

Watford Philharmonic Society - Notices 28th October 2019

WELCOME!

We welcome our orchestra to our combined rehearsal tonight; remember that it is **extended to 10pm**

PRE-CONCERT WORKSHOP, SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER

Altogether about 100 of you participated in some or all of the workshop, conducted with his usual aplomb by Michael and accompanied with her consummate skill by Rosemary. To both we extend our heartfelt thanks for a terrific and challenging 4½ hours of singing. Thanks, also, to Rosemary's assistant, Tim, for all the gear lifting and shifting and connecting whilst serving his sentence of "voice rest" (Oh dear... get better soon, Tim!)

These workshops are a big team effort. Many thanks to Sheila Wheeler and her hospitality team for keeping us caffeinated throughout the day, to the Check-in Ladies, Ticket Ladies and Malcolm for checking us in, selling tickets and selling programmes. The Grand Hall was a great venue (apart from the lack of a piano!) and Arena staff Clive and Ria were very helpful in getting everything ready for us.

REVISED STANDS AND SITS FOR PUCCINI – PLEASE MARK THEM IN

Page 2: **STAND** on Michael's signal.

SIT page 17 on first beat bar 1

STAND page 21 1st beat bar 4 (soloist's "am")

SIT QUIETLY page 58 1st note

STAND page 59 at Allegro UNTIL END OF PIECE

CHECK OUT THESE YOU TUBE PERFORMANCE CLIPS FOR PUCCINI AND FAURÉ

Fauré *Cantique* – Trinity College Cambridge <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=094yLS-plko>

Puccini *Missa de Gloria* – a German recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mUgt_WgyXQ

PRE-CONCERT SUPPERS AT THE COLOSSEUM

Hospitality @ the Colosseum are offering us a 10% discount on their pre-concert suppers. You may book a table by ringing the **Box Office** on **01923 571102** Don't forget to say at the time of booking that you are "**Watford Phil members or guests singing/playing in the concert**". The menus can be viewed on <https://watfordcolosseum.co.uk/Online/>

TWO IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM OUR TICKET LADIES DEN AND GAYNOR

To season ticket holders: please get your requests in quickly to ensure you get the seats you want. The only aisle seats available now are in the Rear Stalls (7 left) - no more now in the Central Block!

Remember that the best way of ordering tickets is via **email**. Please send your request to wps.tickets@btinternet.com or **phone 07380 285788**. Members should give an indication of where their guests would like to sit (e.g: RS back Soprano side), and we shall accommodate them as best we can. For this concert, please note all aisle seats in the Front Stalls and the central block of Rear Stalls have already been sold.

NEXT MONDAY we shall start rehearsing the Christmas programme. **BRING** your "100 Carols for choirs" with you, and please **GET THERE EARLY** to collect other new music.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PUBLICITY COORDINATOR PAM – PLEASE HELP!

Your Society Needs You!

The Programme for the Carol Concert is now in production and we need to bolster the Society's funds by obtaining as many advertisements as we can. Last Season we earned nearly £2,000, but so far I am already £500 down as we have lost a few ads. **Everyone** uses potential advertisers in their daily life, so please approach one of them and ask them to support us and benefit their business.

Rates: Business card multi-ad page: £25 per programme, £80 per season (x4 concerts); ½ page: £60 per programme, £200 per season (x4 concerts); full page: £120 per programme, £400 per season (x4 concerts). My contact details are 01923 286930, pam@warrenhouse.me.uk

ANOTHER SNIPPET FROM OUR WPS MEMBERS' SURVEY 2019 – PUBLICITY

Almost all of you help to distribute our publicity material – a great response, and thank you! But introducing advertisers to help support production of our concert programmes gets a 'could do better!' Several of you said that you have tried but without success – we know it can take a bit of persuasion but this really is a case of 'every little helps.'

Take one of our past programmes to your hairdresser, dentist, podiatrist, physiotherapist, vet, tree pruner, grass cutter, decorator, child minder, favourite pub or restaurant. Advertising rates are very reasonable.



CONCERT SUNDAY November 3rd 2019. CHOIR INFORMATION

TIMINGS:

Dress Rehearsal: 2.00-5.00 pm BREAK @ 3.20-3.40 pm

CHOIR FREE TO LEAVE AT 4 .00 pm

Please note: we can no longer provide hot drinks during the break.

