

Choir of Clare College Cambridge

Graham Ross, director

Since the founding of a mixed voice choir in 1972, the Choir of Clare College has gained an international reputation as one of the world's leading university choirs.

In addition to its primary function of leading services three times a week in the College chapel, the Choir keeps an active schedule recording, broadcasting, and performing. Former directors have included John Rutter and Timothy Brown. Under the direction of Graham Ross, Director of Music since 2010, it has been praised for its consistently 'thrilling' and 'outstanding' performances worldwide. Recent engagements include Handel's *Messiah* with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the world première of Alexander Raskatov's *Green Mass* with the London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO), concerts in the Spitalfields Festival, Notre Dame Cathedral, and a five-state tour of the USA. The Choir's 2016/17 season includes a major tour to Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia, concerts across the Netherlands and UK, and a performance of Mahler's Symphony No.8 with the LPO. In 2017 the Choir also embarks on a Bach cantata recording and performance project to commemorate 500 years since the Reformation.

In addition to live performances, the Choir has produced an impressive discography of more than forty recordings. Their recordings under Graham Ross on the Harmonia Mundi label have been released to great critical acclaim, earning praise for 'impeccable ensemble' and 'immaculate performances', a *Le Choix de France Musique* and a *Diapason d'Or* award, and garnering a *Gramophone Award* nomination.

The Choir has toured widely, including in the United States of America, Australia, Japan, China, Russia, the Middle East and mainland Europe. It has collaborated with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in performances of Handel's *Jephtha* under the direction of René Jacobs, with the Australian Chamber Orchestra in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, with the London Philharmonic Orchestra in Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* at the Royal Festival Hall conducted by Sir Mark Elder, and with many other ensembles including the Academy of Ancient Music, European Union Baroque Orchestra, Freiburger Barockorchester, Israel Camerata, Aurora Orchestra, the Schubert Ensemble and the Dmitri Ensemble. The Choir performs a wide range of repertoire throughout the year, and has commissioned and premièred works by many composers, including Herbert Howells, John Tavener, John Rutter, Giles Swayne, James Whitbourn, Andrew Carter, Jonathan Dove, Julian Phillips, Tarik O'Regan, Graham Ross, Brett Dean, Matthew Martin and Nico Muhly.

"Here is music with the power to transform your life."

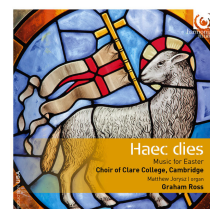
THE TIMES

"Choral singing which it would be difficult to equal anywhere"

5 stars, MUSIC OMH

Latest disc on Harmonia Mundi

The Choir continue their acclaimed series of **music for the church year** with a sequence for Easter Day that spans five centuries and includes music by Lassus, Tavener, Vaughan Williams, Byrd, Martin and Rachmaninov.

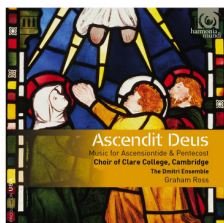


GRAHAM ROSS – DIRECTOR

Graham Ross is a conductor of a wide range of repertoire and one of today's youngest published composers. He is co-founder and Principal Conductor of The Dmitri Ensemble with whom he has conducted acclaimed première recordings of works by MacMillan, Bingham and Swayne. He has worked with orchestras such as Australian Chamber Orchestra, Aalborg Symfoniorkester, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and London Mozart Players, and will mark his debuts with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Singers in the coming season.



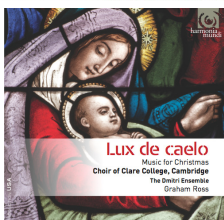
SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY: MUSIC FOR THE CHURCH YEAR



ASCENDIT DEUS: MUSIC FOR ASCENSIONTIDE & PENTECOST

Harmonia Mundi USA: HMU 907623s

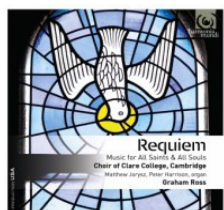
"Splendidly bright...vigorous...haunting effect...all beautifully performed by this accomplished choir. Let's hope an Easter disc is on its way." **GRAMOPHONE**



LUX DE CAELO: MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

Harmonia Mundi USA: HMU 907615

"Singing-wise, this might just be the best disc of the year. These young voices are game for anything, impeccably drilled and musically sensitive." **SINFINI MUSIC**



REQUIEM: MUSIC FOR ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

Harmonia Mundi USA: HMU 907617

"the Choir of Clare College, conducted by Graham Ross, summons all its eloquence for a masterpiece of the genre." **** **FINANCIAL TIMES**



CHORAL & ORCHESTRAL WORKS

The Choir performs regularly with orchestras including the Australian Chamber Orchestra, and London and Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestras.

BACH St John Passion, St Matthew Passion, Christmas Oratorio, Mass in B minor, Cantatas, BERNSTEIN Chichester Psalms, BRITTEN St Nicolas, BUXTEHUDE Membra Jesu Nostri, DURUFLE Requiem, ELGAR The Dream of Gerontius (semi-chorus), FAURE Requiem, HANDEL Messiah, Ode on St Cecilia's Day, Utrecht Te Deum, MACMILLAN Seven Last Words from the Cross, MONTEVERDI Vespers, MOZART Requiem, Solemn Vespers, PURCELL Verse Anthems, RASKATOV Green Mass (chorus) RUTTER Requiem, SCHUTZ The Christmas Story, VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Serenade to Music

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