

21.10.24, Monday Mail

Good morning, all,

Our next concert:

***A Ceremony of Carols* and other works**

Sunday December 1, 4pm, St Peter's, Indooroopilly (with harp and organ)

- Rehearsals, QAH, 6.30pm: October 22, 29 and November 5, 12, 19, 26 (with harp).
- Dress rehearsal (venue and time tbc, but please keep free): Friday, November 29
- Tickets on sale soon

Practice aids:

- Please make use of the playlist kindly put together by Sannie:
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbRxzEmNIIGO2OSRAGModbL7Wl3DtJk4m&feature=shared>
- Individual audio voice parts available (for a fee) from John Fletcher, <https://johnfletchermusic.org/> .

Christmas carols

We're finalising the dates of our lunchtime carol singing gigs in the city at the moment, and sign up sheets will be available soon. These pleasant gigs are vital for our budget: they help us to pay the costs of our concerts throughout the year. Please volunteer for as many sessions as you can!

Two more chances to sing

- <https://qldchoir.com/joinusformessiah> will lead you to all the information you need about Brisbane Sings *Messiah* – a chance to join with The Queensland Choir in their biennial *Messiah* performance on Sunday December 8 at 3pm at Brisbane City Hall if you can join six rehearsals over the three weeks beforehand.
- Or see <https://www.choralconnection.org.au/upcoming-concerts> for details of Choral Connection's From Scratch performance of Schubert's *Mass no 2 in G minor* on Sunday November 24, 9.30am, with concert at 3.30pm, in Toowong.

This week

I was musing about the Australian repertoire for the Iberia concert and tour, when I found out that this week is the anniversary of the death of Janis Cimke in 1881. "Who?" I hear you say. Cimke was a Latvian teacher, organist, composer, and an avid collector and arranger of folk songs. He taught hundreds of music teachers and laid the foundations for modern choral singing and a cappella performance in Latvia and Estonia, leading to the first Estonian and Latvian Song Festivals in 1869 and 1873 respectively. These are now held every five years (Latvia's next is in 2028) and attract massive crowds, as well as bringing thousands of choral singers together. Latvian music and dance have been taken all over the world – just as ChoirWorks took *Waltzing Matilda*, *Bush Songs* and so on to Portugal and Spain. One of Cimke's best known arrangements is *Riga Dimd (Riga Resounds)*, sung here by a Latvian boys' choir on tour in Brazil. ignore the gold waistcoats, just enjoy the passion! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CO5VgYVTy7U>

And if you haven't returned your music from the tour and any other concerts, please bring it to the next rehearsal!

See you all tomorrow,

Janet