



I do believe we did it!!! Judging from the applause and the standing ovation at the end of the Bernstein/Orff concert I'd say we did. It was so exciting for the choir to bring you the beautiful Chichester Psalms and of course the ever popular Carmina Burana – with full orchestra – we haven't done that for many years, and what a wonderful, joyous sound the combined forces of choir and orchestra made. Nicholas Nicolaidis and Maudée Montierre were on top form – eish – the poor roasting swan, and the abbot!! And Maudée's superb top notes!!

The next Choir produced concert will be equally – or actually even more – exciting:

Benjamin Britten: War Requiem
at the Linder Auditorium - Tuesday 16th October @ 19:30
*with the Dresden Singakademie, the Philharmonia Choir of Cape Town,
Chanticleer Singers, Dresden Singakademie Children's Choir, Boys of St. John's Choir,
the Johannesburg Festival Orchestra & Landesjugendorchester Sachsen*
Soloists: Andiswa Makana (soprano), Siyabonga Maqungo (tenor), Daniel Ocha (baritone)
Conductors: Ekkehard Klemm, Milko Kersten & our very own Richard C

The War Requiem, is a large-scale, non-liturgical setting of the Requiem composed by Benjamin Britten mostly in 1961 and completed in January 1962. The traditional Latin texts are interspersed, in telling juxtaposition, with settings of poems by Wilfred Owen, written in World War I. The War Requiem, first performed on 30 May 1962, was commissioned to mark the consecration of the new Coventry Cathedral, which was built after the original fourteenth-century structure was destroyed in a World War II bombing raid. Britten, a pacifist, was inspired by the commission, which gave him complete freedom in deciding what to compose. He chose to set the traditional Latin Mass for the Dead interwoven with nine poems about war by the English poet Wilfred Owen.

This is a work we've never performed before – and with the collaboration with the German choirs and orchestra + the Cape Town choir, the Chanticleers, the St John's boys et al it's going to be a truly spectacular concert of a magnitude you've never seen before. Don't miss out – book your tickets now.

Booking for this concert is through Debbie 082 853 9709 or scj@worldonline.co.za or me on 011 788 2340 or news@symphonychoirofjohannesburg.co.za as usual.

Please remember that booking is essential – it makes the collection of your tickets so much easier.

We thank you once again for your generous support of the Choir. It is greatly appreciated!

Yours sincerely, on behalf of the Symphony Choir of Johannesburg,

Kate Pope

PO Box 91482 Auckland Park
2006

Tel: Debbie 082 853 9709

E-mail: scj@worldonline.co.za

Web:

www.symphonychoirofjohannesburg.co.za

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