



Romance du Soir
The King's Singers
SIGCD147

Combining perennial favourites with wonderful new discoveries, these immediately appealing pieces reflect the much-loved repertoire at the heart of a King's Singers programme, performed with the skill and flair that distinguishes the group as one of the world's most popular a cappella ensembles.

"... a musical group of the very highest order."
The Gramophone

"Here's a stunning display of unaccompanied part-singing by six consummate vocal artists ... an outstandingly successful recital."
★★★★ Performance ★★★★★ Recording
BBC Music Magazine



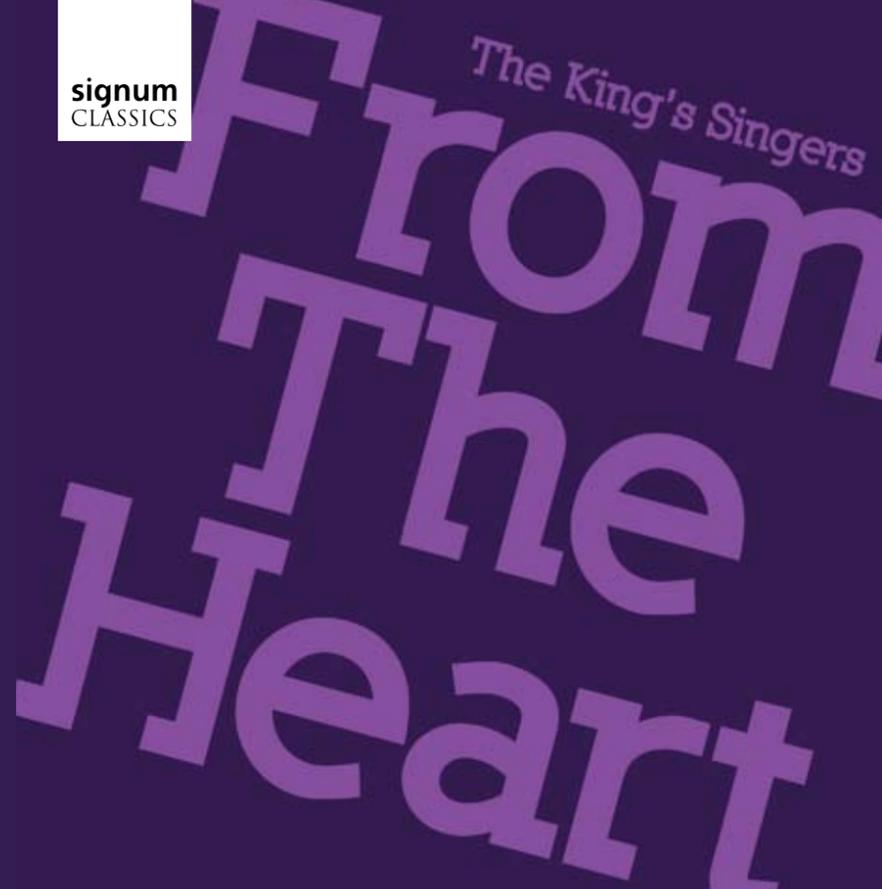
Simple Gifts
The King's Singers
SIGCD121

2009 Grammy® Award Winning Album
Best Classical Crossover Album

Simple Gifts embodies the many qualities that continue to make this famous a cappella group popular with its worldwide fan base. Each of the sixteen arrangements on this album, including ballads, folk songs and spirituals, has earned its place because of its great melody, and The King's Singers incredible blend and tuning goes to ensure that this is the classiest recording of its type in a long time.

