

# philharmonia orchestra

## **BBC SYMPHONY CHORUS**

### **President**

Sir Andrew Davis

### **Director**

Stephen Jackson

### **Vocal Coach**

Deborah Miles-Johnson

### **Accompanist**

Paul Webster

Founded in 1928, the BBC Symphony Chorus is one of the UK's finest large choruses. Its early concerts included UK and world premieres of works by Bartók, Holst, Stravinsky and Mahler. This commitment to new music is undiminished today, with recent commissions from James MacMillan, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Judith Bingham, Julian Anderson, Michael Nyman, Sir John Tavener and Sir Richard Rodney Bennett.

As resident chorus for the BBC Proms, the Symphony Chorus regularly gives five or six concerts each season, including the First and Last nights, and often a 'solo' Prom of its own under Stephen Jackson, Chorus Director since 1989. The Chorus has gained a unique profile among Britain's large amateur choirs for its a cappella repertoire, which includes scores by Strauss, Schoenberg, Poulenc and Britten. The group's recent CD of works by Judith Bingham was named Editor's Choice by Gramophone magazine.

The BBC Symphony Chorus appears regularly with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and makes frequent overseas trips, with visits in 2007 to the Canary Islands, Brussels and Istanbul. Highlights of the 2007-08 season include the UK première of Penderecki's Symphony No. 8 at the Barbican with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the world premiere of Judith Weir's *CONCRETE*, commissioned for the BBC Symphony Orchestra's weekend celebration of the music of Judith Weir.

*If you would like to audition for the BBC Symphony Chorus, please call 020 7765 4715 or apply online at [bbc.co.uk/symphonychorus](http://bbc.co.uk/symphonychorus)*