



## **Carl Orff 'Carmina Burana' with Brian Kay**

**Sunday 14 July 2019**

**Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 2AP**

**Rehearsals: 11.00am–1.00pm (with piano); 2.30–4.15pm (with full orchestra)**

**PLUS preliminary workshop Saturday 29 June**

*The two essential rehearsals on the day are for ensemble, balance and continuity, and will not allow time for note-learning: please be conscientious, learn your part at home, and consider coming to the optional workshop on 29 June. Rehearsal CDs, which highlight the individual voice-parts and are an invaluable learning aid for less experienced singers, are available from ChoraLine ([www.choraline.com](http://www.choraline.com) or 01285 644845). Make learning enjoyable by rehearsing with friends; established choirs who are taking part in this performance might consider organising an open rehearsal to include individual singers in their area. Join our Facebook group (*The Really Big Chorus Singers and Supporters*) and tell others what you are doing.*

### **29 June workshop at Regent Hall, Oxford Street**

*Directions.* See final page of these notes for instructions and a map.

*Timings.* The workshop runs from 2.30 until 5.30pm. Singers will be admitted via the Oxford Street entrance from 1.45pm; please be ready to show your tickets. The price of pre-booked tickets is £15; if seats are not all sold, you may be able to pay on the door at the increased price of £20, but you are urged to book in advance by downloading the form from our website. There will be a tea-break during the afternoon; Brian Kay may stagger this for upper and lower voices to make the most of the time available and to minimise queues.

*Refreshments.* There is a café at Regent Hall, but it will struggle to cope with everyone, so please consider nipping out to get tea or coffee from one of the many Oxford Street coffee bars, or bring your refreshments with you.

*NB: Regent Hall is open to the public, and you are advised to take great care of all personal belongings since the hall will not be locked at any time.*

### **14 July RAH rehearsal/concert timetable**

*(any changes will be posted on our website and on our Facebook page nearer the time)*

**10.15am:** Singers will be admitted via a limited number of doors at the back of the Hall; see **Admittance to the Hall** (below) for details, and follow directions from stewards at all times.

**11.00am:** 2-hour choral rehearsal with piano (there is no break in this rehearsal).

**1.00pm:** 90-minute lunch break. The Royal Albert Hall does not permit patrons to bring their own food and drink into the Hall. You may visit one of the many catering outlets within the Hall (one or both of the Arena Foyer Bars will be serving soup, sandwiches and snacks at a discount on regular prices), or you can make your own arrangements outside. Kensington Gardens opposite is ideally suited for a picnic in good weather and is often full of TRBC singers.

*When you return after lunch, please be as quiet as possible while the orchestra rehearses*

**2.30pm:** Choral rehearsal with full orchestra. Tea and other refreshments will, we hope, be available in the Hall from 4.15pm.

**4.15pm:** Choir free until the evening performance. You may stay and listen quietly to the orchestra and soloists until they finish rehearsing at 5.30pm.

**6.15pm:** The doors will be opened to the public for the evening performance.

**7.00pm:** Concert starts; please be in your seats no later than 6.55 pm; if your seat is in the middle of a row, try and be in place earlier rather than later.

**7.45pm:** Interval (timing is approximate).

**9.15pm:** Concert ends (timing is approximate).

## Concert dress

**Sopranos/Altos** in groups from regular choirs may dress as they would for their own choir's concerts. Individuals and other groups should adopt the TRBC colour-scheme: a top, dress, scarf or shawl in mid-blue for Sopranos, or red for Altos. If you're not sure about the shade, visit [www.kettlewellcolours.co.uk/season/all-colours](http://www.kettlewellcolours.co.uk/season/all-colours), where Royal Blue/Victoria Blue/Electric Blue are all ideal for sopranos, and Geranium/Poppy/True Red are good for altos. **Tenors/Basses** should wear dark suits or dinner jackets (no braces, please, in case it is warm enough for jackets to be removed) and a white shirt with tie or bow-tie. **Female tenors** should wear a white shirt and black skirt or trousers, with an optional bow-tie; **male altos** should dress as the tenors/basses, or with a red shirt. Alternatively, all voices may wear our official polo tops which are available in blue (Sopranos), red (Altos), white (Tenors) and black (Basses). Download an order form from our website: [www.trbc.co.uk](http://www.trbc.co.uk) (shirts will also be for sale on the day, with a contribution going to the Royal National Institute for Blind people). School parties are advised to wear their normal uniforms to assist with group management.

