

Nelson Civic Choir  
&  
Orchestra

# CHORAL PEACE



Nelson Cathedral  
16th & 17th September 2023

# WELCOME



*Haere mai! It is such a pleasure to welcome you to 'CHORAL PEACE.' This concert builds on the shoulders of giants, as the Nelson Civic Choir performs excerpts from 'The Peacemakers', a major work by Sir Karl Jenkins, along with a selection of choral works on the theme of Peace. The Choir has previously performed two other works by Sir Karl – 'The Armed Man' and 'Cantata Memoria', remarkable choral compositions which made a huge impact on the Choir and in the community with marked poignancy. To sing a third is truly exciting!*

*In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly declared the third Tuesday of September as International Day of Peace. The purpose of the day was, and still remains, to strengthen the ideals of peace around the world. September 21, 2023 marks a time to discuss how to promote and maintain peace among all peoples.*

*Today we look to those who have been peacemakers and peacekeepers to learn what we can each do individually to make the world a more peaceful place.*

*The Choir's sincere thanks go to our Music Director, to all the performers, to all the people working behind the scenes, to the many experts who have freely given us their time and enthusiasm, and to the organisations that have supported us financially. You have made these concerts possible. Thank you everybody!*

*Watch out for news of our next production - 'JOY TO THE WORLD' coming to a Cathedral near you in December 2023!*



# PROGRAMME

**Blessed Are The Peacemakers** (The Peacemakers) – Karl Jenkins

**Make me a Channel of Your Peace** – Sebastian Temple

**A Meditation** (The Peacemakers) – Karl Jenkins

Soprano Soloist – Zoë Dee

*Reading (The Peacemakers Text) – Anton Bentley*

**I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me** – Hubert Parry

*Reading (The Peacemakers Text) – Anton Bentley*

**Solitude** (The Peacemakers) – Karl Jenkins

**Deep Peace** – Jason Balla

**Celtic Prayer** (The Peacemakers) – Karl Jenkins

## Intermission

**The Dove** (The Peacemakers) – Karl Jenkins

**The Lord Bless You And Keep You** – John Rutter

Soprano Soloist – Zoë Dee

**Y'rushalayim Shel Zahav** – arr. E. Crocker

*Reading (The Peacemakers Text) - Anton Bentley*

**All People That On Earth Do Dwell** – Vaughan Williams

*Reading (The Peacemakers Text) - Anton Bentley*

**Psalm 23** – Howard Goodall

**You Raise Me Up** – Lovland/Groban

**Anthem** (The Peacemakers) – Karl Jenkins



# THE PEACEMAKERS

## SIR KARL JENKINS CBE

*The Peacemakers is a work extolling peace. One line, from Rumi (the 13th-century Persian mystic poet whose words I have set) sums up the ethos of the piece: 'All religions, all singing one song: Peace be with you'. Many of the 'contributors' are iconic figures that have shaped history, others are less well known. I have occasionally placed some text in a musical environment that helps identify their origin or culture; the bansuri (Indian flute) and tabla in the Gandhi, the shakuhachi (a Japanese flute associated with Zen Buddhism) and temple bells in that of the Dalai Lama, African percussion in the Mandela and echoes of the blues of the deep American South (as well as a quote from Schumann's Träumerei (Dreaming) ) in my tribute to Martin Luther King. 'Healing Light: a Celtic prayer' is just that, with uilleann pipes and bodhrán drums. I have also presented some odd combinations, such as 'monastic chant meets the ethnic' in 'Let there be justice for all' and 'Inner peace'.*

*Having decided on The Peacemakers as the textual core and title of my new work the search was on to find messengers of peace. A handful of obvious figures came to mind, figures that have changed the world, such as Gandhi, Mandela and Martin Luther King, followed by such iconic and inspiring people as Mother Teresa and Anne Frank. Having sourced suitable and pithy text from these the net was cast to find other 'peacemakers'. I had been aware of Albert Schweitzer as a boy, in part because my organist father had recordings of him playing Bach, and I had previously set the Persian mystic poet, Rumi, in my Stabat Mater. I felt I needed something from the Abrahamic religions, so there are words from Christ, the Qur'an, Judaism and St Seraphim of Sarov (a Russian Orthodox monk), while St Francis of Assisi is included by association. I also quote from the Old Testament Book of Isaiah in my homage to Martin Luther King, as he did in his 'I have a dream' speech. English poets, Shelley and Malory are heard, as is Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í faith. Carol Barratt added further text with the odd sentence from me. Some anonymous traditional text has also been included. I feel privileged that Terry Waite CBE has contributed some wonderful words, especially written for The Peacemakers.*

*From Composer's notes September 2011*

<https://www.boosey.com/cr/music/Karl-Jenkins-The-Peacemakers/57402>



## BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS (The Peacemakers) Karl Jenkins

Blessed are the Peacemakers for they will be called the children of God.  
Shalom. Shanti. Salam.

## MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE—Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of Your peace, where there is hatred let me bring Your love,  
where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt,  
true faith in You.

Make me a channel of Your peace, where there's despair in life, let me bring  
hope, where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.  
O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be  
understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of Your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in  
giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.  
Amen

## A MEDITATION (The Peacemakers) - Karl Jenkins

Peace is the fragile meeting of two souls in harmony. Peace is an embrace that  
protects and heals. Peace is a reconciling of opposites. Peace is rooted in love, it  
lies in the heart waiting to be nourished, blossom and flourish until it embraces  
the world.

May we know the harmony of peace, may we sing the harmony of peace. Until the  
last of days we rest in peace.

## I WAS GLAD WHEN THEY SAID UNTO ME— Hubert Parry

I was glad, glad when they said unto me, We will go. We will go into the house of  
the Lord. Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace, peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces.

## SOLITUDE (The Peacemakers) - Karl Jenkins - Instrumental

## DEEP PEACE — Jason Balla &

## CELTIC PRAYER (The Peacemakers) - Karl Jenkins

Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you, deep  
peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you, deep  
peace of the gentle night to you, moon and stars pour their healing light on you,  
deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you, deep peace of Christ to you.  
Amen.



## THE DOVE (The Peacemakers) - Karl Jenkins

Dove of peace fly here to find us, feathers softly stroking the earth.  
Dove of peace so soft, so silent, please protect each innocent birth.  
Dove of peace we reach to touch you, pure and white, please comfort our fears.  
Spread contentment gently near us, spread your wings and dry all our tears.  
Dove of peace fly here to find us, feathers caught in circles of light.  
Dove of peace so soft, so silent, turn each day to sweet sleep each night.

## THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU – John Rutter

The Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make his face to shine upon you, to shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

## Y'RUSHALAYIM SHEL ZAHAV – arr. E. Crocker

Oh, the fire burns while the hours turn and the embers glow. And the rabbi teaches all the little ones what they need to know. See now little ones, don't forget, now please say it once and say it over again all your A B Cs.  
The olive trees that stand in silence upon the hills of time, to hear the voices of the city as bells of evening chime. The Shofar sounding from the temple to call the world to prayer, the shepherd pauses in the valley and peace is everywhere.  
Y'rushalayim shel zahav v'shel n'shel n'choshet v'shel or halo l'chol shi rayich a ni kinor.

## ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL – R. Vaughan Williams

I (Choir & People)

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with fear,  
his praise forth tell,  
Come ye before him, and rejoice.

III (Choir only)

O enter then his gates with praise,  
Approach with joy his courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless  
his name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.

II (Choir & People)

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,  
Without our aid he did us make;  
We are his folk, he doth us feed,  
And for his sheep he doth us take.

IV (Choir only)

For why? The Lord our God is good;  
His mercy is forever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

V (Choir & People)

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom heaven and earth adore,  
From men and from the angel host  
Be praise and glory evermore.

Amen.



## PSALM 23 – Howard Goodall

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
Yea though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil:  
For You are with me, You will comfort me.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## YOU RAISE ME UP – Lovland/Groban

When I am down and oh, my soul so weary, when troubles come  
and my heart burdened be;  
Then I am still and wait here in the silence until You come and sit awhile with me.  
You raise me up so I can stand on mountains.  
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas.  
I am strong when I am on your shoulders.  
You raise me up to more than I can be.  
There is no life without its hunger.  
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly.  
But when You come and I am filled with wonder  
Sometimes I think I glimpse eternity.

## ANTHEM (The Peacemakers) - Karl Jenkins

Peace, triumphant peace shall reign on Earth some day.  
Pray for peace and make your words echo round the world for peace one day,  
on Earth one day, that wondrous day when the world has peace,  
glorious peace, such peace.  
When will such lasting peace arrive on that wondrous day on this our Earth?  
May all our paths meet up and lead to one holy place where peace shall  
reign in our hearts, one wondrous day when the world has peace,  
glorious peace, such peace.  
How wonderful it is that no-one need wait a single moment before starting to  
improve the world.  
Embrace the spirit of peace and thousands of souls around you will be saved.



