

PROGRAMME

SPRING

Claudio Monteverdi – O primavera, gioventù dell'anno Claude Le Jeune – Revoici venir du printemps Benjamin Britten – Lenten is come

INTERLUDE - BIRDS

Clément Janequin - Le chant des oyseaulx (semi-staged)

SUMMER

Heinrich Schütz – Die Himmel erzählen Herbert Howells – The summer is coming

INTERLUDE - THE HUNT

Clément Janequin - La Chasse (semi-staged)

- INTERVAL -

INTERLUDE – BUT NATURE IS NEVER SPENT

Kenneth Leighton - God's grandeur

AUTUMN

Josef Rheinberger - Abendlied Leo Ferré - Chanson d'automne Johannes Brahms - Im Herbst

INTERLUDE - STORM

Giaches De Wert - Ascendente Iesu in naviculam

WINTER

Francis Poulenc – Un soir de neige Ed Hughes – Sun, new moon and women shouting

I FAGIOLINI — *Au Naturel*

As the focus on climate change grows, I Fagiolini sings of nature and the passing of the year in a programme inspired by Pieter Brueghel the Younger's **The Seasons.**

From Monteverdi's springtime of love to Howells' masterpiece *The Summer is Coming*, Brahms greets autumnal old age while Poulenc's metaphorical winter is the France of World War II. With a foot-tapping ode to creation by Schütz as well as 1970s French jazz (*Chanson d'Automne*), I Fagiolini weaves a rich aural tapestry spanning six centuries.

Framing each of the seasons is an a cappella masterwork. De Wert's 'seasick motet' is an unsettling depiction of Christ calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee, whilst Leighton's setting of Gerald Manley Hopkins' The world is charged is a choral classic. Renaissance naughty boy Clément Janequin's two theatrical soundscapes - 'Song of the birds' and 'The Hunt' - complete the quartet and are semi-staged by I Fagiolini in a perfect counterpoint to Breughel's images.

The year comes full circle with Ed Hughes' vivid account of Inuit women lifting their new-born babies to catch the sun's first rays after the long winter.

Brueghel and I Fagiolini invite you to pull up an armchair (or dog-drawn sleigh), while they gather in the musical harvest.

ART THROUGH THE PRISM OF MUSIC

NOTES

- Concert introduced by Robert Hollingworth.
- Images can be projected if you have equipment, or featured in a printed programme.
- The programme will be supported by short films perfect for social media use and an interactive web-calender with film, sound and other information.



On 'Leonardo – Shaping The Invisible' (2019-20)

"Yet again... an ingenious concept programme that stirs the mind and heart, illuminates the past, and ravishes the ear."

Daily Telegraph, April 2019

"The end result is engrossing, sometimes profound and sometimes witty.

Hollingworth and his singers remain a superb ensemble, outstanding in their range

and versatility."

The Guardian, April 2019

"...sung with the technically assured sophistication that marked all the music-making, whether solemnly sacred or hilariously secular."

The Observer, May 2019



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"The group are musical shapeshifters
to a man, following Hollingworth's giddy,
eclectic imagination wherever it leads,
disarming with self-deprecation and
silliness before devastating you with beauty.
This is serious musicianship that never
takes itself too seriously —
the Holy Grail of concert-going."

The Spectator
MAY 2019

