

BRANDENBURG
**CHORAL FESTIVAL
OF LONDON**

Tuesday 4 August 2015

London's biggest choral festival hits the high notes with a divine line-up of Autumn concerts including a London premiere

- Sixth successive year of festival will showcase 43 choirs and vocal ensembles at 35 events in 14 historic London venues
- Exciting programme includes the London premiere of Patrick Hawes' Eventide, commemorating WWI nurse Edith Cavell
- Community and office choirs invited to take part in a special event
- Grange Hotels is announced as new sponsor and the elegant chapel at Wellington Grange Hotel will play host to its first choral concert
- Ralph Allwood MBE is appointed Associate Musical Director and will conduct 4 concerts, including two Come & Sing all-day events open to everyone
- Tickets are now on sale for performances from 10 September - 26 November

The Autumn Series of the Brandenburg Choral Festival of London, the capital's biggest and broadest celebration of all things choral, will take place from 10 September – 26 November, boasting 43 choirs and vocal ensembles, performing across 35 separate events in some of the most beautiful and iconic venues in London.

The festival provides a platform for amateur choirs and small vocal groups to sing a range of different musical styles in beautiful central London venues, many of which are hidden gems, often unknown or overlooked by the general public such as The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy and the stunning Chapel of the Wellington Grange Hotel - a new festival venue which is hosting a choral concert for the first time as part of the season.

Audiences can enjoy choral classics such as Mozart Requiem and Vivaldi Gloria, be inspired by the London premiere of Eventide by Patrick Hawes commemorating World War One nurse Edith Cavell, or participate in a Come and Sing event that offers the chance to join a chorus led by a distinguished conductor. Community and office-based choirs also have the chance to get involved in a fun and relaxed choral adventure.

Brandenburg has a new sponsor and offers support to small charities

Brandenburg welcomes Grange Hotels as its Festival Sponsor for 2015 and the hotel group will play host to 'Best of British', a concert featuring a selection of sumptuous a capella songs, in the beautiful and intimate surroundings of the Grange Wellington Chapel on 30 October.

Building on its fundraising success in 2014, the festival will help more than 30 small charities raise money and awareness through collections at many of its concerts.

Brandenburg Choral Festival of London is the brainchild of Artistic Director, Bob Porter, whose dedication and enthusiasm has fuelled its success. Bob says "We give amateur choirs that have professional standards the opportunity to perform in historic London venues. I love being able to showcase such an enormous range of music and share the enjoyment it brings to so many people."

Conductor and composer Ralph Allwood MBE has been appointed Associate Musical Director and will play a hands-on role, directing four Festival concerts including two Come & Sing daytime events, open to all. "There is a burgeoning enthusiasm for choral music in this country and this festival provides an outlet for some first class performing groups as well as an excellent series of concerts, not only for seasoned and enthusiastic listeners, but also for those who may be coming to experience choral music for the first time. Those people won't be sorry. I guarantee they will come back for more."

Tickets are on sale now at: www.brandenburg.org.uk/autumn or via our booking line on **07528 776625 (10am-5pm, Monday to Saturday).**

AUTUMN SEASON HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Thursday 10 September	<i>Mozart Requiem and Rachmaninov Vespers</i>
Monday 12 October	<i>Eventide</i> by Patrick Hawes (London premiere)
Friday 30 October	<i>Best of British</i> at the Grange Wellington Chapel
Saturday 7 November	<i>Come & Sing Elijah</i> with Ralph Allwood MBE
Thursday 19 November	<i>Vivaldi Gloria</i> featuring Inner Voices
Thursday 26 November	<i>Allegrì Miserere</i> featuring Trinity Laban Old Royal Naval College Chapel Choir, conducted by Ralph Allwood

Full concert listings: www.brandenburg.org.uk/autumn

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BrandenburgFest>

Twitter: @BrandenburgFest

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NOTES FOR EDITORS:

The **Brandenburg Choral Festival of London** runs from 10 September to 26 November 2015. It features 35 concerts in 14 central London venues, with St Martin-in-the-Fields and the Strand at its heart. The Festival was founded in 2010, making 2015 its sixth successive year.

Concert venues: St Martin-in-the-Fields, St Clement Danes, the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Temple Church, Swiss Church, St Botolph-without-Bishopsgate, Cheshire Cheese, St James's Sussex Garden, St Paul's Covent Garden, St Sepulchre-without-Newgate and, for the first time in 2015, the Grange Wellington Chapel, St Giles-in-the-Fields and St Gabriel's Church in Pimlico.

St Martin-in-the-Fields is an 18th Century Anglican church on the corner of Trafalgar Square, in the shadow of Nelson's Column and the National Gallery. It runs a busy programme of concerts throughout the year.

The **Brandenburg Sinfonia**, together with its sister orchestra the **Brandenburg Baroque Soloists**, is one of the UK's busiest orchestras and is known in particular for its work with choirs. It comprises some of the finest professional musicians in the country and performs regularly in major venues in London and across the UK.

Ralph Allwood MBE is Associate Musical Director of the Brandenburg Choral Festival of London. He is founder and conductor of Inner Voices and Director of the Eton Choral Courses. He is Director of Music at the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich and has conducted choirs for 40 live broadcasts for BBC Radio 3. He has written music heard worldwide on radio and television.

Grange Hotels is the new Festival sponsor for 2015. As London's leading independent hotel group, it provides exquisite accommodation in 4 and 5-Star properties across the heart of the capital and its ethos and values are embedded within the community through arts and culture, education, community affairs, associations and institutions, sports, partnerships and the third sector. It recognises the measurable impact arts and culture has on the economy, health and well-being, society and education, and it understands the important role of corporate philanthropy in contributing to the success of productions and projects such as the Brandenburg Choral Festival of London.