

Winsford Civic Hall
Three Choirs Festival

Winsford ~ Nantwich ~ Market Drayton



MESSA DA REQUIEM

Giuseppe Verdi

31st March 1979 at 7.30p.m.

Price 20p



MESSA DA REQUIEM
by
Verdi

Catherine Foster (*Soprano*)
Margaret Lindsay (*Mezzo-Soprano*)
Brian Cookson (*Tenor*)
Ian Comboy (*Bass*)

MARKET DRAYTON CHORAL SOCIETY
(*Chorus Master — Andrew Boden*)

NANTWICH & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY
(*Chorus Master — Michael Bridger*)

WINSFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

STOCKPORT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
(*Leader — John Phillips*)
Conductor :— BRIAN GREENSILL

Saturday 31st MARCH 1979
at 7.30 p.m.



Although Verdi chose to set the words of the ancient Latin mass for the dead for his great choral masterpiece, the work is typically operatic in style, as one would expect from the man who was arguably the greatest Italian operatic composer. Like most of his works outside the opera house, the Requiem was written for a particular occasion. First conceived as a contribution to a Mass for the Dead which was to be written jointly by all the leading Italian composers in memory of Rossini's death in 1868 (this venture was unsuccessful due to lack of co-operation among the other composers), the extended and completed work was first performed on May 22nd 1874 in memory of another great Italian, the poet Alessandro Manzoni. Verdi conducted this first performance himself, at San Marco Church in Milan, and the work was rapturously received, with repeats and numerous encores. His great inspiration paints a vast canvas in vivid colours, from the terrifying vision of the Day of Judgement (Dies Irae) and the Last Trumpet (Tuba mirum) to the celestial peace and heavenly sounds re-echoing around Paradise in the Sanctus and Lux Aeterna.

B.G.



MESSA DA REQUIEM

by

Giuseppe Verdi (1813 – 1901)

1. *Requiem and Kyrie Eleison*
2. *Dies irae*
 - (a) *Tuba mirum*
 - (b) *Rex tremendae*
 - (c) *Recordare Jesu pie*
 - (d) *Confutatis maledictis*
 - (e) *Lacrymosa dies illa*

INTERVAL

3. *Domine Jesu (Offertorium)*
Hostias et preces tibi
4. *Sanctus*
5. *Agnus Dei*
6. *Lux aeterna*
7. *Libera me*



This evening sees the inaugural concert in a planned series of biennial performances by the combined voices of the three Choral Societies. It is hoped in this way to present performances of works normally outside the scope of the individual Societies.

The organising committee wishes to place on record its thanks to all who have made tonight's performance possible, and in particular records its gratitude for the assistance given by:—

Vale Royal District Council

Vale Royal Arts Council

Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council

North Shropshire District Council