

**THE ENGLISH SEMINAR CHOIR**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: MICHEL UHLMANN

# FROM THE TAVERN TO THE CHURCH

SECULAR AND  
SACRED TRADITIONS  
OF AN ENGLISH  
CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday  
10 Dec 2015  
19.30

Kartäuserkirche  
des Waisenhauses  
Theodorskirchplatz 7  
Basel

Friday  
11 Dec 2015  
19.30

Schönes Haus  
English Seminar  
Nadelberg 6  
Basel  
(concert followed  
by apéro)

Sunday  
13 Dec 2015  
17.00

Temple Saint Jean  
12, rue de la  
Synagogue  
Mulhouse

Free Entrance — Collection

A COLLECTION of  
Catches Canons and Gleees  
FOR

Three, four, five, six and nine Voices  
never before published

Selected by

Thomas Warren

Price 10<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>

John Phillips sculp<sup>t</sup>

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LONDON Printed by Longman and Broderip N<sup>o</sup> 26 Cheapside and N<sup>o</sup> 13 Hay Market

Where may be had just Publish'd a Pocket Volume of Catches Compos'd by D<sup>r</sup> Arne, D<sup>r</sup> Boyce D<sup>r</sup> Hayes D<sup>r</sup> Nares. Sig<sup>r</sup> Giardini  
M<sup>r</sup> Bat..thill, M<sup>r</sup> Berg, M<sup>r</sup> Warren and many other of the most Eminent Masters.

## **From the Tavern to the Church – Secular and sacred traditions of an English Christmas Eve.**

Imagine it is Christmas Eve in an English village. We will begin by performing a series of popular 18<sup>th</sup> Century men and women's "Catches and Gleees" in a Tavern-like atmosphere. These pieces are taken from *A Collection of Catches, Canons and Gleees*" by Thomas Warren, published in London in 1762. At this time Italian composers were in demand, many travelling to England to compose pieces. It was therefore usual for both Italian and English pieces to be sung by societies of like-minded revelers during Georgian times

We will then be "called to the church" where will follow the Anglican tradition of carols and anthems as if we were in the local church for midnight mass. We will sing well known English carols and enjoy the beautiful choral music that is typical at this time of year. We do not wish a religious presentation, rather we desire to evoke the power of sacred music to reach deep into our hearts and inspire us with gladness and delight.

We aim to re-create the complex mix of joy and devotion that is typical through the ages of an English Christmas celebration.

**The Tavern**  
*A Collection of Catches,  
Canons and Glee*  
Thomas Warren, London, 1762

Anonymous

*May the King Live Long*

Felice de Giardini  
Turin, 1716 – Moscow, 1796  
Italian violonist and composer

*A Glee:  
Beviamo tutti tre*

Jonathan Battishill  
1738 – 1806  
Organist and composer

*A 3 Voci:  
Ye Birds*

Jonathan Battishill

*A 3 Voci:  
A Hogshead*

? Henry Hall  
c1656 – 1707  
Organist and composer

*A Catch:  
Oyl and Vinegar*

Poem by David Garrick  
1717 – 1779  
Actor, director and impresario  
Set in music by Samuel Long  
? 1725 – 1764

*To a young lady embroidering:  
Arachne*

Samuel Long

*A Glee:  
Love asleep*

Felice de Giardini

*A Glee:  
Voglio andare a letto*

Giovanni Battista Martini  
1708 – 1784  
Known as *Padre Martini*

*A Glee:  
Campana che suona*

# The Church

Poem by Cecil Frances Alexander  
1818 – 1895  
Set in music by Henry Gauntlett  
1805 – 1876

*Once in Royal David's City*

Gregorian Chant for the Christmas  
service

*Hodie christus natus est*

Gregorian Chant for the Christmas  
service

*Puer natus in Bethlehem*

Thomas Ravenscroft  
c1582 – c1635

*Remember, O Thou Man*

Benjamin Britten  
1913 – 1976

*Deo Gracias*  
from "A Ceremony of Carols"

Anonymous  
from the Bodleian Archive  
MS. Selden B. 26, f. 14v

*Nowel: Owt of your slepe aryse*

William Byrd  
1543 – 1623

*Ave verum corpus*

Thomas Tallis  
1505 – 1585

*O nata lux*

Robert Lucas Pearsall  
1795 – 1856

*In dulci jubilo*

## Michel Uhlmann

Michel Uhlmann began his musical formation in his hometown Strasbourg. He studied organ and musicology, followed by studies in choir conducting with Hans-Martin Linde at the Basel conservatory and orchestra conducting with Francis Travis, then principal conductor of the Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana. He attended numerous master classes, amongst others with Eric Ericson and Franco Ferrara.



