

**Manchester University Music Society Presents:**



**Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long  
Relaxed Performance**

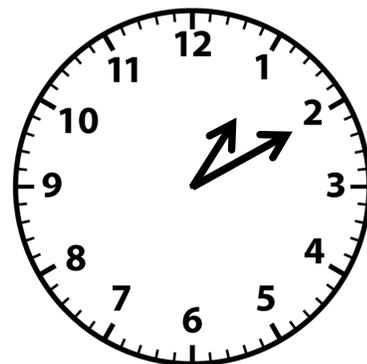
**Friday 16 December 2016, 1.10pm**

Welcome to our Relaxed Performance at the Martin Harris Centre.

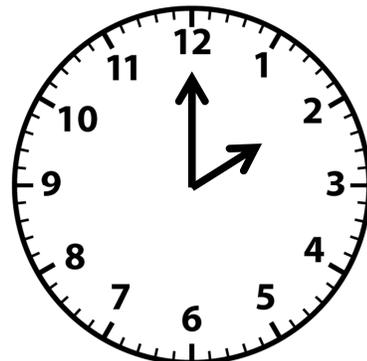
A Relaxed Performance is for everyone, but we particularly want to welcome people who may feel nervous or worried about going to a concert or an event. In changing how we do some things, we have tried to make everyone feel more comfortable.

We hope you enjoy your time with us.

This performance will start at 1.10pm.



The performance will finish at approximately 2pm.



## **During the concert**

During today's concert there will be a relaxed atmosphere.

The lights will stay on during the concert and the doors will stay open.

There is no interval but you can get up and move around whenever you like. If you want to go out or come back into the concert hall, that is okay too.

It is fine to make noise during the event, and please join in with the carol singing if you want to! If you have any musical instruments with you, you can play along with the carols. If you haven't got an instrument you might like to shake something else like your keys or a baby rattle.

There may be clapping after each carol. If you want to you can clap too.

If the noise is too loud at any point you can cover your ears.

If you need to take a break or want a space to relax, there is a "chill out" area in room G16. You can use this before and during the concert.

There is also a space you can use for:

- Storing prams, buggies and walking aids (items are left at own risk)
- Baby changing

There will be staff members wearing purple or black T-shirts available to help you if you have any questions. The word "Staff" is written on the back of their T-shirts.

Some staff members will also be handing out questionnaires. We are really interested in your feedback about this event so please contribute if you can.

## **Photography will take place during today's event**

The photographs from today will be used by The University of Manchester to promote its activities and may be published on the University's websites and circulated to the press and other media organisations for publication, transmission or broadcast.

If you do not wish to appear in the photographs, please tell a member of staff.

## **About the performers**

Today's musicians and singers are all students at The University of Manchester. They are members of the Manchester University Music Society and take part in public performances throughout the year.

## **Today's carols**

Today we are going to sing these carols in this order.

These 6 carols will definitely feature in today's concert:

O little town of Bethlehem

Good King Wenceslas

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Away in a Manger

Silent Night

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

You will find all the words in the next few pages of the programme.

If there is time then we will also sing:

Once in Royal David's City

O Come All Ye Faithful

(If there isn't time then maybe you'd like to sing them on the way home! We've given you the words just in case.)

## **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

*Composer: Ralph Vaughan Williams after a traditional tune*

*Lyricist: Phillips Brooks*

1.

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King, and Peace to men on earth!

3.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is given,  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

4.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

## **Good King Wenceslas**

*Composer: Anonymous*

*Lyricist: John Mason Neale*

1.

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen  
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even.  
Brightly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cruel,  
When a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.

2.

"Hither, page and stand by me, if thou know'st it, telling:  
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?"  
"Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain,  
Right against the forest fence, by Saint Agnes' fountain."

3.

"Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither,  
Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither."  
Page and monarch, forth they went, forth they went together  
Through the rude wind's wild lament and the bitter weather.

4.

"Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger.  
Fails my heart, I know not how; I can go no longer."  
"Mark my footsteps, my good page; tread thou in them boldly:  
Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly."

5.

In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted.  
Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.  
Therefore, Christian men, be sure, wealth or rank possessing,  
Ye who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing.

# God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

*Traditional*

1.

God rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

2.

From God, our heavenly Father a blessed Angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

3.

"Fear not, then" said the Angel, "Let nothing you affright,  
This day is born a Saviour of a pure virgin bright  
To free all those who trust in Him from Satan's power and might."  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

4.

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace.  
This holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!

## **Away in a Manger**

*Composer: William J. Kirkpatrick, after Jonathan E. Spillman*

*Lyricist: verses 1 & 2 Anonymous, verse 3 attr. to Thomas McFarland*

1.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky, looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes;  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

3.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay,  
Close by me forever and love me I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

## **Silent Night**

*Composer: Franz Gruber*

*Lyricist: Joseph Mohr, trans. John F. Young*

1.

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2.

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heavens afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia.  
Christ the Saviour is born,  
Christ the Saviour is born.

3.

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

## **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

*Composer: Felix Mendelssohn, adapt. William H Cummings*

*Lyricist: Charles Wesley*

1.

Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

2.

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgins womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

3.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

## **Once in Royal David's City**

*Composer: Henry John Gauntlett*

*Lyricist: Cecil Frances Alexander*

1.

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

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, our Saviour holy.

3.

For He is our childhood's pattern, day by day, like us He grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew:  
And He feeleth for our sadness, and He shareth in all our gladness.

4.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love;  
for that child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heaven above:  
And He leads his children on, to the place where He has gone.

## **O Come All Ye Faithful**

*Composer: Unknown*

*Lyricist: Unknown, trans. Frederick Oakeley*

1.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!

2.

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb.  
Very God, begotten not created.  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!

3.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, in the highest.  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!

**THE MARTIN HARRIS CENTRE**  
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