

Brendan Garde, violin

Violinist Brendan Garde completed a Master's Degree in Music Performance at the MTU Cork School of Music, where he earned the Best Taught Master's Degree Student award in 2019; he was also the recipient of the Cork Orchestral Society's Emerging Artist Award 2019. While studying for his BMus degree at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, Brendan was one of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music's EU Scholars and a finalist in both the Norman George Violin Scholarship and the Helen Porthouse Paganini Prize competitions. He was also awarded the Weil Prize in 2016. Brendan has performed in numerous concerts and festivals, including the Ortús Chamber Music Festival, Salisbury International Arts Festival, and the West Cork Chamber Music Festival. He has played with numerous orchestras, including the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, and the London Symphony Rock Orchestra, Luminosa String Orchestra, and the Cork Opera House Concert Orchestra. He can be contacted at www.brendangarde.com.

MUSICÓRUM

Soprano

Fiona Chambers
Ali Cullinane
Leona Duffy
Shelley de Foubert+
Mairéad Gallagher
Sinéad Kelleher
Mary O'Brien
Ursula O'Sullivan*
Marie Sprott

Alto

Elaine Collins
Dee Coyle
Jane Daly
Laura Farrell
Sinéad Nolan
Ber Twomey

Tenor

Jim Cashman
Liz Charleson
Patrick Fitzpatrick*
Bill Lane
Brian O'Connor
Coral O'Sullivan
David Shine
David Sprott

Bass

Garret Cahill
Paul Cussen
Justin Donnellan
David McCormick
Paul O'Brien
Lorcan O'Byrne
Rían O'Dwyer
Dave O'Keeffe*
Pawel Switaj

*Soloists in *O Magnum Mysterium*

+Soloist in *Prayer for Ukraine*

Accompanist: Tom Doyle

MUSICÓRUM offers sincerest thanks to Fr Tim Hazelwood and Mary Pedder Daly (Killeagh), Fr Ger Dunne (Honan Chapel) for hosting this performance, and to University College Cork (Áine Murphy, John Murphy) and the Methodist Church, Ardfallen Centre, Cork (Rev. Andrew Robinson) for facilitating our rehearsals.



CONCERT

Conductor: Geoffrey Spratt

Sunday 10th April 2022

3.00 pm Church of St John the Baptist, Killeagh, Co. Cork
7.00 pm Honan Chapel, University College Cork

PROGRAMME

Locus iste, Ave Maria, Os justi
Anton Bruckner

Preludio, Loure, Gavotte en Rondeau, Gigue
from

Partita in E Major, BWV1006.I
J.S. Bach

Brendan Garde (Violin)

O magnum mysterium
Dave O'Keeffe

Alleluia
Randall Thompson

Prayer for Ukraine
Dave O'Keeffe

Honan Chapel performance: tickets €10
available on Eventbrite from 9.00 am Saturday 26th March

Church of St John the Baptist performance is free

Retiring collection at both churches in aid of Irish Red Cross Ukraine Appeal

Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

Locus iste (1869)

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God, a priceless sacrament, it is without reproach.

Ave Maria (1861)

Ave Maria gratia plena Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Os justi (1879)

Os justi meditabitur sapientiam, Et lingua ejus loqueter iudicium. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius. Et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus. Alleluia.

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice. The law of his God is in his heart and his footsteps shall not slip. Alleluia.

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Preludio, Loure, Gavotte en Rondeau, Gigue from **Partita in E**, BWV 1006.1 (1703)

Dave O’Keeffe (b.1992)

O magnum mysterium (2021: inaugural performances)

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, iacentem in praesepio! Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia!

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that the animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord, Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

Alleluia (1940)

Dave O’Keeffe (b.1992)

Prayer for Ukraine, (Молитва за Україну, Molytva za Ukrayinu) (2022:

inaugural performances)

Боже великий, єдиний, Нам Україну храни, Волі і світу промінням. Ти її осіни.
Bozhe velykyi, yedynyi, Nam Ukrainu khrany. Voli i svitu prominyam. Ty yii osiny.

Lord, oh the Great and Almighty, protect our beloved Ukraine. Bless her with the freedom and light of Your holy rays.

MUSICÓRUM

MUSICÓRUM is a project-based chamber choir of experienced singers, mainly based in and around Cork, many of whom are also music teachers, choral conductors and instrumentalists. In common with every other choir we were prevented from rehearsing and performing for the past two years because of Covid-19, which is why we are so excited by this performance. As well as three immortal motets by 19th-century Austrian composer, Anton Bruckner, we sing the stunning *Alleluia* by 20th-century American composer, Randall Thompson.

We are particularly proud that our recital includes, as its centrepiece, the first performances of a new work by choir member, Cork composer Dave O’Keeffe.

The choral works of the concert frame a performance of movements from J. S. Bach’s popular *Partita in E major*, played by Cork virtuoso, Brendan Garde.

We end with a new setting of “Prayer for Ukraine”, a spiritual anthem composed in 1885 by Mykola Lysenko, from a text by Oleksandr Konysky, which acquired symbolic significance during the Ukrainian War of Independence 1917-1920, and is widely sung at many gatherings today, both religious and secular.

Dave O’Keeffe

Dave is a trumpeter, singer and composer from Cork. Born into a musical family, he graduated from CIT Cork School of Music in 2014 with a First Class Honours BMus Degree, specialising in trumpet performance, and since then has gone on to tour and perform with numerous groups including the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, the Glasshouse Ensemble, and The Coronas. A passionate choral singer, he has been a member of the Bach Choir in London, Voci Nuove in Cork, and since moving to Dublin in late 2020, New Dublin Voices.

O magnum mysterium was conceived during lockdown in April 2021, inspired by the opening bars of *Le Gibet* from Maurice Ravel’s suite of piano pieces *Gaspard de la Nuit*. The haunting opening ostinato resembles the sombre bell tones in Ravel’s work, and continuously underpins the entire first half of this piece.

The unsettling modal harmony of the first “O magnum mysterium” section reflects the great mystery surrounding the story of the Nativity. Here, the eerie accompaniment to the main theme introduced by the solo soprano evokes a quiet, winter night where the anticipation of Christ’s birth is ever present, and an image is conjured of the animals in the stable lit by flickering candlelight.

The second “Beata virgo” section is inspired by a 15th century motet, where the theme is introduced and joined in imitative counterpoint by other voices. The female voices represent the Virgin Mary and the warmer harmony and subsequent build up signifies the upcoming joy of the coming of Christ.

The exultant “Jesum Christum” section follows, with the descending Alleluia pattern a reference to the closing bars of the most famous setting of *O magnum mysterium*, by the late sixteenth-century Spanish composer, Tomás Luis de Victoria. Here, the joy of Christ’s birth is brought forth in jubilation by the full choir as the ostinato singers join their ranks.

The piece abruptly sidesteps to a flurry of activity in a new tonal centre as the “O Magnum”, “Beata virgo” and “Alleluia” themes are interspersed with each other. As the piece winds down, a sombre “Alleluia” coda brings the work back full circle to the opening ostinato, and the ghostly “O Magnum” and “Beata Virgo” themes are hinted at one final time before the ostinato fades into nothing.