

# DELIVERANCE

Dan Walker



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Sunday 9 October 2022, Marrickville Town Hall



# MASS OF DELIVERANCE

**FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHELLE LEONARD OAM:** The LEC legacy of musical generosity, excellence and contribution to the cultural landscape is truly exemplified by the ongoing commissioning and performance of this larger scale choral work. This remarkable choir of non-auditioned singers rehearsing in a school hall in Sydney's inner west has much to be proud of. What you will hear today has been a long time in the making – but great things come to those who wait! Eight years ago I met Dan with my fourth (and final) newborn at the front door of my new home – I had barely unpacked the boxes! By the time we had a coffee with my now infamous scrambled eggs, we had both decided that the LEC needed to perform a larger scale work written by him – it turned out to be one of the best musical investments I had ever made!

Since the premiere of this work in 2014, *Mass of Deliverance* has been nominated for Choral Work on the Year in 2015 by APRA AMCOS, performed by Song Company under Roland Peelman and performed by the Choir of St James for a special Australia Day Mass in 2016. Also in 2016, Sydney Philharmonia recorded it for their CD. In 2020 the LEC members rallied to support the performing arts sector during COVID, and one palpable way was through the commissioning of three new auxiliary movements for this Mass. The addition of these allows a wider emotional arc to exist, as well as to showcase two soloists and Dan's unique ability to distil the emotional intensity of the Latin text within a contemporary choral framework. The incredible cohesive combination of brass, percussion and piano gives so much scope for intimacy and grandeur – from the hauntingly beautiful flugal solo to the syncopated punctuations between the instrumentalists and singers as both seek to grab the audience's attention in a true battle of the musical wills. Each movement encapsulates the essence of the text – all culminating in the final work filled with hope and light – Lux Aeterna. We dedicate this performance to the remarkable musicianship of the late Paul Goodchild, who supported its creation every step of the way.

**FROM THE COMPOSER DAN WALKER:** The original iteration of my *Mass of Deliverance* comprises the six movements that we associate with the basic Latin Mass setting. It features the Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei texts that have been used for hundreds of years, by composers from Machaut to Mozart, Josquin to Frank Martin. Occasionally we hear additional texts that denote a particular type of service: The Requiem, for example, will often open with a Requiem Aeternam introduction, as well as feature movements such as the Dies Irae and Hostias texts. These texts, with themes of judgement and reckoning, indicate that this particular mass is one that celebrates, or mourns, the dead.

When Michelle asked me to write several additional movements, it was during a very difficult time for musicians everywhere. No one was more maligned than singers; with their crisp plosives showering audiences and fellow singers alike with virus-laden aerosols. Knowing that the performance of this final work could well be several years away, I decided that I would turn the work into something of a Mass for renewal, with additional texts hinting at the idea of rebirth, salvation, and solidarity. While the texts are liturgical in nature, the themes they represent transcend music purely designed for worship: they remind us of a time when things will be better; when we will be reunited with loved ones; and a time that for many, may signal the end of imposed isolation and solitude. The Tuba Finem, or Final Trumpet movement I have posthumously dedicated to the late Paul Goodchild, who was instrumental in the genesis of the original mass and played for its premiere. The work now features Mezzo soprano and Baritone soloists, who sing very much in conjunction with the choir, along with the ensemble of piano, percussion and brass quintet.

I'd like to thank Michelle and the wonderful members of the Leichhardt Espresso Chorus for once again bringing this work to life, at a time when embracing and supporting our music-makers is more important than ever.



