

Stephen O'Driscoll, baritone

Stephen attended Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School in Holland Park, London, where he sang in three choirs as well as other musical commitments. Pieces sung whilst there include the Verdi Requiem, Händel's *Messiah*, Bach's *St John Passion*, Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, and the Mozart Requiem. He also played the role of Judge Turpin in the school's production of *Sweeney Todd*. Stephen is currently reading history.

Kate Piddington, soprano

Kate is a fourth year medical student at Somerville College, where she has been a valued member and choral scholar of the chapel choir. She is greatly enjoying her clinical medicine attachments and looks forward to her future as a doctor, though she couldn't tell you which specialty quite yet!

Kate balances her busy medical degree with her passions for music and travelling (when given the opportunity!). Before university, she was a member of the Farnham Youth Choir where she was given plenty of opportunity for solo singing and travelled with them all over Europe, Singapore and Australia. In 2006 Kate's choir also won two silver medals in the World Choir Games in China.

Daniel Reeve, tenor

Daniel Reeve came up to Oxford as an undergraduate in 2007, and is now writing a DPhil in medieval English literature. He is a choral scholar at Somerville College, and studies singing with David Crown.

Christoph Schnedermann, bass

The German bass, Christoph Schnedermann, has been a singer since the age of 7. Having sung first soprano until the age of 13, he is now a second bass. He has been a member of several choirs including the Jena Boys' Choir, the Jena Philharmonic Choir and the chamber choir 'Madrigalkreis Jena' with whom he still performs occasionally. He has co-founded and conducted a number of close harmony ensembles such as The Octavians (Germany), Altar Voice (Oxford) and OxChord. He began vocal studies at the age of 16 and is currently being taught by David Crown.

Robert Pecksmith, piano and harpsichord

Currently Somerville's Junior Organ Scholar, Robert began his musical life aged 5 when he began learning the piano, achieving Grade 8 Distinction aged 13. Thereupon he also took up the organ under the tutelage of Henry Fairs at the Birmingham Conservatoire, where he remained for five years. During this time he performed regularly and participated in several masterclasses, notably at Lincoln's Inn and at St Chad's Cathedral, as well as accompanying several vocal groups associated with the Birmingham Conservatoire. He also played regularly for his parish Church in Bourville, Birmingham, and upon reaching Oxford he now receives lessons from William Whitehead. Robert also maintains his piano studies with Margaret Newman, achieving a DipABRSM aged 16, winning numerous prizes in music competitions, both for his solo playing and as part of a piano trio.

Next Recital

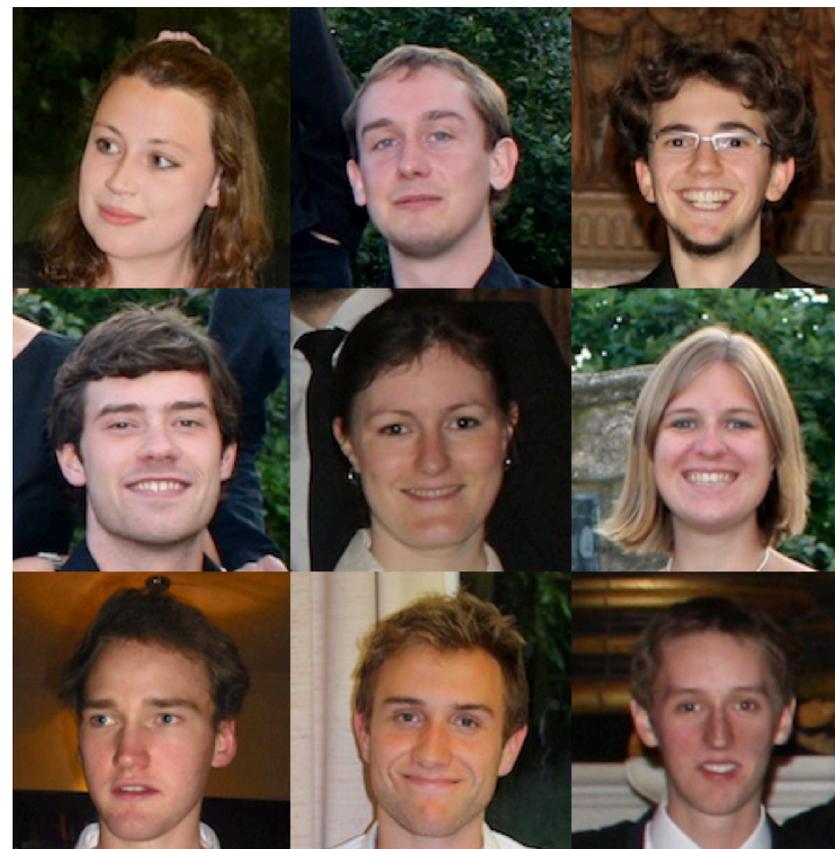
Friday, 11 May 2012, 1:15pm, Somerville College Chapel
Oxford Guitar Ensemble