"... always conveying the sheer joy of singing"
ClassicsToday.com

Available through most record stores and at www.signumrecords.com For more information call +44 (0) 20 8997 4000



FROM THE HEART

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|---------|
| 1. | My Heart is a Holy Place | Patricia Van Ness | [4.04] |
| 2. | Conceit | Graham Lack | [3.46] |
| 3. | Pie Jesu | John Brunning, arr. Lawson | [3.18] |
| 4. | Out of the Woods | Sinead Lohan/Nickel Creek, arr. Lawson | [4.15] |
| 5. | Hallelujah | Leonard Cohen, arr. Lawson | [5.04] |
| Total Timings | | | [20.29] |

THE KING'S SINGERS

David Hurley countertenor
Timothy Wayne-Wright countertenor
Paul Phoenix tenor
Philip Lawson baritone
Christopher Gabbitas baritone
Stephen Connolly bass

www.signumrecords.com www.kingssingers.com

FROM THE HEART

My Heart is a Holy Place (2001/2009)

We first heard Patricia Van Ness's beautiful *Cor meum est templum sacrum* a few years ago, and immediately fell in love with it. Our version was arranged and extended for us by the composer last year, and has a regular place in our programmes.

Conceit (premiered 2009)

A long-time friend of The King's Singers, Graham Lack wrote this haunting piece as part of a larger work entitled *Estraines*. *Conceit* is a setting of a short poem by the English modernist writer and poet Mervyn Peake, and the text reminds us that things may not always be as they first appear.

Pie Jesu (2006)

British classical radio presenter and former rock guitarist, John Brunning, wrote this simple setting of *Pie Jesu* three years ago, and it became an instant hit in the UK. We hope you enjoy our version, in a new arrangement by Philip.

Out of the Woods (2000)

A recent discovery, thanks to Chris's American wife and the movie "O Brother, Where Art Thou?", has been the wonders of Bluegrass music. Nickel Creek's sound of fiddle, guitar and mandolin is great, and their interpretation of Sinead Lohan's *Out of the Woods* has great harmonies, a wonderful folksy melody and a mesmeric improvisation section in the middle.

Hallelujah (1984)

One of a huge number of hit songs from the Canadian singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen, *Hallelujah* has been heard in many different versions. Here we take advantage of recording technology to produce a 'double choir' setting of the song in another of Philip's arrangements.

© The King's Singers

BIOGRAPHY

THE KING'S SINGERS

David Hurley countertenor
Timothy Wayne-Wright countertenor
Paul Phoenix tenor
Philip Lawson baritone
Christopher Gabbitas baritone
Stephen Connolly bass

Described by The Times as a group that has "stayed in character over four decades, yet retuned itself to the times" and by Gramophone as "enchanting the ear from first to last note" The King's Singers are truly remarkable. They continue to be one of the most sought-after and critically acclaimed vocal ensembles in the world, performing a rich and varied repertoire from Gesualdo to György Ligeti and Michael Bublé. Internationally recognised for their work in the classical field, in early music in particular, they retain the sparkle that delights so many fans when they perform much loved numbers from the lighter end of the repertoire. Whatever the music The King's Singers are instantly recognisable for their spot-on intonation, their impeccable vocal blend, the flawless articulation of the text and incisive timing.

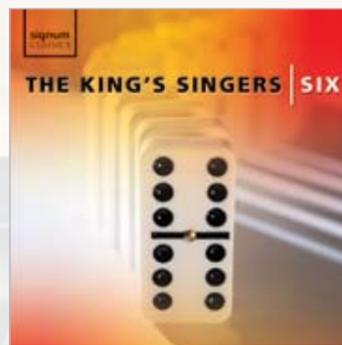


Singers will make an album with the renowned Concordia College Choir, Minnesota, which will include fortieth anniversary commissions *The Stolen Child* by Eric Whitacre, *High Flight* and *A Thanksgiving* by Bob Chilcott.

In addition to their sold-out concerts worldwide, The King's Singers share their artistry through numerous workshops and master classes. The King's Singers have clocked up phenomenal sales of sheet music through three publishers over the years, with over two million pieces of print in circulation with one publisher alone. Currently signed to US giant Hal Leonard, The King's Singers arrangements are sung by schools, college choirs and amateur and professional ensembles the world over.