**Michelle Leonard OAM:** Michelle is the founding Artistic Director and Conductor of Leichhardt Espresso Chorus and its chamber choir, Ristretto. She is widely sought after as a choral clinician on Australian repertoire and appears regularly as a guest speaker, adjudicator and workshop facilitator. Michelle was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for Services to the Community and Performing Arts in 2017. Michelle is also the founder, Artistic Director and Conductor of Moorambilla Voices. This nationally awarded program seeks at its core to give country kids a rare opportunity to sing, dance and create incredible performances with artists of the highest calibre. The friendships, performances and opportunities the children make are life-changing. Under Michelle's direction, the program has flourished, receiving numerous national and state awards. For more information: [moorambilla.com](http://moorambilla.com) (Photo: Noni Carroll)



**Dan Walker:** Canberra composer, conductor and performer Dan Walker is one of Australia's most in-demand choral specialists. He has written music for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Gondwana Choirs and Halcyon. As a performer, Dan is a member of the Clarion vocal quartet, Sydney-based Cantillation, and Pinchgut Opera. He is a guest performer with The Song Company and was a founding member of early music ensemble 'The Parson's Affaire'. A keenly sought-after conductor, Dan has appeared as chorus-master for the Sydney and Melbourne Symphony Choruses, and is now music director of the Canberra Choral Society, Oriana Chamber Choir, Luminescence Chamber Singers and the Canberra Community Chorale.

# PROGRAM

**i. Kyrie**

**ii. Gloria**

**iii. Libera Me\***

**iv. Credo**

**v. Sanctus**

**vi. Tuba Finem\***

**vii. Benedictus**

**viii. Agnus Dei**

**ix. Lux Aeterna\***

While the work is sung in Latin, we have provided the English translation below.

\*New movements (2020) created through the LEC Commissioning Fund.

Libera Me was commissioned in memory of Elfi Manhart and also Janet Millar.

## KYRIE

Lord, have mercy on us  
Christ, have mercy on us.

## GLORIA

Glory be to God on high  
And on earth peace to men of good will  
we praise you, we bless you  
we adore you, we glorify you  
we give you thanks, for your great glory  
Lord God, heavenly king  
God, almighty Father  
Lord, begotten son, Jesus Christ  
Lord God, lamb of God, son of the father  
You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us  
You take all sins from the world, receive our  
invocation/prayer  
you who are seated at the right of the father,  
have mercy on us  
because only you are Holy,  
only you are Lord,  
only you, Jesus Christ, are Highest  
With the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

## LIBERA ME

Deliver me, O Lord, from death eternal  
on that fearful day  
I am made to tremble, and I fear,  
till the judgment be upon us,  
and the coming wrath,  
When the heavens and the earth shall be moved  
When thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.

## CREDO

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible:  
And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God;  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God;  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation descended from heaven.  
He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered  
and was buried:  
And he rose again on the third day according to the  
Scriptures:  
And ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the  
Father:

## CREDO (cont)

And the same shall come again, with glory, to judge the  
living and the dead:  
Of whose kingdom there shall be no end;  
And (I believe) in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and life-giver,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who, with the Father and the Son, together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
And (I believe in) one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,  
I confess one baptism for the remission of sins.  
And I await the resurrection of the dead:  
and the life of the coming age. Amen.

## SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## TUBA FINEM

When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall  
be no more,  
And the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair;  
When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other  
shore,  
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.  
On that bright and cloudless morning when the dead in  
Christ shall rise,  
And the glory of his resurrection share,  
When his chosen ones shall gather to their home beyond  
the skies  
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

## BENEDICTUS

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## ANGUS DEI

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have  
mercy on us, grant us peace.

## LUX AETERNA

Let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord,  
with your saints for ever,  
for you are merciful.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.



## Chamber Orchestra:

**Trumpet 1/Flugal: Dan Henderson. Trumpet 2: Matthew Carter. Trumpet 3: Elizabeth Dawson.**  
**Trombone 1: Dale Vail. Bass trombone: Paolo Franks. Timpani: Adam Stanbury.**  
**Percussion: Alison Pratt. Piano: Ben Burton.**



**Mezzo Soprano Anna Fraser:** Anna has gained a reputation as a versatile soprano specialising predominantly in the interpretation of early and contemporary repertoire performing in a myriad of traditional and exploratory programming expertly demonstrating the versatility and virtuosity of a cappella singing. Equally at home as a dramatist on the stage, Anna is also a strong exponent of music education. She performs extensively with a number of Australia's professional ensembles including Pinchgut Opera, Cantillation, Sydney Chamber Opera, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, the SSO, Ironwood, Acacia Quartet, Ensemble Offspring, Halcyon, Taikoz, Bach Akademie Australia, Australian Haydn Ensemble, Salut! Baroque, and performed with The Song Company as a principal artist for over a decade. (Photo: Noni Carroll)



