

Tamesis made a very successful recording of the collection earlier in the year, and CDs will be on sale at the back of the church during the interval and after the concert.

The James Bond theme, which starts our medley The best of Bond, was written by Monty Norman for the first Bond film, Dr No, in 1962, and orchestrated and played by the John Barry Orchestra for the film. John Barry also wrote the song Goldfinger, for the third Bond film in 1964, You only live twice, for the fifth film in 1967, and Diamonds are forever for the seventh film in 1971. Shirley Bassey sang both Goldfinger and Diamonds are forever, although the latter was almost axed from the score because the producer thought the lyrics too sexual. Nancy Sinatra sang You only live twice. She was reported to be very nervous when recording it, worrying that she sounded like Minnie Mouse! Live and let die, from 1973, was written by Paul and Linda McCartney and performed by Wings for the eighth film. Sheena Easton sang For your eyes only, for the twelfth film in 1981, which was written by Bill Conti and Michael Leeson.

It would be a crime to present a season themed around the letter B without including material from the Beatles. Therefore, we offer you two McCartney songs in arrangements written for the King's Singers: And I love her, written in 1964 for the album A hard day's night, and Honey Pie, written for The White Album in 1968.

Beyond the sea is an English version of Charles Trenet's La Mer, which was apparently written in just ten minutes on a train in 1943, on SNCF lavatory paper! Trenet then recorded the song in 1946. The arrangement we sing tonight bears more resemblance to Bobby Darin's 1960 version, with English words which are actually unrelated to the French version. The song has since been recorded more than 400 times in various languages.

Eternal Flame was a 1989 hit for The Bangles. Hoffs and her co-writers were inspired by the eternal flame for Elvis Presley which burns at Graceland. Bridge over troubled water was written by Paul Simon in 1969 with Art Garfunkel in mind, and it was Garfunkel who sang the vocals when the song was recorded. The arrangement you will hear this evening owes more to the gospel-style version performed in 1987 by Luther Vandross and Jennifer Holliday.

We finish tonight with a medley from Bernstein's iconic musical, West Side Story. Set in New York in the mid-1950s, the show is based on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, who become Tony and Maria, a white American boy and a Puerto-Rican girl. With its broad, swooping themes and clever lyrics, West Side Story has remained a favourite world-wide since its first performance in 1957.
LER, June 2010

Tamesis presents the 'Coalition' season
for 2010-2011

For details and tickets, please see our website,
www.tamesischamberchoir.co.uk

We are also looking for new basses. If you are a
bass with good sight-reading, or you know
someone who is, please get in touch!

tamesis

chamber choir

musical director - louise rapple

presents the final concert in the
2009-10 "Three Bs" season

B is for Bohemian

Saturday June 19th 2010

7:30 pm

St Laurence's Church, Reading

www.tamesischamberchoir.co.uk

Programme

Bohemian Rhapsody - Freddie Mercury, arr. Mark Brymer
Brown eyed girl - Van Morrison arr. Deke Sharon
Medley from Oliver! - Lionel Bart arr. Norman Leyden

Interlude:

The lass from the low countree - Betty Roe (soprano:
Bethan Davies)

Hear my song - Jason Robert Brown (soprano: Kat Penn)

Best of the Beach Boys - Beach Boys arr. Ed Lojeski

Medley from Saturday Night Fever - Gibb brothers arr.
Paris Rutherford

By and by - trad. arr. Bob Chilcott

INTERVAL

The best of Bond - various arr. Ned Ginsburg

And I love her - Lennon/McCartney arr. Bob Chilcott

Honey Pie - Lennon/McCartney arr. Paul Hart

Interlude:

Scrapple - Patrick Moore (guitar) and Louise Rapple (voice)

Beyond the Sea - Charles Trenet arr. Kirby Shaw

Eternal Flame - Steinberg/Kelly/Hoffs arr. Simon Eastwood

Bridge over troubled water - Paul Simon arr. Kirby Shaw

Medley from West Side Story - Sondheim/Bernstein arr.
Len Thomas

Many thanks to our instrumentalists: Judith Creighton
(piano), Colin Green (guitar), Phil Berry (bass) and Fabio
Iacono (drums).