# MUSIC DIRECTOR - Jason Balla



Jason was born in Wales and was awarded the prestigious Organ Scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford where he also sang in the choir of New College. Jason sang and toured as a soloist with the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and at age eighteen he became the youngest member of the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. After completing post-graduate studies in voice and opera at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London Jason went on to a busy schedule internationally as a singer, pianist, organist and music director. As a conductor and choral trainer his choral repertoire ranges from masterworks of the renaissance through Handel oratorios and Mozart masses to 20<sup>th</sup> century English choral pieces.

As a teacher of music and voice in particular Jason has tutored and taught extensively in the UK and the USA. As a singer he appears regularly in opera, concert and oratorio throughout the UK, Europe, the Far East, and North America. He has performed most of the major concert and oratorio works, including Verdi's *Requiem*, Lloyd Webber's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and many others. He has recorded recitals of French and English music for Radio Hong Kong and has also been featured on CBC and BBC radio broadcasts, and CD recordings of Mozart's *Requiem* and Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Slovak Philharmonic. Jason was a company member of the Lyric Opera of Chicago from 1995 to 2018. His organ and piano instrumental recital tours have taken him from the West Coast of the USA to Germany, the UK and the Far East. In 2021 Jason moved to Nelson where he now resides permanently.





# NELSON CIVIC CHOIR



Nelson Civic Choir is a non-audition choir which is open to people of all ages with an interest in singing and learning choral music in a variety of styles and genres. The choir rehearses regularly on Tuesday evenings preparing for 3 concert programmes each year. If you would like to know more about joining the choir please contact [secretary@nelsoncivicchoir.com](mailto:secretary@nelsoncivicchoir.com)

**SOPRANOS:** Allison Cormack, Alouise Pope, Anne Doyle, Anne Harry, Charlotte Reith, Debbie de Geus, Elena Camisani West, Frances Coleman, Gaile Noonan, Helen McDonnell, Helen Tapper, Inga Lane, Irene de Jong, Janet Galloway, Jill Seeney, Julie Lawn, Linda Wareing, Lucy Rainey, Megan Thomas, Nancy Davis, Rosemarie Amos, Rosemary Shaw, Sarah Holmes, Serena Linley-Adams, Steph Hoffman, Tracy McCrenor, Ulla Schneider, Ulrike Meissner.

**ALTOS:** Delyth Logan, Elizabeth Williams, Emma Hamley, Eva Virtue, Eve Ward, Faith Fraser, Gillian Kendrick, Judi Davies, Karen Gibson, Kay Hunter, Kate Ball, Liz Coulter, Lois Mills, Lyndal Howley, Martina Schneider-Leisser, Mary Bronsteter, Mila Hofberg, Neroli Aymes, Pam Henson, Penelope Kempthorne, Rita Joy, Shona Idle, Suzie Peacock, Sunmi Kang.

**TENORS:** Alistair Webber, Andrea King, Ann Briggs, Christine Burn, David Featherstone, Frits Hofman, Gretchen Howard, Jane Morrison, Joe Waller, John Foes-Lamb, Noel Stephens, Peter Kemp.

**BASSES:** Colin Davis, Dan Griffin, Douglas Higgins, Graeme North, Ian Buick, Jack Hamley, John Henley, Peter Field, Richard Talbot, Robin Bayley, Roderick Joyce, Shirley McEwan, Todd Padgett.

[nelsoncivicchoir.com](http://nelsoncivicchoir.com)



## ORGANIST – Simon Over



Simon Over studied at the Amsterdam Conservatoire, the Royal Academy of Music and Oxford University. It is worth noting that Simon, alongside our Music Director Jason Balla and NCC guest organist David Burchell were all recipients of prestigious Organ Scholarships at the University of Oxford at the same time during the 1980s.

Simon is the Founder-Conductor of the UK Parliament Choir and has conducted many performances with the City of London Sinfonia, London Festival Orchestra and Southbank Sinfonia which he founded in 2002. He has conducted many of its concerts throughout the UK, Europe and Asia.

In 2006 Simon was appointed Conductor of the Malcolm Sargent Festival Choir as well as being Music Director of Bury Court Opera conducting performances of *Dido and Aeneas*, *Rigoletto*, *La Cenerentola*, *Eugene Onegin*, *The Fairy Queen*, *The Rake's Progress* and *Madama Butterfly*. Further conducting credits include City Chamber Orchestra (Hong Kong), the Goyang Philharmonic Orchestra (Korea), and Vestfold International Festival in Norway.