**Baritone Aidan O'Donnell:** Having completed a BMus degree majoring in classical vocal performance at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Aidan is now undertaking a Masters of Opera Performance in Sydney under the tutelage of David Greco. Aidan has participated in a range of performances and positions including his current positions as a Lay Clerk at St James King Street and St Paul's College, and deputy Lay Clerk at St Mary's Cathedral. He has worked with the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra as a featured artist and chorister, and The Song Company as an associate artist. He attended and participated in the 'Melbourne International Festival for Lieder and Art Song' in 2019 conducted by Professor Graham Johnson. In 2020 and 2021, Aidan was awarded as a finalist in the 'Demant Dreikurs Song Competition'.

## The Leichhardt Espresso Chorus

The award-winning Leichhardt Espresso Chorus is a community choir of over 80 singers. Founded in 1998 by Artistic Director **Michelle Leonard OAM**, the Chorus includes a chamber choir, Ristretto, and is accompanied by **Benjamin Burton**. The LEC celebrates new Australian choral music with an annual program of commissions, partnerships and collaborations with composers, ensembles and musicians. We have commissioned and performed world premieres and arrangements of well over 100 new choral works and choral classics, including *Messiah Reimagined* at City Recital Hall in 2019.



**Soprano:** Ayla Erken, Claire Humphreys, Cora Rafi, Di Beauchamp, Elisabeth Burke, Jan Mackenzie, Jeanne Kinninmont, Kathy Green, Liane Clarke, Louise Cantrill, Meg Callander, Melinda Beck, Polly Bernard, Shae Fleming, Suzanne Berkeley, Suzanne Blythin, Trish Pearce, Wilhelmina Brown **Alto:** Alison Jaworski, Bronwyn Coulston, Bronwyn Neal, Bronwyn Vost, Caroline Pugh, Chloe Hardwick-Jones, Christine Walters, Corinne Mesana, Crista Wocadlo, Diane Paul, Elle Handel, Georgie Cropper, Glenda Stone, Jane Robinson, Janet Wills, Jenny Hislop, Julie Montague, Kate Wade, Lesley Dawes, Linda Trevor, Linda Wills, Lisa Maffina, Louise Silburn, Marina Shine, Micaela Callan, Miriam Poole, Sophie Fickler, Susan McCarthy, Svetlana Kotevska, Therese Berrigan, Verena Clemencic-Jones **Tenor:** Ashley George, Chris Magocki, Damien Kuan, David Allen, Geordie Marsh, Marcus Thomson, Martyn Morrison-Greet, Tim Cheung **Bass:** Adam Smith, Chris Robinson, Jim Fleming, Max Robinson, Mike Dunkley, Mike Webb, Paul Collett, Paul Heath, Richard Goodman, Stu Annels, Warwick Van Ede

**We would like to sincerely thank Mark Donnelly who helped in the preparation of the choir for this concert. Thank you to the LEC Committee for their hard work: President, Lisa Maffina, Vice President & Artistic Director: Michelle Leonard OAM, Treasurer: Therese Berrigan, Secretary: Adam Smith, General members: Bronwyn Neal, Georgie Cropper, Gwyn Jones, Stu Annels, Suzanne Pierce.** Program artwork: Liane Clarke/Content & Cultural Projects.

### Do you love singing? Join the LEC!

Do you love developing your singing voice in a fun and adventurous choir? Do you love performing new Australian music with outstanding musicians? All choristers welcome to join! No audition required and discounts for under 25s. Tenors and basses particularly welcome. We rehearse every Wednesday at Leichhardt Public School Hall at 7pm during school terms. **COMING UP: Join us for a stunning Carols on Norton Christmas concert in December.** Contact us on email at [admin@espressochorus.com.au](mailto:admin@espressochorus.com.au) or see website: [www.espressochorus.com.au](http://www.espressochorus.com.au)