

The Word of the Month for November 2024 is GRIEF

Third Thursday

at St Mary Abchurch, Abchurch Yard, London EC4N 7BA
on Thursday the 21st of November at 6 p.m.

ArchiCantiores will be returning for a recital of words and music on the theme of 'grief' centred around The Shropshire Lad poetry sequence by A E Housman and the recently acknowledged poetry of Lara Munden.

We are grateful to ArchiCantiores for organising this event and commissioning new musical settings for the occasion.

The event is free to attend. A cash collection will be taken in aid of the Royal British Legion, or you can donate online at <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>

Composers and poets

Framed by poems of grief and hope by A E Housman and Lara Munden, set to the music of Butterworth, Hughes, ArchiCantuar, and Southam, the programme will weave a thread through the phases of grief with selected writings from Agnes Whitaker, Margaret Torrie, Rabindranath Tagore, Christina Rossetti, Alan Paton, Paul Munden, Thomas More, Mari Louth-Cook, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, W H Auden, and others.

Besides introducing the much lauded poetry of grief and hope by Lara Munden, which has prompted both a new commission *Missing* from Bernard Hughes and also a new setting by ArchiCantuar of *The Long Road Home*, the poetry of A E Housman resonates with Munden's sentiments recording cycles of grief and hope, of pain and acceptance.

Acknowledgements

“ArchiCantiores Singing for the Architectural Heritage” is a troupe of singers, musicians and wordsmiths who perform words and music live to explore and support architectural heritage.

SOPRANO | Rebecca Ryland-Jones sings with The Epiphoni Consort and Thomas Tallis Society and is principal soprano with ArchiCantiores.

BASS-BARITONE | Jonathan Louth, architect and cathedral choirman, sings with Thomas Tallis Society under Eamonn Dougan, and in Solo Ensemble recitals. Founder of ArchiCantiores, he has been instrumental in commissioning works, both music and words from, among others, John Tavener, Paul Munden and now Bernard Hughes.

POET | Lara Munden, prematurely deceased in 2023, daughter of the writer & poet Paul Munden from Yorkshire, was a highly skilled and creative writer, working as a director with Bright White Ltd until her death. Her poem sequence Glass Magnolias: a cycle of Grief and Hope may be found on the web at <https://paulmunden.com/lara-poems/>
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COMPOSER | Bernard Hughes is a composer of exciting and appealing choral music, ranging from the memorably melodic to the fast and rhythmic, including a particular commitment through Epiphoni Consort and other choirs to a new generation of young people.

ArchiCantiores is immensely pleased to announce that Bernard has embarked upon a new commission to set Lara’s poem sequence for unaccompanied voices: ‘Missing’ is Bernard’s ‘pilot’ setting.

ARRANGER | ArchiCantior is a soubriquet for members of the ArchiCantiores troupe when writing and arranging settings of words for recital performances.

The musicians may be contacted by email on archicantiores@hotmail.com. Please contact the same email address if you would like to join the ArchiCantiores mailing list.



Introduction

Agnes Whitaker, Healthy and unhealthy grieving
Henry Purcell: wds. Anon., Lost is my quiet

Denial

Agnes Whitaker, Unsuccessful grief,
Benjamin Britten: wds. Trad., Salley Gardens
Mari Louth-Cook, from Mari's Den - Alicante - Good Friday

Anger

W. H. Auden, "Funeral Blues" - Stop all the clocks
George Butterworth: wds. AE Housman, The Shropshire Lad - With rue my heart
Elizabeth Jennings, from Words about Grief
Mari Louth-Cook, from Mari's Den - The Dress Circle Bar
TW Southam: wds. AE Housman, The half moon westers low
Book of Job ch.14 vv. 18-22 - There comes a time when mountains fall [Good News Bible]
Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Grief
Paul Munden, from Chromatic - Freckle [for CM]
George Butterworth: wds. AE Housman, The Shropshire Lad - Look not in mine eyes

Bargaining

Sally Thompson, Ox-Eyed Daisies, Loweswater, One June Day
George Butterworth: wds. AE Housman, The Shropshire Lad - Loveliest of flowers
Paul Munden, from Chromatic - In a Country Churchyard
Rabbi Harold Kusbner, from When Bad Things Happen to Good People
George Butterworth: wds. AE Housman, The Shropshire Lad - The lads in their hundreds
Harold Kusbner, from When Bad Things Happen to Good People [cont.]
Bernard Hughes: wds. Vera Brittain, Perhaps - arranged 2024 for ArchiCantiores
Sir Thomas More, from A Dialogue of Comfort against Tribulation
Rabindranath Tagore, from Gitanjali
Christina Rossetti, Remember Me
ArchiCantuar [setting & wds.] Trust now in Death - Raleigh's Epicedium: a response
Joyce Grenfell, "Death" - If I Should Go before the rest of you
Christina Rossetti, When I Am Dead, My Dearest

For the poetry of PAUL OR LARA MUNDEN, visit <https://paulmunden.com/>
For more about BERNARD HUGHES, please contact www.bernardhughes.net

GRIEF is our second ArchiCantiores programme devised for St Mary Abchurch
in the series "WORD OF THE MONTH".

All donations tonight will be sent in full to the Royal British Legion: you can also donate online
<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>

Depression

Paul Munden, from Chromatic - Trench Cello

George Butterworth: wds. AE Housman, The Shropshire Lad - Is my team ploughing

Robert Schumann: wds. Heinrich Heine, from Dichterliebe -
Allnächtlich im Traume [All night, in a dream, I see you, friendly]

Mari Louth-Cook, from Mari's Den - Shattered

Robert Schumann: wds. Adalbert von Chamisso, from Frauenliebe und Leben -
Nun hast Du mir den ersten Schmerz getan [Now have you done me a first hurt]

Vera Brittain, from Testament of Youth - But perhaps

Lara Munden, Petri dish

John Dowland: wds. attrib. the composer, Flow my tears

Acceptance

John Dowland: wds. attrib. the composer, Weep you no more, sad fountains

Margaret Torrie, For those who weep

Marjorie Pizer, Overwhelmed

Marjorie Pizer, Lost in Despair

Peter Warlock: wds. Hilaire Belloc, I shall go without companions

Leo Marks, The Life That I Have

Bernard Lismer, Acceptance

Langston Hughes, Dear Lovely Death

Robert Johnson: wds. William Shakespeare, from The Tempest - Full fathom five

Franz Schubert: wds. Johann Georg Jacobi, Litanei auf das Fest Allerseelen -
Ruh'n in Frieden alle Seelen [May all souls rest in peace]

Moving On

Alan Paton, from Kontakion for You Departed

Meditation by an Indian Christian, I weep in love

Neil Powell, The Future

Bernard Hughes: wds. Lara Munden, Missing [commissioned 2024 for ArchiCantiores]

David Harkins, She Is Gone

ArchiCantuar: wds. Lara Munden, The Long Road Home [set 2024 for ArchiCantiores]

AVAILABLE NOW online till 5th January 2025, our two-part ArchiCantiores video
series of the City's musical voices set with its architecture from AD65 to 2023:

"LONDON: THIS CITY IS MADE FOR MUSIC"

more information at www.ticketsource.co.uk/archicantiores

For copies of MARI'S DEN: SELECTED POEMS, email archicantiores@hotmail.com
