



*New Zealand Tour*  
**TIFFIN BOYS' CHOIR**  
SIMON TOYNE DIRECTOR | THOMAS GAYNOR ORGAN



**15 FEBRUARY – 1 MARCH 2009**

# TIFFIN BOYS' CHOIR

## *New Zealand Tour 2009*

DIRECTOR **SIMON TOYNE**

Since its foundation in 1957, the Tiffin Boys' Choir has been one of the few state school choirs to have been continually at the forefront of the choral music scene in Britain, and is one of the most famous Boys' Choirs in the world. It has given the premiere performances of works by, among others, John Gardner, Christopher Brown, Elizabeth Poston and Antony Pitts, recorded widely for the major recording companies, and undertaken frequent concerts and tours in England and abroad.

The choir has worked with all the London orchestras and performs regularly with the Royal Opera. Recent engagements have included critically acclaimed performances of *Carmen* (Antonio Pappano) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Richard Hickox), *Boris Godunov* with the Bolshoi Opera, performances of Britten's *War Requiem* with Vladimir Ashkenazy, Kurt Masur, Richard Hickox and Antonio Pappano, a series of a *capella* concerts at the Spoleto Festival and throughout Romania, and Mahler's *Third Symphony* with the LSO and Valery Gergiev and the LPO and Gennadi Rozhdestvensky.

The choir has made recordings of most of the orchestral repertoire that includes boys' choir. Notable releases have included Mahler's *Eighth Symphony* with Klaus Tennstedt, which was nominated for a Grammy Award, *Il Trittico* (Puccini), *Werther* (Massenet) and *Tosca* (Puccini) for EMI and Antonio Pappano, *Billy Budd* (Britten) with the LSO and Richard Hickox, Mahler's *Third Symphony* with the Philharmonia and Benjamin Zander, and Britten's *War Requiem* with the LPO and Kurt Masur. Current releases include *Mahler 3* (LSO/Gergiev) on LSO Live, and *Carmina Burana* (LSO/Hickox) and *Owen Wingrave* (CLS/Hickox) on Chandos, as well as the soundtrack on the computer game *Fable II*.

Tiffin School is state grammar school and specialist Performing Arts College in Kingston-upon-Thames, UK, described by OFSTED as "exceptional". Almost all the 1200 boys in the school play a musical instrument, and over 100 boys study Music at GCSE and A Level. The school has been closely connected with the formation and development of the National Youth Music Theatre. Several members of the choir have gained choral scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge, singing in the choirs of King's College, St John's College and New College.

Engagements in 2008 included performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Royal Opera House, the Duruflé *Requiem* and Bach Cantatas 48 & 118 with the London Mozart Players; Britten *Spring Symphony* with the LSO and Daniel Harding. A concert tour to Dresden and Leipzig in July 2008 saw the largest concert audience in recent memory at the Thomaskirche Leipzig. The choir performed the Britten *War Requiem* with Antonio Pappano and the Chorus and Orchestra of the Royal Opera House at the Royal Albert Hall on 9 November 2008 and will repeat this at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on 21 March 2009. All 42 boys in the choir on this New Zealand tour are aged between 11-18.

## *Tour Schedule*

### **SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY**

**9.30 am, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell, Auckland**  
PARTICIPATION IN CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST  
with Auckland Cathedral Choir

**5.00 pm, Old St Mary's Cathedral, Parnell, Auckland**  
CHORAL EVENSONG  
Stanford in C; Hear my Prayer (Mendelssohn)

### **TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY**

**10.40 am, King's College, Auckland**  
PERFORMANCE IN COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

### **WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY**

**5.30 pm, St Andrew's Church, Taupo**  
RECITAL  
If ye love me (Tallis); Salvator mundi (Tallis);  
Ave verum corpus (Byrd)  
Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn)  
Five Spirituals from *A Child of our Time* (Tippett)  
Rejoice in the Lamb (Britten)  
Organ Music by Bach and Vierne

### **SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY**

**6.00 pm, Michael Fowler Centre, Wellington**  
KOTUKU RISING CONCERT  
Five Spirituals from *A Child of our Time* (Tippett)  
Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn)  
plus Daniel Rodriguez, Zane Te Wiremu Jarvis, the choristers of Wellington Cathedral, Shakespeare Globe New Zealand, and much more besides  
<http://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/show.aspx?sh=KOTUKU09>

### **SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY**

**5.00 pm, St Paul's Cathedral, Wellington**  
CHORAL EVENSONG WITH WELLINGTON CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit (Tallis); Stanford in C;  
Song for Athene (Tavener)

### **TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY**

**7.30 pm, St Paul's Cathedral, Dunedin**  
RECITAL  
If ye love me (Tallis); Salvator mundi (Tallis);  
Ave verum corpus (Byrd)  
*Organ: Chorale Varié sur le thème du Veni Creator (Duruflé)*  
Angels; The Lamb; Hymn to the Mother of God; Song for Athene (Tavener)  
For lo, I raise up (Stanford)  
*Organ: Fugue sur le thème du carillon des heures de la cathédrale de Soissons (Duruflé)*  
Rejoice in the Lamb (Britten)

### **SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY**

**7.30 pm, Christ Church Cathedral**  
RECITAL WITH CHRIST COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIR  
Chichester Psalms (Bernstein)  
*Organ: Chorale Varié sur le thème du Veni Creator (Duruflé)*  
CHRIST COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIR – Music tba  
If ye love me (Tallis); Salvator mundi (Tallis);  
Ave verum corpus (Byrd)  
Five Spirituals from *A Child of our Time* (Tippett)  
*Organ – Toccata (Dubois)*  
Rejoice in the Lamb (Britten)

### **SUNDAY 1 MARCH**

**5.30 pm, Christ Church Cathedral**  
CHORAL EVENSONG  
Steal away (arr. Tippett); Stanford in C; For lo, I raise up (Stanford)