Performance: 7.00 pm -9.00 (approx.)

Car Parking. Please use on-street parking or the various public car parks in the area.

At the Colosseum:

- As usual, enter via the Stage Door and tick your name on the voice sheets provided.
- If you're going away at the end of the rehearsal, please remember to tick yourself out when you leave, and sign in again on return.
- If staying through, from **6.15 pm onwards** please use the side corridors, moving directly from backstage , avoiding going through **any part of the auditorium.**

Dressing rooms

- Band Room 1 CHOIR LADIES
- Band Room 2 CHOIR GENTS and ORCHESTRA GENTS
- **Coat rails** will also be provided in the lobby behind Stage Door Reception, where you can hang coats, etc.

EVENING PERFORMANCE:

- At **6.45 pm** please line up **(Basses, Sops in LEFT HAND corridor by restaurant. (stage right)
Tenors , Altos in RIGHT HAND corridor. (stage left)**
- **When asked** (6.55 pm), lead on to the platform. As usual there will be special arrangements for those who need extra time to get onto the platform
- **10 minutes into the INTERVAL**, please start making your way back to your side corridor in time to lead in for the second half.
- **Ordering interval drinks in advance** always a good idea !

LADIES: Plain black top with long or ¾ length sleeves with corsage.; long plain black skirt or trousers.

IMPORTANT. Please keep any earrings and neck jewellery as simple and unobtrusive as possible. If in doubt, ask Nikki or the voice reps. Thank you !

GENTLEMEN: Black open-neck long sleeved shirt; black trousers. No jacket

Please note:

- A sheet providing guidelines for etiquette when on stage will be provided on the day .Please remember that once we are on stage, we are on show. **PLEASE DO NOT TALK !**
- We will be using folders for the second half only. If you need one, please see our choir librarian, Sheila Malin.
- **IMPORTANT! You will be asked to hand in your copy of the Faure Cantique AT THE END OF THE DRESS REHEARSAL**
- Any emergency on the day please call **07786 870028 (Frances) or 07905 482669 (Nikki)**

Thank you! Frances Pyatt (Concert Manager)

Platform Etiquette. Nov. 3rd 2019

1. Basses and Sopranos line up in the corridor stage right (ie nearest the bar). Tenors and altos in the corridor stage left (ie furthest away from the bar.)

2. **GENERAL POINTS .**

2.1 The audience will remember how we look and 'behave', just as much as how we sing. They will definitely remember sloppy **STANDS AND SITS** more than wrong notes ! Have you written them in your music ? There are not very many, but please do them smoothly exactly in the right place. Don't be first, but **DON'T BE LAST.**

2.2 **FOLDERS.** We will **ONLY** be using folders for the Puccini in the second half. **BUT** take them on with you, and keep them under, or next to your seat (rather than leave them lying around upstairs).

FIRST HALF (Overture, Fauré, Violin Concerto)

3. When you get to your seat, **SIT IMMEDIATELY.** You are now **ON SHOW.** As soon as you arrive on-stage **YOUR** performance has started, so **PLEASE DO NOT TALK.**

4. Remember the slogan - "**STAND** with the **BAND**". **WATCH JEANNE**, the orchestra leader. **STAND** with her as Michael arrives at his rostrum. **SIT** when she sits.

5. Michael will give us the **STAND** before the Cantique. Arms relaxed by your side. Look holy !

6. After the Violin Concerto you may applaud, since you are seated. When Michael leaves, Altos and Sopranos lead off from front. Leave your folder on your seat, ready for the Puccini. Line up again in your corridor after 10 minutes of interval time.

SECOND HALF

(Puccini "Messa di Gloria".)

7. **AS MICHAEL ENTERS**, remain seated, but **WATCH JEANNE in case she stands.** (Remember - **STAND** with the **BAND**)

8. Michael will give you the signal to stand

9. **NEVER** applaud whilst standing up; you are receiving applause. (Applaud the soloists and orchestra only while you are seated).

10. **AT THE END, REMAIN STANDING.** Michael will probably get the orchestra to stand. **STAY UP, but SIT when Jeanne sits.**

11. On leaving the platform (smoothly and smartly) **LEAVE YOUR MUSIC** in the boxes provided.

12. Don't forget your "100 Carols for Choirs" on Monday. Get there early to collect other music.

WATCH MICHAEL ! ENJOY!

Thank you, **Nikki, Tim and Frances**