

ABERDEEN BACH CHOIR – LOCKDOWN QUIZ 2

10 July 2020

Dear All,

I hope that you, your family, friends and colleagues are all safe and well. Here is a second musical quiz to help keep the choir community connected and to offer you something to help you to pass the time. Participation is, of course, entirely optional.

Please feel free to share it with family and friends who are not choir members. Ian Downie has kindly put a copy of it on the choir website where anybody can access it. As before, you can do this quiz in one of two ways:

1. Challenge yourself to complete the questions **without** reference to information from books, scores, concert programmes or the internet. If you do it this way and would like the odd clue to a question please feel free to e-mail me at p.parfitt@st-margaret.uk and I will point you in the right direction!
2. Research the questions to which you do not know the answers, in order to try to find the correct answers.

Many of the questions relate to music which we have performed recently, and many of the answers can be found in my programme notes.

I have refined it a little from Quiz 1. There is a new section on emojis, there are some multiple choice questions, and where there are bullet points you will find that the more obscure information is at the top and they become easier as you read on – University Challenge style!! So, the fewer bullet points you need to get the answer, the better.

I will make the answers available online via the website at the end of the month – Friday, July 31st.

Good luck!!

Peter

SECTION 1**QUESTIONS ABOUT J.S. BACH, AND HIS MUSIC**

1. In which German city was Bach born and raised? The house in which he was born, known as the Bachhaus (below) is now a museum and research centre, preserved as it would have looked in Bach's day, and filled with items relating to his life.



Was it:

a. Frankfurt

b. Hamburg

c. Eisenach

2. Bach took up what was to be his final position as Kantor in Leipzig in 1723. Before moving there he had held notable positions in four other German cities / courts. Can you identify which four from this list of six possibilities?

Arnstadt

Berlin

Mühlhausen

Weimar

Dresden

Anhalt-Cöthen

3. This is the opening of a chorus from a major work by Bach. Can you name the work and the movement from which it comes? The text and accompaniment have been removed.

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

5

etc....

etc....

etc....

4. Which famous chorale melody does Bach use (somewhat surprisingly) at both the beginning and the end of the Christmas Oratorio?
5. "The Wedge" is a nickname given to a piece by Bach for which instrument.

SECTION 2**QUESTIONS RELATING TO WORKS WE HAVE PERFORMED RECENTLY**

1. In the final chorus of Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, who and what, **specifically**, were thrown into the sea?
2. What are the three Latin words in the middle of Parry's coronation anthem "I Was Glad" that are traditionally sung by the Westminster scholars during the procession of the monarch into the sanctuary of Westminster Abbey?
3. The words of Patrick Hadley's anthem "My Beloved Spake" are drawn from which book of the Old Testament?
4. The Venetian Festival known as "Lo Sposalizio del Mare" (Marriage to the Sea) occurs annually on which day of the year?

Is it:

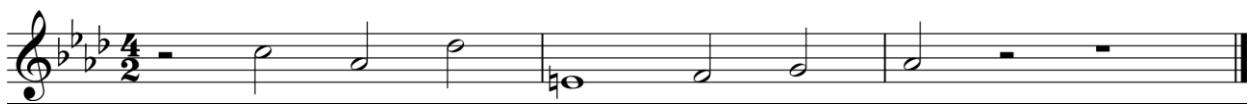
a. Midsummer's Day

b. Ascension Day

c. New Year's Day

5. This is the entire fugal subject from a major oratorio. It comes first in the sopranos, and then altos, tenors and basses in turn. Can you name the title of the movement and the work? The text and accompaniment have been removed.

etc...

Scroll down for section 3.

SECTION 3

IMAGES

All of these images have a musical significance and a link with music we have performed recently – can you identify them?

1.



Can you identify this composer from the photo and the information below?

- *The son of a shipbroker, this composer received most of his education privately, at home.*
- *His father and three older brothers were all killed in action between 1914 and 1918.*
- *In 1920 he began teaching composition at the RAM, and in 1923, married Joyce Black, a prominent portrait artist, who numbered Vaughan Williams, Arthur Bliss, Adrian Boult and other eminent musicians amongst her subjects.*
- *He assembled a substantial library of music, poetry and literature, and an orchard of trees bearing rare varieties of apples, saving several from extinction*
- *One of his most well-known works is called "Intimations of Immortality"*
- *One of his most popular and enduring works is an anthem written for Ascension Day*

2.

Can you name this man who had a strong connection to Handel?