Recently appointed Principal Guest Conductor of the Southern Sinfonia, New Zealand, in 2013 he conducted a joint concert with the Yamagata Symphony Orchestra and Southern Sinfonia, representing Australia and New Zealand in Tokyo's Asia Orchestra Week.

## ORCHESTRA

**VIOLINS:** Juliet Ayre (Concertmaster), Alex Partridge, Jenny Owen, Linda Lloyd, Margarita Jackson, Paul Roper, Richard Wells, Zoe Wing.

**VIOLAS:** Myles Payne, Jonna Arthur, Lynette Goulding, Jan-Ulf Kuwilsky.

**CELLOS:** Lissa Cowie, Diana Roper, Marta Barham, Sue Stubbs.

**DOUBLE BASS:** Alvaro Moreno, Kyoko Ball.

**FLUTES:** Annabelle Laing, Tersha Coppell.

**OBOE:** Lucy Davies.

**CLARINETS:** Marie Willis, David North.

**BASSOONS:** Michelle Bryant, Clare Moore.

**HORNS:** Ray Takashima, Eleanor Clenshaw.

**TRUMPETS:** Lewis Gray, Tony Pringle, Nick van Dijk.

**TROMBONES:** Leo Read, Natania Ngawhau, Grant Wright.

**PERCUSSION:** Clare Monti, Dan Callahan.

**KEYBOARD:** Kyoko Takashima.



## READER – Anton Bentley

Anton is primarily a theatre director. Through his company, *Piece of Work Productions*, he has produced and directed *The Glass Menagerie*, *God of Carnage* and most recently *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)* at Fairfield House and *Woyzeck and Metamorphosis* for Nelson Fringe Festival.



## SOPRANO – Zoë Dee

Since moving to New Zealand in 2012, Zoë became a member of the *NZ Opera Chorus*, performing *Madame Butterfly*, *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, *Tosca* and *The Barber of Seville*.

Locally Zoë sings with Chroma Chamber Choir and works as a vocal/choral teacher at NCG, NCMA and Nayland College. She also conducts the Nelson Youth Choir.



## NELSON YOUTH CHOIR

The Nelson Youth Choir aims to develop a love of singing and to build expertise in singing choral music. The choir is made up of members aged 12 – 23 years old who wish to sing choral pieces in harmony. The choir performs concerts for members of the local community for their enjoyment and connection with young people. The choir also offers students of schools in the region that have no functioning choirs the opportunity to sing with other young people from different schools, tertiary institutions and paid employment in the Nelson Tasman region.

**SOPRANOS:** Malachi Ayre, Jade Bowater, Abby Marshall, Jemimah Olive, Kristie Packer, Ella Rainbow, Zoe Taylor, Anneliese Thorp, Glesni Wardrop.

**ALTOS:** Samantha Douglas, Abby Grooby, Alex Lewis, Zara Lieffering, Josiah Packer, Jemima Reidie-Doppenberg, \*Hannah Astridge, \*Cordelia Stevenson, Emily Preston-Thomas.

\* Singers from the Nelson College for Girls Choir



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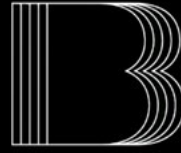
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In addition to today's Choral PEACE concert the Choir has been invited by TimeDate, a Swiss consortium, to take part in a worldwide choral event to celebrate and promote World Peace Day. Under our Music Director, Jason Balla, we have leapt at the chance to sing to promote peace throughout the world. We know how blessed we are in Aotearoa New Zealand and would love to think that our tiny efforts might make a difference to others in very different circumstances.

On the International Day of Peace, the 21st of September 2023, the sound of 'The Peacemakers' by Karl Jenkins will circumnavigate the globe as a musical relay, starting with the Nelson Civic Choir. The musical message of peace then will be shaped by choirs on nearly all the continents.

The celebration for World Peace Day is scheduled to begin in Lucerne in Switzerland at 9.30am Central European Time (CET), which is 7.30pm NZ time. All the concerts participating across the world will be presented on the TimeDate website from 9.30am to 11.30pm CET, in a livestream, and will continue to be broadcast until October 31st. You can reach this glorious concert via our website at [nelsoncivicchoir.com](http://nelsoncivicchoir.com), on our You Tube channel Nelson Civic Choir NZ, or on the TimeDate website [timedate.ch](http://timedate.ch)

Nelson Civic Choir is affiliated with the NZ Choral Federation