For the group's latest news and blog entries, information on concert dates, shop, streaming audio and video, YouTube and Tweets, visit:
www.kingssingers.com

Also available from The King's Singers: SIX



SIGCD056

- Down to the River to Pray
Traditional, arr. Philip Lawson
- Blackbird
Lennon/McCartney, arr. Daryl Runswick
- The Wishing Tree
Joby Talbot
- Lullabye (Goodnight my Angel)
Billy Joel, arr. Philip Lawson
- Blue Skies
Irving Berlin, arr. Richard Rodney Bennett
- After the Goldrush
Neil Young, arr. Peter Knight

"think gorgeous close harmony, think crossover-with-integrity, and enjoy" **Classic FM Magazine**

The King's Singers are David Hurley, Paul Phoenix, Philip Lawson, Christopher Gabbitas, Stephen Connolly and new recruit 26 year-old Timothy Wayne-Wright. The ensemble has a huge range of some three and a half octaves, from Connolly's low C, up to Hurley's high F. There have only ever been twenty-two King's Singers including the current six, very few given the demanding nature of the full-time job which requires a unique blend of musicianship, vocal ability and charisma, not to mention the stamina to be on tour for nine months of the year. The repertoire in a single concert might range from Renaissance polyphony, madrigals and world or folk music to contemporary classical or contemporary pop, because the ethos of The King's Singers has always been that it's all about the music. Whatever the genre they will find a way to arrange it successfully for their six voices. "It makes learning the repertoire tough but rewarding," says Tim who joined in January 2009. "I can hardly believe how much music I have learned from memory in such a short space of time, plus we all learn spoken introductions in the local language, and often share a joke with the audience – a real King's Singers hallmark". Unusually for a group with such a demanding schedule the six members continue to share directing responsibilities and develop their own projects. Each year the group travels around the world giving around 120

concerts as well as recording, television work, teaching and masterclasses.

The King's Singers maintain a deep commitment to new choral music and have commissioned over 200 works from a host of prominent contemporary composers including Richard Rodney Bennett, Luciano Berio, Peter Maxwell Davies, György Ligeti, Steve Martland, Gian Carlo Menotti, Krzysztof Penderecki, Ned Rorem, John Rutter, Gunther Schuller, Toru Takemitsu and John Tavener. This season The King's Singers will premiere works by Ivan Moody, Gabriela Lena Frank, John McCabe, Bob Chilcott and Eric Whitacre.

With a discography of over 100 recordings The King's Singers have garnered both awards and significant critical acclaim. Their recent studio album *Simple Gifts* was awarded a Grammy in 2009. The coming year will see the release in the UK of The King's Singers new album *Don't Let Go*, a disc that crosses genre borders in a way similar to *Simple Gifts*, using smooth jazz as the inspiration for new pieces and arrangements with The King's Singers signature style and standards. The group have recently completed a world premiere recording of music for Vespers by Pachelbel directed by Kah-Ming Ng with the Charivari Agréable Ensemble. While touring the USA The King's

Recorded at The Warehouse, London on 15 July 2009.
Producer - Adrian Peacock
Recording Engineer - Mike Hatch
Recording Assistant - Sarah Thwaites
Editor - David Hinitt

All images of The King's Singers - © Marco Borggreve

Design and Artwork - Woven Design
www.wovendesign.co.uk

© 2009 The copyright in this recording is owned by Signum Records Ltd.
© 2009 The copyright in this CD booklet, notes and design is owned by Signum Records Ltd.

Any unauthorised broadcasting, public performance, copying or re-recording of Signum Compact Discs constitutes an infringement of copyright and will render the infringer liable to an action by law. Licences for public performances or broadcasting may be obtained from Phonographic Performance Ltd. All rights reserved. No part of this booklet may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission from Signum Records Ltd.

SignumClassics, Signum Records Ltd., Suite 14, 21 Wadsworth Road, Perivale, Middx UB6 7JD, UK
+44 (0) 20 8997 4000 E-mail: info@signumrecords.com
www.signumrecords.com

