

**MSR**  
Classics

# Stokowski & St. Bartholomew's Choir

## A PRODIGIOUS PAIRING

The Choir of St. Bartholomew's Church | New York City  
PAOLO BORDIGNON

MSR

STOKOWSKI & ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHOIR • A PRODIGIOUS PAIRING

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHOIR • PAOLO BORDIGNON

SP5021

- CHARLES VILLIERS STANFORD** (1852-1924)
- 1** Te Deum, from Service in B-flat, Op. 10 6:48
- attrib. **GIOVANNI PIERLUIGI DA PALESTRINA** (c. 1525-1594)
- 2** Adoramus te, Christe 2:21
- JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH** (1685-1750)
- 3** Fugue in G Minor, ("Little") BWV 578 3:36
- WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART** (1756-1791)
- 4** Ave Verum Corpus, K. 618 2:59
- attrib. **TOMÁS LUIS DE VICTORIA** (c. 1548-1611)
- 5** Jesu dulcis memoria 1:46
- AMY BEACH** (1867-1944)
- 6** Prelude on an Old Folk Tune: "The fair hills of Eire, O" 4:34
- Communion Service in A
- 7** Sanctus 1:40
- 8** Gloria in excelsis 3:13
- LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI** (1882-1977)
- 9** Pianissimo Amen 1:07

Aine Hakamatsuka, Olivia Sue Greene, David Young and Jeff Morrissey soloists [1]  
Paolo Bordignon organ [3][6]

### ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHOIR

PAOLO BORDIGNON *Organist and Choirmaster*

ALEXANDER PATTAVINA *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS [6-10]

The repertoire on this recording is inspired by the presence of two of America's most important musical figures at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City: **Leopold Stokowski** and **Amy Beach**.



In 1905 **Leopold Stokowski** was brought from his native London to New York for his first American musical post, as organist and choirmaster of St. Bartholomew's. He had been one of the youngest students ever admitted to the Royal College of Music and passed the challenging Fellowship examination from the Royal College of Organists while still a teen. The first mention of him in the American press, an October 5, 1905 notice in *The Musical Courier*, remarked that "it is safe to say he is the youngest organist Saint Bartholomew's has engaged. He is well known in London as an orchestral conductor."



And it is as an orchestral conductor that he went on to enormous critical and popular success, as music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra and founder of the American Symphony Orchestra.

On April 16, 1972, two days before Stokowski's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the legendary maestro returned to St. Bartholomew's for a program that combined his first major musical ensemble, St. Bartholomew's Choir, with his current one, the American Symphony Orchestra, which he had founded in 1962. It had been 67 years since he assumed the music directorship of the church and the program featured repertoire familiar from those early days. It was presented during the penitential season of Lent and thus included three introspective works: *Adoramus te, Christe* of Palestrina, *Jesu dulcis memoria* of Victoria, and Mozart's late masterpiece *Ave Verum Corpus*.

Throughout his career, Stokowski included new music alongside the old masters and, on this occasion, the repertoire included the world premiere of his own recently composed *Pianissimo Amen*.

Rounding out the music from that era on this recording is Charles Villiers Stanford's much-loved *Te Deum* in B-flat. Stokowski studied with Stanford at the Royal College of Music (where Ralph Vaughan Williams was among his classmates) and included a number of his teacher's works in the choral repertoire of his day. During his tenure at St. Bartholomew's, Stokowski is known to have played Bach's "Little" Fugue in G Minor seven times for church services and twice in recital. The work also entered the popular concert repertoire thanks to his later arrangement of it for full orchestra.



In the years after Stokowski's time as a youthful organist at the church, another important musical figure took up residence there: composer **Amy Beach**. Beach became the first American woman to achieve widespread recognition as a composer, including large-scale works for orchestra and chorus. Her music was performed by the Boston Symphony, the Handel and Haydn Society, the Symphony Society of New York (a parent ensemble of the New York Philharmonic), and she was commissioned to write major works for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago and the Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

After moving to New York, she would become de facto composer in residence at St. Bartholomew's for many years, writing much sacred music for the choir and developing a close association with two successive music directors: Arthur Hyde and David McK. Williams. Williams performed 27 of her choral works over the years, as well as her last published composition, her only work composed for the organ, *Prelude on an Old Folk Tune*, on the famed instrument at the church. Although an arrangement of an Irish folk melody, "The Fair hills of Eire, O!" the work is highly chromatic, revealing Beach's admiration for the music of Richard Strauss and Richard Wagner, traits already heard clearly in her earlier *Communion Service in A*.



