

London Saxophone Choir



Saturday 28th April 7.30pm

**St George the Martyr Borough High Street
London SE1 1JA**

with special guests:

Vocal Kicks

conductor: Roger Cawkwell

SONG AND DANCE



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Programme

Dowd's Favourite – Traditional

We start our concert with a traditional Irish reel (in the dorian mode) arranged imaginatively in eight parts by James Crockford.

Popular Dances – Matyas Seiber

Seiber (1905-1960) came to this country in the mid 30s to escape Nazi persecution and although he was a classically trained composer, worked extensively in the popular music domain as well as teaching composition at Morley College. Tonight we are playing an arrangement of his second set of pieces in popular styles of the day, originally written as easy piano solos or duets. The six movements are: Tango, Three Old Dances (Waltz/Polka/Mazurka), Cakewalk, Foxtrot, Blues and Carioca.

Selections from Vocal Kicks (pieces to be announced)

Deep River and Danse Negre – Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Coleridge-Taylor, whose centenary it is this year, was in his time widely known as “Britain’s first black classical composer”. Born in 1875, he lived most of his life in Croydon. Deep River is an arrangement of the traditional Negro Spiritual, originally for male voices and Danse Negre is the final movement of his “Suite Africaine” for piano.

Two Country Dances – Mozart

As well as writing “serious” pieces such as symphonies, operas and string quartets, Mozart created many compositions for popular consumption. Here are two examples of his pieces in the Landler style.

Interval

Suite No 1 – Stravinsky

Originally written as simple piano pieces, Stravinsky also orchestrated them for chamber orchestra. The four movements are: Introduction, Napolitana, Espagnola and Balalaika.

Two Dances – Lully

Along with all Baroque composers, Lully write many pieces in dance style. These two movements, Loure and Rigaudon are taken from his “Concert du Souper du Roi” written in 1707.

Selections from Vocal Kicks (pieces to be announced)

Jamaican Dances – Joseph Holbrooke

Holbrook (1878-1958) was born in Holborne the son of a musician and father to the renowned bassoonist Gwydion Brooke. He wrote four sets of Jamaican Dances (“for the young”) tonight we are playing No. 1 “Ring Tunes”. The six short movements are: Where’s My Lover? Hear Duppy Talk, Ring a Diamond, On the Carpet, Oh! Palmer Oh! and Baby.

Notturmo – Rimsky-Korsakov

The composer, already an expert in orchestration, became interested in the possibilities of writing for the chromatic horn, which arrived in Russia during his working lifetime. He scored this beautifully simple and lyrical nocturne for a quartet of horns but it also works well on a couple of dozen Saxophones.

Petite Sweet – Karen Street

Karen Street, herself an accordionist and Saxophone player, originally wrote tonight’s finale for “Sax Discrimination” and all-female sextet from Wakefield Girl’s High School. The four confectionary-themed movements are: Strawberry Velvet, Banoffie Pie, Tangerine Dream and Bombe Surprise.

Roger Cawkwell – Conductor

Roger studied composition, saxophone, clarinet, flute & piano at the Royal Academy of Music finishing in the early 70s. Since then he has been active in jazz and popular music as well as in classical styles, playing with groups as diverse as the John Dankworth Band, the London Sinfonietta and the British soul band The Foundations. At the turn of the Millennium he began to re-invent himself as a brass player and currently plays French horn in several wind groups.

He has always been active as a writer, being musical assistant to Dankworth and Mike Gibbs. He has contributed scores to numerous groups including the Ambache Chamber Orchestra, Lambeth Wind Orchestra and the Symphonic Wind Orchestra of North London. As a teacher Roger has coached many students at Morley and currently, Goldsmiths College.

London Saxophone Choir

The London Saxophone Choir, formed in February 2008, is a group of enthusiastic Saxophone players who rehearse most weeks within walking distance of Pimlico and Victoria Stations. We have an inclusive membership policy (no auditions) and draw members from all walks of life and from across London. We play specially arranged music in a variety of styles; baroque, classical, modern(ish) and jazz and give formal concerts from time to time as well as playing on numerous bandstands in the Summer, switching to carol concerts in the Winter. Our core instrumentation includes soprano, alto, tenor and baritone saxes with sopranino and bass added from time to time.

Sopranino

André Stryger
Steve Whiteley

Soprano

Samantha Banton
Anne Edwards
Emma Harwood-Jones
André Stryger
Steve Whiteley

Alto

Catherine Dimmock
Anne Edwards
Charlotte Knights
Michael Long
Sharon Moloney
Carol Pennicooke
Paul Sargeant
Neal Suchak

Tenor

Peter Bruce
Derek Chase
David Salcedo
Chris Serbutt
Lesley Sims
Stuart Whatton
Clare Wheatcroft

Baritone

Rachel Bartlett
John Holland
Martin McHugh

Bass

John Elliott

Percussion

David Coronel

Vocal Kicks

Vocal Kicks is a flexible ensemble of solo singers who take pride in planning themed and innovative concert programmes for all occasions, featuring a vast array of music from throughout the ages all performed to the same high standard. The ensemble is project based, able to vary its work to suit different venues, from recital halls to private parties and functions and to entertain audiences large and small. The group also enjoys matching music from different eras with vintage-inspired costumes and accessories. Although a relatively new venture, all the members of Vocal Kicks are established performers with an impressive background in professional music-making, from opera and musical theatre to vocal consort and concert work, and its members have all performed in major venues throughout the UK.

Singers:

Felicity Hayward, Hermione Ruck Keene (soprano)
Sarah Barham, Jana Skene (mezzo-soprano)