## Dressing rooms

Gentlemen may use Chorus Room A which is in the West corridor under the Arena, best reached from the Heinken Green Room (formerly the West Arena Foyer). Ladies may use Chorus Room B in the basement corridor; ask Stewards for directions if you do not know where this is. Please be aware that these areas will not be locked at any time, so keep your valuables with you.

## Admittance to the Hall

For the rehearsals, a limited number of doors will be open from 10.15am onwards at the back of the Hall (the opposite side to the Albert Memorial). These are likely to be 1, 2a and 9, which may not be the same as the door number printed on your ticket. All other doors will be locked until the general public is admitted at 6.15pm, when you can use the door number on the ticket. *Bag searches will be in operation:* please allow extra time so that the rehearsal does not start late.

## Scores

Please bring your own vocal scores. *Carmina Burana* is published by Schott and is widely available. The original printing (1937), with a hard-to-read script, was superseded in 1996 by a new, much clearer printing. Both are musically compatible, with the same rehearsal figures; page numbers, however, will be different. If you have no local supplier, try Blackwell's Music Shop: 01865 333582 or email [printed.music@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:printed.music@blackwell.co.uk). For practice CDs/MP3 files contact ChoraLine: [www.choraline.com](http://www.choraline.com) or 01285 644845.

## Musical instructions for 'Carmina Burana'

Because of the rehearsals on the day of the concert, and the workshop on 29 June, detailed musical instructions will not be issued in advance. Seating will be divided into first and second parts, and singers should prepare all of *Carmina Burana*. The whole choir will sing as much as possible, and any restriction of numbers in small- choir passages will be arranged at the rehearsal.

The *ragazzi* sections will be sung by a separate children's choir.

For no. 19 (p. 95 in recent vocal scores, p. 67 in older ones) the men should learn it thoroughly so they can perform it without taking their eyes off the conductor. Sing both staves, including where marked 'solo', switching between them divisi as follows:

Lower stave (1) All Tenors; (2) Bass 1 & Baritones; (3) Bass 2

Upper stave (1) Tenor 1; (2) Tenor 2; (3) All Basses

A full translation and other interesting information about *Carmina Burana* can be found on the Classical Net website:

[www.classical.net/music/comp.lst/works/orff-cb/carmlyr.php](http://www.classical.net/music/comp.lst/works/orff-cb/carmlyr.php)

## Royal National Institute of Blind People

This year, our summer concert is supporting the Royal National Institute of Blind People, with all proceeds from programme sales, advertising and bucket collections going to this well-known charity which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2018. Find out more about the RNIB and its work at [www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk).

## Talk about the concert

Do tell other people that you are taking part and how much you enjoy singing with The Really Big Chorus – they might want to join you next time. Use social media and, if you are a large group of singers from one area, try and interest your local press. Make sure they have our website address, and ask them to print it: [www.trbc.co.uk](http://www.trbc.co.uk). To link up with conversations and discussions around the country, join our Facebook group which is called 'The Really Big Chorus Singers and Supporters', and follow us on Twitter: @ReallyBigChorus.

## How to find Regent Hall

The Salvation Army Regent Hall is at 275 Oxford Street, London W1C 2DJ, almost opposite John Lewis; look above the shops on the south side of the street to see the blue-bordered red flag with the gold star in the centre. This is right in the heart of London's West End and a couple of minutes' walk westward from Oxford Circus tube station. Parking is possible in public car-parks, but is prohibitively expensive; public transport, by contrast, could hardly be easier, with connections to King's Cross, Euston, Victoria, Paddington or Waterloo taking on average no more than 20 minutes by underground (visit [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk) for tips on planning a route and to check for possible scheduled disruptions to tube services). There is level access for wheelchairs at both the front and the rear of the building, but drop-off parking is allowed at the rear door only – please telephone the hall on 020 7629 5424 for detailed information.

