing of sound within the orchestral group and for the richness and finesse of its interpretative nuance.

# COMPOSER

## GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

1685 - 1759

G.F. Handel was the consummate 18th-century traveler, artiste, and entrepreneur. He was an independent and strong-willed individual, and although he was approached several times by royal patrons to become their court composer, Handel was hesitant to "settle down" professionally until he was offered a position commensurate with the status he felt he deserved.

Born in Halle, Germany, Handel grew up under the watchful eyes of his parents; while his mother nurtured his musical gifts, Handel's father tried to dissuade him from pursuing a dubious occupation. Following brief, unsuccessful studies at the local university, Handel traveled to Hamburg and then onto Italy where he met important individuals who greatly influenced his musical future, such as the composers/musicians, Arcangelo Corelli and Domenico Scarlatti and numerous royalty (both religious and secular). Following his fruitful Italian tour, he returned north of the Alps after accepting the appointment of court composer to the Elector of Hanover. He quickly followed this up with two extended visits to London, England, where he finally settled and which he eventually considered home (becoming a British subject). Ironically, the same Elector of Hanover became King George I of England, following the death of Queen Anne. Handel lived a full and productive life. Yet, life wasn't easy for him. At various times, he was severely criticized by the English social establishment for his artistic output -- some considered it profane. For example, Handel's most famous work, *Messiah*, was enthusiastically received following its première in Dublin while it became the subject of great controversy following its London début. Furthermore, he suffered



bouts of anxiety and depression and possibly strokes -- some have theorized that he suffered central nervous system lead poisoning associated with his imbibing of cheap port! During the later years of his life, he experienced progressively debilitating cataracts -- the ensuing operations to restore his vision left him completely blind. (Of interest, the last English oculist to treat Handel, John Taylor, also unsuccessfully cared for J.S. Bach).

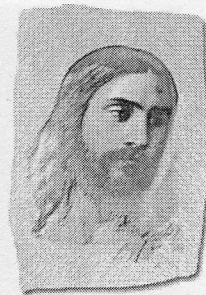
"WHETHER I WAS IN MY BODY  
OR OUT OF MY BODY  
AS I WROTE IT I KNOW NOT.  
GOD KNOWS."

Handel on composing the Hallelujah Chorus



# TEXT

## MESSIAH



### PART THE FIRST

#### 1. Symphony

#### 2. Accompagnato for Tenor

Comfort ye, comfort ye, My people,  
Sayeth your God.

Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry  
unto her, that her warfare is accomplished,  
that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him  
that cryeth in the wilderness; prepare ye the  
way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a  
highway for our God.

*(Isaiah 40 : 1-3)*

#### 3. Air for Tenor

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain  
and hill made low; the crooked straight and the  
rough places plain.

*(Isaiah 40 : 4)*

#### 4. Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and  
all flesh shall see together: for the mouth of the  
Lord hath spoken it.

*(Isaiah 40 : 5)*

#### 5. Accompagnato for Bass

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of Hosts: Yet once  
a little while and I will shake the heavens and  
the earth, the sea and the dry land. And I will  
shake all nations; and the desire of all nations  
shall come.

*(Haggai 2 : 6-7)*

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to  
His temple, even the messenger of the  
Covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, He shall  
come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

*(Malachi 3 : 1)*

#### 6. Air for Alto

But who may abide the day of His coming, and  
who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is  
like a refiner's fire.

*(Malachi 3 : 2)*

#### 7. Chorus

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they  
may offer unto the Lord an offering in  
righteousness.

*(Malachi 3 : 3)*

#### 8. Recitative for Alto

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a  
Son, and shall call His name Emmanuel," ,  
God with us.

*(Isaiah 7 : 14; Matthew 1 : 23)*

#### 9. Air for Alto and Chorus

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get  
thee up into the high mountain. O thou that  
tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy  
voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid;  
say unto the cities of Judah, behold your  
God! Arise, shine, for thy Light is come, and  
the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

*(Isaiah 40 : 9; Isaiah 60 : 1)*

#### 10. Accompagnato for Bass

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and gross darkness the people; but the Lord  
shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be  
seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come  
to thy light, and kings to the brightness of  
thy rising.

*(Isaiah 60 : 2-3)*

#### 11. Air for Bass

The people that walked in darkness have  
seen a great light; and they that dwell in the  
land of the shadow of death, upon them hath  
the light shined.