SMS Recitals Coordinator: Stefan Schwarz (New College)



Somerville Music Society

Choral Scholars' Recital, 10 May 2012



Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Music for a while
Kate Piddington, soprano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen (from *Die Zauberflöte*)
Stephen O'Driscoll, baritone

Voi che sapete (from *Le nozze di Figaro*)
Jenni Butler, mezzo-soprano

Diggi, daggi (from *Bastien und Bastienne*)
Simon Grange, bass

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Die schöne Müllerin, D. 795
 6. Der Neugierige
 12. Pause
 18. Trockne Blumen
Daniel Reeve, tenor

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

Fußreise
 Der Musikant
Christoph Schnedermann, bass

Gaetano Donizetti (1799-1862)

Bella siccome un angelo (from *Don Pasquale*)
Josh Jordan, baritone

Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880)

Scintille, diamant! (from *Les contes d'Hoffmann*)
Stephen O'Driscoll, baritone

Fromental Halévy (1797-1848)

Si la rigueur (from *La Juive*)
Simon Grange, bass

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Wie Todesahnung Dämm'ung deckt die Lande / O du, mein holder Abendstern
 (from *Tannhäuser*)
Josh Jordan, baritone

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

O Waly, Waly
Jenni Butler, mezzo-soprano

Kurt Weill (1900-1950)

What Good Would the Moon Be? (from *Street Scene*)
Kate Piddington, soprano

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

As Torrents in Summer (from *King Olaf*)
Kate Piddington, soprano 1; Isabel Sinagola, soprano 2; Ellen Border, alto

David Childs (* 1969), arr. Tom Lane (* 1984)

Song of Ruth
Isabel Sinagola, soprano; Ellen Border, alto; Daniel Reeve, tenor; Stephen O'Driscoll, bass

Jenni Butler, mezzo-soprano

Jenni Butler is a 3rd year Classics student at Somerville College. She has been a member of the choir since she came to Oxford, taking some time out this year to compete for the University in the Women's Lightweight Boat Race. She has been singing since her teens in a variety of choirs and ensembles, and is now studying under David Crown.

Simon Grange, bass

Simon began singing in choirs at the age of 11 when he joined The Manchester Grammar School Choir. Since then he has sung in a variety of choirs and other ensembles. His singing has taken him on tour to France, Germany, Spain, Italy, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and America. Other notable performances include singing as part of the chorus for Britten's War Requiem in the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester, conducted by Marcus Farnsworth, as a member of the RNCM opera chorus in their most recent production of Bernstein's *Candide*, and as a member of the chorus in Oxford Philomusica's recent performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio*. He began formal vocal studies during his gap year with the tenor Jeffrey Lawton at the RNCM and subsequently with David Crown at Oxford. This summer he attended the Abingdon Summer School for Solo Singers where he took part in masterclasses with Susan McCulloch, Henry Herford, Robin Bowman, Margaret Humphrey Clark and Elaine Kidd. He also auditioned to study with Graeme Broadbent and now has regular lessons with him at Covent Garden, and more recently has also had lessons with Robert Lloyd. Currently he holds a choral scholarship at Somerville College, with whom he has performed several times as a soloist, and is a member of Keble College where he is in his third year studying English Literature and Language.

Joshua Jordan, baritone

Josh was a chorister at Westminster Abbey from 1998-2004, where he sang at numerous state occasions (e.g. the Queen Mother's funeral) and on international tours. He was then awarded a music scholarship to Marlborough College from 2004-2009 where he played and sang in various ensembles. At Oxford he was awarded a choral scholarship to Somerville College, but is now focussing more on solo singing. During his holidays Josh has conducted two successful opera busking tours with friends, the most recent of which being around Sicily, and hopes to pursue a more operatic route with his time left at Oxford. He also plays piano, flute and accordion and is part of an electronic music group.