



# The Road Home

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm  
Christ Church, Skipton, BD23 2AH

**Pinsuti** is a group of about 20 performers. We take our name from the little-known Victorian composer **Ciro Pinsuti**. Sacred and secular unaccompanied music forms the core of our performances, which are individually tailored to each venue, audience and time of year. We perform 4 or 5 concerts each year in the Wharfedale-Airedale area. We rehearse each Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Friends Meeting House, Ilkley, and are currently recruiting all voice parts.

## The Singers

<b>Soprano</b>	<b>Alto</b>	<b>Tenor</b>	<b>Bass</b>
Deborah Penfold	Elaine Clipson	Mike Cox	Chris Armitage
Nicky Rodley	Kate Graham	Chris Pilgrim	Mark Cadwallader
Lucy Scriven	Jenny Robinson	Ian Smyth	Duncan Faulkner
Nicky Verity	Amy Stidworthy	Mark Stidworthy	Malcolm Jones
Jennifer Webb	Kirsty Styles	Mike Swinden	James Rodley
	Susan Trinder	Alan Wingfield	Jeremy Thackray
	Eleanor Wilman		

## Guest Singers

Richard Cressall	Chris Herbert	Matt Oglesby	Charlotte Treglown
Charlie Dobson	Beatrice Heywood	Adam Piplica	Daniel Walters
Mary Emmett	Luke Johnson	Clare Steele-King	Simon Watkins
Tom Emmett	Sally Leeming	Andrew Tawn	Ian White
Anthony Gray	Laura Lipscombe	Graham Thorpe	Daisy Widdicombe
			Robin Woollam

Contact: [info@pinsuti.org.uk](mailto:info@pinsuti.org.uk)

**Robert Webb** is a conductor and teacher from Leeds. After reading music at Merton College, Oxford, where he was a choral scholar under Peter Phillips (Tallis Scholars) and Ben Nicholas (Reed Rubin Director of Music), Robert moved back to Leeds to train as a music teacher. He has conducted numerous choirs across West Yorkshire and as well as being musical director of Pinsuti, is also musical director of Skipton Choral Society. Robert holds instrumental teaching posts in Horsforth School and Roundhay School in Leeds and is a trumpet and singing teacher at The Grammar School at Leeds.

## Programme

Paulus: *The Road Home*

Vaughan Williams: *Linden Lea*

Paulus: *Pilgrim's Hymn*

Stanford: *Beati Quorum Via*

Paulus: *The Old Church*

Harris: *Faire is the Heaven*

Taylor (Arr. Carrington): *That Lonesome Road*

Billy Joel (Arr. Chilcott): *And So it Goes*

---

### Interval

---

Allegri: *Miserere*

Striggio: *Ecce Beatam Lucem*

Tallis: *Spem in Alium*

---

Contact: [info@pinsuti.org.uk](mailto:info@pinsuti.org.uk)

### **The Road Home (Paulus)**

### **Pilgrim's Hymn (Paulus)**

### **The Old Church (Paulus)**

Stephen Paulus was an American Grammy award winning composer best known for his operas and choral music in a melodic romantic style. These pieces are reflective of this and allude to the road travelled to spirituality and help found along that road.

### **Linden Lea (Vaughan Williams)**

Vaughan Williams was born in the Victorian age in Gloucestershire, the third child of a vicar. The song "Linden Lea" was the first of his works to appear in print, published in the magazine *The Vocalist* in April 1902. The words, by Dorset poet William Barnes, were first published in 1859.

### **Beati Quorum Via (Stanford)**

Charles Stanford was an Anglo-Irish Victorian composer. He taught composition at the Royal College of Music, where his students included Ralph Vaughan Williams. *Beati Quorum Via* (Psalm 119: "Happy are they that are upright in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord") was published as one of a trio of Latin motets in 1905 but had been first performed much earlier, in 1890.

### **Faire is the Heaven (Harris)**

Another Victorian English-born composer (and organist), William Harris was a professor of Organ and Harmony in the Royal College of Music for over 30 years. He wrote *Faire is the Heaven*, a setting of Edmund Spenser's poem "An Hymne of Heavenly Beautie", early during his tenure there, in 1925.

## **That Lonesome Road (Taylor)**

James Taylor is an American singer-songwriter, guitarist, six-time Grammy award winner and multi-million record seller. He released *That Lonesome Road* in 1981. He describes his musical motivation as “agnostic spiritualism”. He says “It’s just a long, hard lonely slog being constantly human and having the responsibility of having to reinvent the world every second. It is a lonesome road. So that’s a type of song I write too.”

## **And So it Goes (Joel)**

Billy Joel, a hugely successful American singer-songwriter and pianist, wrote this song, about the sense of loss from an imminent break-up, in 1983.

## **Miserere (Allegri)**

Italian composer Gregorio Allegri, composed this piece around 1638 as a setting of Psalm 51. *Miserere mei, Deus* ("Have mercy on me, O God") was composed for Pope Urban VIII for the exclusive use of the Sistine Chapel during Holy Week. It is written for two choirs of 5 and 4 voices who sing alternately, interspersed with plain-chant.

