

## The Choir

The Hull Bach Choir, under its conductor Anthony Ford, has a well-established reputation for high quality performances of the world's greatest and most popular choral works, especially in the Baroque repertoire, ably accompanied by local and not so local instrumental players who form the Hull Bach Orchestra.

## Membership

The Choir welcomes new voices in every department. We rehearse on Monday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 at St. Nicholas Primary School, Cottingham Road, Hull. The Choir is a friendly and sociable group.

## Enquiries

To join, or for general enquiries, contact the Secretary, Suzanne Brown, tel. (01482) 446319; email: [secretary@hullbachchoir.org.uk](mailto:secretary@hullbachchoir.org.uk).

## Website

[www.hullbachchoir.org.uk](http://www.hullbachchoir.org.uk)

Registered charity no 1082610



## TICKETS

### Single concert tickets

Adult £15 (2 for £25)  
Students & Jobseekers £5  
Accompanied children £1

Tickets may be bought online from [hullboxoffice.com](http://hullboxoffice.com), or by phone: 01482 221113. They can also be bought in person at Gough & Davy or at the door on the night.

For Carols at St Mary's Sculcoates there may be a small entry charge and/or a retiring collection.

### Friends of the Choir

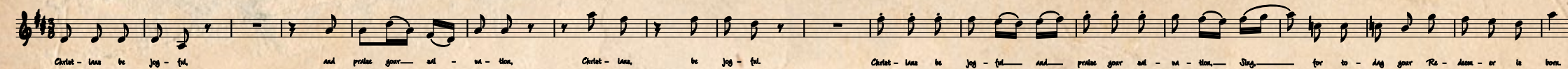
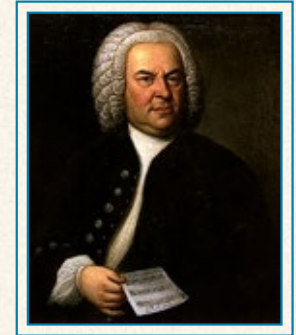
Interested in becoming a Friend of Hull Bach Choir?

For a minimum subscription of £10 Friends can claim a reduction of £2 on ticket prices for all concerts, for themselves and accompanying family and friends.

All donations to the Choir are welcome, as they will also give valuable support and help to ensure that the Choir can continue to perform its unique repertoire to audiences in this area for years to come.

To become a Friend please contact Peter Wilson, tel. (01482) 493037  
email: [friends@hullbachchoir.org.uk](mailto:friends@hullbachchoir.org.uk)

# Hull Bach Choir 2017-18



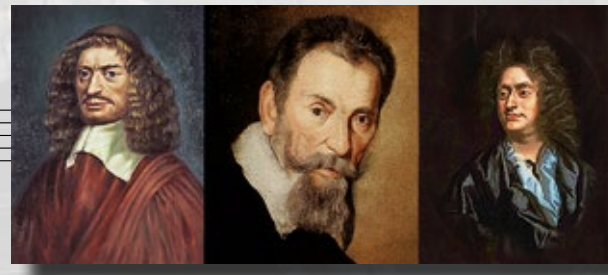
HBC



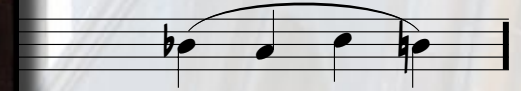
Johann Sebastian Bach



George Frideric Handel



Giacomo Carissimi, Claudio Monteverdi & Henry Purcell



**Saturday 11 November 2017 at 7.30 pm**

Trinity Methodist Church, Cottingham Road, Hull HU5 2EJ

### **Bach Christmas Oratorio**

It has been our custom to give regular performances of **Bach's Christmas Oratorio**. This celebrated piece, written for Christmas 1734-35, is not one work but a series of cantatas written for each of the six most important days of Christmas, starting on Christmas Eve and ending at Epiphany. Bach had previously treated each of his Christmas cantatas as separate items, but in the Christmas Oratorio he linked the works together by a narration of the whole Christmas story. This year we are not, as we have done in the past, performing all six cantatas but only the first three, written for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and St Stephen's Day, and the last, written for the Feast of the Epiphany, Twelfth Night. These four cantatas are typical of the whole work, presenting the joy, the glory and the mystery of Christmas with arias of great tenderness, and brilliance, and equally varied choruses. The orchestral writing is remarkably colourful, and there are quite wonderful solos for strings, wind and brass.

**Saturday 10 March 2018 at 7.15 pm**

Trinity Methodist Church, Cottingham Road, Hull HU5 2EJ

### **Handel Jephtha**

This magnificent work was to all intents and purposes the last major piece **Handel** ever composed, for his eyesight began to fail during its composition, and after a botched operation he lost his sight. Although he lived for another eight years and was performing up till the last, any new compositions were either short or alterations of earlier pieces. As we approach the end of the commemorations of the First World War Jephtha gives us a chance to remember the errors made by the generals in that war, which led to such disastrous consequences.

The story of Jephtha is about his thoughtless vow to God that, if he was successful in his next battle, he would sacrifice the first thing he saw when he returned home. That 'thing' was his daughter Iphitis. This story gave Handel an enormous opportunity to use music to express Jephtha's dilemma. Despite the pleadings of his wife and his daughter's fiancé to break his vow, Jephtha sticks to it and his daughter accepts her fate in a superb quartet.

Unlike the Bible, Handel and his librettist do not leave Iphitis to her tragic fate. Jephtha is allowed to break his vow and thus save the life of his daughter. The work is a fitting finale to the compositional life of a great composer, beautiful, exciting, with great dramatic choruses and coloratura arias and wonderful melodies. The performance will be enhanced by stage movement.

**Saturday 16 June 2018 at 7.30 pm**

Trinity Methodist Church, Cottingham Road, Hull HU5 2EJ

### **Italian and English Baroque**

This will include music by **Carissimi, Monteverdi** and **Purcell**, including Carissimi's miniature oratorio **Jephte**, composed a hundred years before Handel's work on the same theme. Carissimi is known as the father of the oratorio, and his short works have features which resemble some of the features of Monteverdi's style. The programme will also include motets by Monteverdi and music by Purcell.

**Monday 18 December 2016 at 7.30 pm**

### **Carols at St Mary's, Sculcoates**

Sculcoates Lane, Hull HU5 1DP

This year HBC Carols takes place in the beautiful gothic church of St Mary's, Sculcoates Lane, which last year celebrated its centenary. Small entry charge and/or retiring collection only.



Hull Bach Choir and Orchestra rehearse Michael Haydn's Requiem at All Saints' Church, Hesse in June 2017