While still studying he was put in charge of the vocal training courses at the music school in Basel, and after his final degree he was appointed director of the vocal ensemble of the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis, both of which he pursues until today.

He founded the vocal ensemble *piacere vocale*, with which he gave concerts at renowned festivals both at home and abroad, amongst others at the Festival de St. Céré and the Festival de Caunes. The ensemble won the first prize at the national choir competition at Charmey as well as the first prize at the international choir competition at Montreux.

Besides conducting work, Uhlmann has been working as musicologist at the Ensemble Baroque de Limoges for ten years and manages the local research department as assistant of Christophe Coin. In this context he publishes previously unreleased scores and is engaged in the reconstruction of lost musical instruments. He also holds symposia on voice, articulation and musical semiotics.

Currently, in addition to the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis, Michel directs the English Seminar Choir, which has evolved into one of the most ambitious amateur ensembles in Basel since he became Musical Director in 2009.

In his widespread occupation as musician and musicologist Michel has worked with such outstanding musicians as Oliver Messiaen, Anthony Rooley, Edward Tarr and Bruce Dickey.





### **Soprano**

Carine Dessementet  
Kasia Frycz  
Simone Hiltcher  
Anna Stolz  
Amanda Zurbrügg

### **Alto**

Karin Ahlstrand  
Lieve Decoster  
Rosemary Hammond  
Kristin Kranenberg  
Catherine Lezon  
Marisa Pellicer  
Alison Roy  
Aniela Schacher  
Marianne Schweizer  
Natalia Varga

### **Tenor**

Harry Benjamin  
Robert Grantham  
Cristian Pretti  
Herbert Wäckerlin  
Simon Waldner

### **Bass**

David Hughes  
Richard Lewis  
Roland Österle  
Evgeniy Ozonov

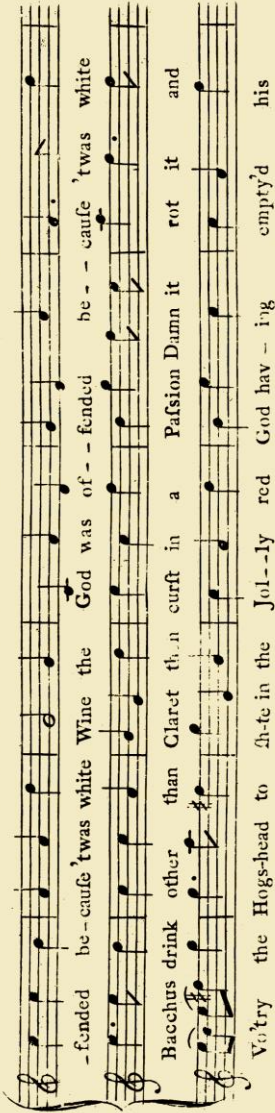
The English Seminar Choir was founded in 1989 by Allan Turner, a former lecturer at Basel University, in order to provide an opportunity for students to practice English through song. With his profound knowledge of English choral repertoire and his dedication to his "hobby", the choir grew and thrived to become an integral part of the University and of Basel cultural life.

The choir is a non-profit making organisation, funded by members' dues, concert donations and sponsors contributions. Support in the form of concert attendance and donations, and assistance in the form of arts grants and sponsorship is greatly appreciated.

1<sup>st</sup>2<sup>d</sup>3<sup>d</sup>

Then curst in a Pafsion Damn it rot it and marr it didst ev-er know

So the Jol-ly red God having empty'd his white Wine re - turn'd the poor



Bacchus drink other than Claret th'n curst in a Pafsion Damn it rot it and

Votry the Hogs-head to th-te in the Jol-ly red God hav - ing empty'd his



marr it didst ev-er know Bacchus drink o - - ther than Claret

white Wine re - - turn'd the poor Votry the Hogs-head to th-te in



No. 70.

Once in royal David's City.

*Gently.*



2.  
He came down to earth from Heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall:  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth the SAVIOUR holy.

3.  
And thro' all His wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lovely Maiden  
In whose gentle arms He lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as He.



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Abendessen: 18.30 – 24.00

WARME KÜCHE BIS 22.30

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### **English Seminar Choir – Looking for Singers**

We are a vocal ensemble and we love to sing pieces from renaissance to modern times. We are looking for enthusiastic men and women to join us and share our passion for beautiful music.

We meet on a Tuesday from 12.15 – 13.45 at the English Seminar at Nadelberg 6 in the heart of the university district of Basel.

Please call our musical director, Michel Uhlmann, at 079 334 44 11, email us at [info@esc-basel.ch](mailto:info@esc-basel.ch), visit our homepage: [www.esc-basel.ch](http://www.esc-basel.ch) or come to one of our rehearsals