Tamesis is:

Sopranos

Jane Anstead
Miranda Bradshaw
Katie Breakspear
Rachel Burgess
Bethan Davies
Penny Firshman
Clare Garner
Jenny Haggart
Kat Penn
Tamsyn Wilson

Altos

Anna Ashcroft
Alison Evans
Sarah Finch
Helen Gilfillan
Charlie Hodgkinson
Liz Rapple
Chloë Robson

Basses

Nick Brown
Andy Button
John Cobb
Austin Jacobs
Patrick Moore

Tenors

Tim Beavan
Simon Eastwood
Jason Murray
Graham Watt

Grateful thanks to the authorities at St Laurence's for
the use of the Church and for making us so welcome.

Tamesis Chamber Choir aims to offer something
different from other choirs in the area. We are a high-
standard, fun chamber choir performing several concerts
per year. We re-audition formally each September but
do sometimes have vacancies during the year, so if you
are interested in singing with us, contact Louise on 0118
931 4279 or email lourap@gmail.com.

Louise Rapple graduated in Music and French from
Reading University in 1998, specialising in performance.
She studied conducting at the Conservatoire de Pau in
southern France and returned to the UK to direct the
Reading University Singers for two years, following that
with seven years in Church music, as Organist and Choir
Director at two local Churches. Louise works at
Shiplake College, teaching piano, conducting choirs and
administrating all sorts of things. She also directs
Tamesis Cathedral Singers, a larger choir whose
members visit Cathedrals twice a year to sing
Evensong, and the Shiplake Community Choir.

Notes on the programme

Our first song this evening needs little introduction,
having frequently been hailed the best single of all
time. Bohemian Rhapsody was released in October
1975 (making it roughly the same age as your
conductor) and at the time it was the most expensive
single ever made. Widely hailed as Queen's magnum
opus, it is in a very unusual 'rock-opera' style.

Brown eyed girl is another extremely popular song.
Written and released in 1967, it featured on Van
Morrison's debut solo album and proved to be the
impetus for his whole solo career. He has said that he
thinks he wrote about 300 songs that are better than
Brown eyed girl, but obviously the world doesn't agree,
since it gets more air-time than any of his other songs!

Lionel Bart's Oliver! premiered in the West End in
1960. It launched the careers of several child actors,
including Phil Collins and Tony Robinson, Davy Jones of
the Monkees and John Bluthal, who is now Frank in the
Vicar of Dibley. Michael Caine just missed out on the
role of Bill Sikes, and is said to have cried for a week!
Apparently Lionel Bart never learned to read or write
music, but this didn't stop his career as a songwriter -
did you know he wrote 'Living Doll' for Cliff Richards
and 'Little White Bull' for Tommy Steele? And linking in
with our Bond theme later on, he wrote the theme song
for 'From Russia with love'.

The four songs included in Best of the Beach Boys were
all recorded between 1963 and 1965. The output of the
band was phenomenal - they have had 36 US Top 40
hits (more than any other US band) and in terms of
singles and album sales are the top selling American
band of all time. Continuing with our Bond theme,
California Girls can be heard in the opening sequences
of 'A view to a kill'.

The album of the 1977 film 'Saturday Night Fever' is
among the best-selling film soundtracks of all time. It
was mainly written and performed by the Bee Gees,
who originally wrote five songs for the movie, four of
which feature in our medley. The fifth, 'If I can't have
you', isn't included in the medley, which instead
includes the better-known 'Jive Talkin', a previously
released Bee Gees song. Ironically, although Jive Talkin'
is on the soundtrack for the film, it was never actually
heard in the film, being used in a scene that was cut
before its release!

We go into the interval this evening with **By and by**, a
setting of the traditional American Negro Spiritual. This
arrangement by Bob Chilcott, who edited the anthology
Spirituals for Choirs from which the song is taken.