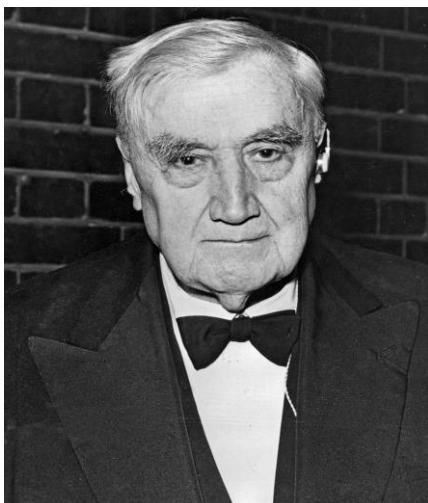


- Is it:*
- a. *Charles Jennens, Handel's librettist of choice?*
 - b. *Lord Burlington, who provided free board and lodgings to Handel in his grand house on Piccadilly?
(The building today is known as the Royal Academy of Arts.)*
 - c. *John Smith, Handel's amanuensis and secretary?*

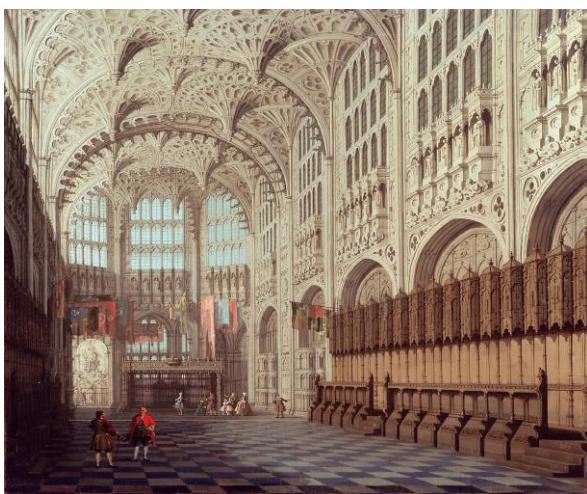
3. *Can you identify this building and name the person whose grave is immediately in front of the altar?*



4. *Can you name this English composer? His dates are 1872-1958*



5. *Where, specifically, is this? Construction took place between 1503 and 1516, and was paid for by Henry VII who lavished huge sums of money on it. Probably the most striking feature is the magnificent carved stone ceiling.*



SECTION 4**QUESTIONS ABOUT GENERAL CHORAL SOCIETY REPERTOIRE**

1. Can you identify the work, the movement, and the composer of this famous and memorable melody? It is sung initially by the basses and it is preceded by two bars of orchestral introduction in D Minor. Later in the movement it is sung by all voices in unison.
The text and accompaniment have been removed!

The image shows a musical score for a bass line. It consists of four staves of music, each starting with a bass clef. The first staff begins with a quarter note followed by a eighth note. The second staff begins with a eighth note followed by a quarter note. The third staff begins with a quarter note followed by a eighth note. The fourth staff begins with a eighth note followed by a quarter note. After the fourth staff, there is a vertical ellipsis symbol followed by the text "etc....".

2. Can you identify this piece of popular mainstream choral society repertoire from its description?

- It was composed in memory of Alessandro Manzoni, an Italian poet and novelist
- The first performance, at the San Marco church in Milan on 22 May 1874, marked the first anniversary of Manzoni's death
- It is a musical setting of a well-known text for four soloists, double choir and orchestra.
- Considered too operatic to be performed in a liturgical setting, and conceived on a grand scale, it is usually given in concert form of around 90 minutes in length
- Musicologist David Rosen calls it 'probably the most frequently performed major choral work composed since the compilation of Mozart's Requiem'

3. Which Oratorio by Handel is this describing?

The “man of the sun” was the last of the judges of the ancient Israelites mentioned in the Book of Judges in the Old Testament (chapters 13 to 16) and one of the last of the leaders who “judged” Israel before the institution of the monarchy. He is sometimes considered to be an Israelite version of the popular Near Eastern folk hero also embodied by the Sumerian Enkidu and the Greek Heracles. The biblical account includes tales of immense strength and superhuman feats, including the slaying a lion with bare hands and massacring an entire army of Philistines using only the jawbone of a donkey

4. This is the first two bars of the orchestral opening of which piece of choral music?

The image shows the first two bars of an orchestral opening. The music is written for two staves: treble and bass. The treble staff starts with a quarter note followed by an eighth note. The bass staff starts with a quarter note followed by an eighth note. Both staves continue with a series of eighth notes. The key signature is G Major, indicated by a single sharp sign in the treble clef.

5. Can you name this popular oratorio from its description?

- This piece was composed in the spirit of the composer's Baroque predecessors Bach and Handel, whose music he loved, and the work is modelled on the oratorios of these two Baroque masters
- The libretto is by Julius Schubring and is based on the Book of Kings with additional quotations from the Psalms
- Its lyricism and use of orchestral and choral colour the style clearly reflects the composer's own genius
- The work is scored for eight vocal soloists (two each of bass, tenor, alto and soprano), full symphony orchestra including trombones, ophicleide, organ, and a large chorus usually singing in four, but occasionally eight, parts
- The oratorio was first performed on 26th August 1846 at Birmingham Town Hall in its English version, conducted by the composer, and it was immediately acclaimed a classic of the genre
- The German version was first performed on the anniversary of the composer's birthday, 3rd February 1848, in Leipzig

Scroll down for Section 5.

SECTION 5

MUSICAL THEATRE

1. Can you name these famous musicals from the emojis?



2. Can you name these well-known songs from famous musicals from the emojis?

Let's 🚗 ✈️ 🎨

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ENJOY THE SUMMER!!

Peter