## **Ecce Beatam Lucem (Striggio)**

Allesandro Striggio was a 16<sup>th</sup> century Italian composer, instrumentalist and diplomat. He was principally a composer of madrigals and dramatic music. He composed his 40 voice motet ‘*Ecce beatam lucem*’ (or ‘Behold the blessed light’) for a royal wedding in the Bavarian court in Munich, first performed in 1568. The piece was structured for four choirs of varying numbers of voices although the version we present is of five choirs of eight voices each. Striggio also specified that each voice be doubled by an instrument, although we will sing the piece unaccompanied (*a capella*). The text is believed to have been written by the protestant poet, Paul Melissus.

Ecce beatam lucem;  
Ecce bonum sempiternum,  
Vos turba electa celebrate  
Jehovam eiusque natum  
aequalem Patri deitatis  
splendorem.  
Virtus Alma et maiestas passim  
cernenda adest.  
Quantum decoris illustri in sole,  
quam venusta es luna,  
quam multo clar'honore sidera  
fulgent, quam pulcra quaeque  
in orbe.  
O quam perennis esca tam  
sanctas mentes pascit!  
praesto gratia et amor, praesta  
nec novum;  
praesto est fons perpes vitae.  
Hic Patriarchae cum Prophetis,  
hic David,  
Rex David ille vates,  
cantans sonans adhuc  
aeternum Deum.  
O mel et dulce nectar, O  
fortunatam sedem!  
Haec voluptas, haec quies,  
haec meta, hic scopus  
Nos hinc attrahunt recta in  
paradisum.

Behold the blessed light,  
behold eternal goodness,  
you throng of the elect, praise  
God and His Son  
who is equal to the Father;  
praise the splendour of the  
deity.  
Benign power and majesty are  
seen everywhere.  
The dazzling splendour of the  
sun  
is matched by you, the moon,  
and by the stars shining  
brightly in their great glory.  
O how such eternal  
nourishment feeds holy  
minds!  
Mercy and love are here, and  
always have been;  
here is the eternal fount of  
life.  
Here the Patriarchs and  
Prophets, here David,  
King David the bard,  
singing and playing  
instruments still praise eternal  
God.  
O honey and sweet nectar, O  
blessed place!  
This delight, this peace, this  
goal, this mark  
draw us from here straight to  
Paradise.

### **Spem in Alium (Tallis)**

Thomas Tallis, a 16<sup>th</sup> century English composer, composed this 40-part Renaissance motet in around 1570. It is considered by some critics to be the greatest piece of English early music and has been described as Tallis's "crowning achievement". It is most

Contact: [info@pinsuti.org.uk](mailto:info@pinsuti.org.uk)

likely to have been written as a result of Tallis having come across the 40-part motet written by Alessandro Striggio as described above. Striggio was on a diplomatic tour of England in 1567 and is believed to have brought the manuscript of his 40 voice motet with him. In distinction to Striggio's work, Tallis's motet is laid out for eight choirs of five voices (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone and bass). Beginning with a single voice from the first choir, other voices join in imitation, each in turn falling silent as the music moves around the eight choirs. All forty voices enter simultaneously for a few bars, and then the pattern of the opening is reversed with the music passing from choir eight to choir one. There is another brief full section, after which the choirs sing in antiphonal pairs, throwing the sound across the space between them. Finally all voices join for the culmination of the work.

I have never put my hope in any other but in Thee, God of Israel who can show both wrath and graciousness, and who absolves all the sins of man in suffering. Lord God, creator of Heaven and Earth, Regard our humility

Spem in alium nunquam habui  
præter in te, Deus Israël,  
qui irasceris et propitius eris,  
et omnia peccata hominum in  
tribulatione dimittis.  
Domine Deus, Creator cæli et  
terræ,  
respice humilitatem nostram.

Care is needed in spelling the title as "Spem in Allium" translates as "Trust in Garlic".

### **Forthcoming concerts**

Autumn Concert – Friday 17th November 2023 - Christ Church, Skipton - 'Byrd & Bard'. A celebration of 400 years since William Byrd's death, including the beautiful Mass for Four Voices and other motets, coupled with incredible contemporary settings of Shakespeare.

Contact: [info@pinsuti.org.uk](mailto:info@pinsuti.org.uk)

Christmas Concert - Saturday 16th December 2023 - St Andrew's, Skipton. A Christmas concert featuring new and re-imagined carols from the recently released Carols for Choirs 6, celebrating 100 years of Oxford University Press Music Department, and other Christmas favourites from Scandinavia and North America.

Easter Concert - Saturday 16th March 2024 - Skipton Town Hall - 'Silence and Music'. Join us in the gorgeous acoustic of Skipton Town Hall for a festival of Vaughan Williams - not to be missed!

Summer Concert - Saturday 6th July 2024 - Christ Church, Skipton - 'Alleluia'. A joyful concert of music featuring settings of 'Alleluia' from the last 450 years, accompanied by brass ensemble and organ.

See our website for updates [www.pinsuti.org.uk](http://www.pinsuti.org.uk)

Contact: [info@pinsuti.org.uk](mailto:info@pinsuti.org.uk)