*(Isaiah 9 : 2)*

#### 12. Chorus

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is  
given, and the government shall be upon His  
shoulder; and His name shall be called  
Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the  
Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

*(Isaiah 9 : 6)*

### 13. Pastoral Symphony

#### 14. Recitative for Soprano

There were shepherds abiding in the field,  
keeping watch over their flocks by night.  
(*Luke 2 : 8*)

#### 15. Recitative for Soprano

And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for  
behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,  
which shall be to all people. For unto you is  
born this day in the city of David a Saviour,  
which is Christ the Lord.  
(*Luke 2 : 10-11*)

#### 16. Accompagnato for Soprano

And suddenly there was with the angel, a  
multitude of the heavenly host, praising God,  
and saying:  
(*Luke 2 : 13*)

#### 17. Chorus

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on  
earth, good will towards men.  
(*Luke 2 : 14*)

#### 18. Air for Soprano

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O  
daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, thy King  
cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Saviour,  
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.  
(*Zechariah 9 : 9-10*)

#### 19. Recitative for Alto

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and  
the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then shall the  
lame man leap as a deer, and the tongue of the  
dumb shall sing.  
(*Isaiah 35 : 5-6*)

#### 20. Duet for Alto and Soprano

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He  
shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry  
them in His bosom, and gently lead those that  
are with young.  
(*Isaiah 40 : 11*)



Come unto Him, all ye that labour, come  
unto Him that are heavy laden, and He  
will give you rest. Take His yoke upon  
you, and learn of Him, for He is meek  
and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest  
unto your souls.  
(*Matthew 11 : 28-29*)

#### 21. Chorus

His yoke is easy, and his burden is light.  
(*Matthew 11 : 30*)

### PART THE SECOND

#### 22. Air for Alto

He was despised and rejected of men, a  
man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.  
(*Isaiah 53 : 3*)

He gave His back to the smiters, and His  
cheeks to them that plucked off the hair:  
He hid not His face from shame and  
spitting.  
(*Isaiah 50 : 6*)

#### 23. Accompagnato for Tenor

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart: He is  
full of heaviness. He looked for some to  
have pity on Him, but there was no man,  
neither found He any to comfort Him.  
(*Psalms 69 : 20*)

#### 24. Arioso for Tenor

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow  
like unto His sorrow.  
(*Lamentations 1 : 12*)

#### 25. Accompagnato for Tenor

He was cut off out of the land of the living:  
for the transgressions of Thy people was  
He stricken.  
(*Isaiah 53 : 8*)



### **26. Air for Tenor**

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell; nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

*(Psalm 16 : 10)*

### **27. Chorus**

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

*(Psalm 24 : 7-10)*

### **28. Air for Soprano**

How beautiful are the feet of them: that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.

*(Isaiah 52 : 7 / Romans 10 : 15)*

### **29. Chorus**

Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.

*(Romans 10 : 18 / Palm 19 : 4)*

### **30. Recitative for Tenor**

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

*(Psalm 2 : 4)*

### **31. Air for Tenor**

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

*(Psalm 2 : 9)*

### **32. Chorus**

Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

*(Revelation 19 : 6)*

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

*(Revelation 11 : 15)*

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

*(Revelation 19 : 16)*

Hallelujah!

## **PART THE THIRD**

### **33. Air for Soprano**

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

*(Job 19 : 25-26)*

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

*(I Corinthians 15 : 20)*

### **34. Chorus**

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

*(I Corinthians 15 : 21-22)*

### **35. Accompagnato for Bass**

Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

*(I Corinthians 15 : 51-52)*

### **36. Air for Bass**

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality.

*(I Corinthians 15 : 52-53)*



### **37. Recitative for Alto**

Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory.  
(*I Corinthians 15 : 54*)

### **38. Duet for Alto and Tenor**

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.  
(*I Corinthians 15 : 55-56*)

### **39. Chorus**

But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
(*I Corinthians 15 : 57*)

### **40. Air for Soprano**

If God for us, who can be against us?  
(*Romans 8 : 31*)  
Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth, who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.  
(*Romans 8 : 33-34*)

### **41. Chorus**

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.  
(*Revelation 5 : 12-14*)

**Amen**

## **IWC ALLIANCE AND CHARITY**

The Moscow Oratorio Society is one of the interest groups of the International Women's Club in Moscow. Proceeds from the choir's performances are donated to the IWC's charities to ensure that the money is properly monitored and used for worthy projects. Proceeds from this concert will be donated to the following charities:

### **THE FOSTER FAMILY PROJECT**

This project was launched by the IWC in 1999. It supports 10 families who are fostering approximately 50 children. The IWC helps these families, all of whom struggle in the face of administrative obstacles, poor funding, health problems, and lack of support from local authorities. Many of the fostered children are mentally handicapped and have problems at school. Some are street-children abandoned by their own parents. The Foster Family Project offers these families the assistance of 12 tutors (in mathematics, Russian and foreign languages, music, chemistry, biology) as well as two psychologists, a family doctor, and a family lawyer.

### **THE STREET CHILDREN PROJECT IN ST PETERSBURG**

This project provides food and other necessities on a regular basis to street children in St Petersburg.

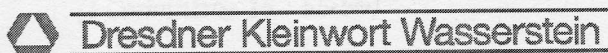


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