



# The Creation

Joseph Haydn

30th. April 2016

## SOLOISTS

### **Milly Forrest - soprano**

*At the age of 10, Milly commenced her studies at the Junior Royal Academy of Music where she stayed for eight years as a singer and flautist. She is now in her third year of the undergraduate course, learning with Kathleen Livingstone and Iain Ledingham. Across her two years at the Royal Academy, she has regularly performed in the chorus of the Bach cantata series.*

*Milly has been a soloist in a number of oratorios, most recently Haydn's Nelson Mass, Mozart Handel's Messiah, Bach's St John's passion, Haydn's creation and Elijah by Mendelssohn. She is looking forward to performing Handel's Athaliah with Whitehall choir at St John Smith's square in November and then Handel's Silete Venti with Iain Ledingham and the South Bucks Choral society in January.*

*Milly was awarded first place in the AESS song competition in 2011. Last year won first place in the Hart Male Voice choir competition for young singers and was highly commended in the Major Van Someren-Godfrey prize. This year she was runner up in the Courtney Kenny English song competition.*

*Milly has worked with conductors including Sir Colin Davis, Peter Robinson, Yan Pascal Tortellier, Bob Chilcott, David Hill and Peter Stark. Her operatic experience includes Fiordiligi from Cosi Fan Tutte by Mozart, Pamina from The Magic flute by Mozart, Nanetta from Falstaff by Verdi and Clorinda from Cenerentola by Rossini. In 2013 Milly produced, directed and sung Susanna in The London Youth Symphony Orchestra's production of The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart as part of the Bedford Park Festival, working closely with Diana Montague.*

*Last summer, Milly took part in an operatic summer school in Italy under the direction of Iain Ledingham.*

### **Christopher Barnes - tenor**

*Chris was born and raised in rural Norfolk and was introduced to music at the age of three when his parents bought him a violin for Christmas. Violin lessons followed and continued throughout his school career. At the age of sixteen Chris was awarded a scholarship to Greshams school in Holt where he studied A Levels and met Angela Dugdale, the choir director and now friend, who introduced him to singing. Chris was lead Tenor in the Greshams School Chapel Choir and toured Russia in 1990.*

*In 1992 Chris started a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Brunel University and graduated in 1996. Whilst he had not done any singing at University the passion for music was still there, and after securing his first job, took private lessons with Kathleen Mackie of The Royal College of Music and then Barbara Robotham of the Royal Northern College of Music after moving to the North West.*

*Chris now runs his own business in Warehousing and Distribution employing 100 people in the North West, North East and Midlands and lives just outside Tarporley with Sarah-Jane and his four children, Olivia, Isabella, Francesca and William.*

### **Jacob Phillips (baritone)**

*Jake is a scholar at the Royal Academy of Music where he studies singing under the tutelage of Mark Wildman and Matthew Fletcher. His musical roots were modest and his attendance at the JRNCM for three years has helped him to follow music thus far. Whilst attending the JRNCM he studied Piano and classical guitar and was involved in various projects including his first solo recital in the autumn of 2014 and his debut Bach cantata (No.82). In 2015, he was awarded The Sylvia Swiffin Trust Prize for his contribution to the school before leaving.*

*Jacob has already sung for a number of recitals for societies in the north of England including Wigan and Leigh music society and is planning on singing in a morning concert series in Nottingham for a rare performance of Schubert lieder arranged guitar and voice. He is also featuring in the Kohn foundation Bach cantata series in the coming year at RAM.*