### St. Bartholomew's Choir

St. Bartholomew's Choir is comprised of eighteen professional singers as well as highly accomplished volunteer singers. The choir is the primary ensemble at St. Bartholomew's Church, Park Avenue, where they sing for Sunday services, on feast days, and as part of the Church's *Great Music* concert series. From Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, to the Jazz Standard, individual members of the Choir are also heard in concert in the most important venues in the city and beyond. They can be heard on three CD recordings: *O, for a thousand tongues to sing; Sing, choirs of angels and A child is born in Bethlehem*, all on the Ethereal label. The choir has been heard on National Public Radio's *Performance Today* as well as CNN and CNBC. A recent appearance on *Now hear this*, presented by PBS Great Performances, was hailed as "among the highlights of the show" by the Wall Street Journal.

### St. Bartholomew's Choir

Paolo Bordignon, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Alexander Pattavina, *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*

#### Soprano

Rachel Farrar  
Olivia Sue Greene  
Aine Hakamatsuka  
Katherine Knowles  
Esther Williamson  
Laura Winslow  
Megan Gillis\*  
Katherine Peck\*

#### Alto

Wendy Gilles  
Kathleen Hayes  
Gwyneth Leech  
Chelsey Masterson  
Samantha Attaguile\*  
Jessica Kimple\*

#### Tenor

David Bryan  
Christopher Carter  
Joseph Rubinstein  
David Young  
Thomas Cilluffo\*  
Adam Von Almen\*

#### Bass

Raphael Biran  
Brendan Littlefield  
Jeff Morrissey  
Christian Smythe  
Robert Sweeney  
David Wilson  
Aaron Theno\*

\**guest singer*

**Paolo Bordignon** is Organist and Choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's Church, Park Avenue, and harpsichordist of the New York Philharmonic. He has recently performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Camerata Pacifica, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Mark Morris Dance Company, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players, and St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Festival appearances include Aspen, Bard, Bridgehampton, Jackson Hole, Palm Beach, Parlance, and Vail. He has been a frequent recitalist at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, including a 10-recital residency. Born in Toronto of Italian heritage, Paolo attended St. Michael's Cathedral Choir School before attending the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He is an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music, a Fellow of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, and earned Master's and Doctoral degrees from the Juilliard School.



**Alexander Pattavina** is Associate Organist and Choirmaster at St. Bartholomew's Church, where he directs the St. Bartholomew's Choristers. A native of Stoughton, Massachusetts, he was first drawn to his vocation as a chorister at St. Paul's Choir School at Harvard Square, the only Catholic choir school for boys in the United States. After graduating, Pattavina became their first ever Organ Scholar. While studying at Juilliard, he served as organ scholar at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Manhattan and later at Christ Church in Bronxville, New York. For three years, he served as Director of Music at the Church of St. Agnes in mid-town Manhattan. Pattavina, who won first prize in the 2019 Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival,

has performed with the Juilliard Orchestra and is a frequent organ recitalist throughout the United States. Pattavina earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Paul Jacobs.

**Charles Villiers Stanford**

**TE DEUM**

*Te Deum laudamus*, attributed to St. Ambrose of Milan (c. 339-397)

We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee:  
the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud: the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim: continually do cry, Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty: of thy glory. The glorious company of the Apostles:  
praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets: praise thee. The noble army of Martyrs: praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world: doth acknowledge thee; The Father: of an  
infinite Majesty;

Thine honourable, true: and only Son; Also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory: O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son: of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man: thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death: thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven  
to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God: in the glory of the Father. We believe that thou shalt come:  
to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants: whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints: in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people: and bless thine heritage. Govern them: and lift them up for ever.

Day by day: we magnify thee; And we worship thy Name: ever world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin. O Lord, have mercy upon us: have  
mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

attr. **Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina**

**ADORAMUS TE, CHRISTE**

Antiphon for Good Friday

Adoramus te, Christe,  
et benedicimus tibi:  
quia per sanctam crucem  
tuam redemisti mundum.

*We adore thee, O Christ,  
and we bless thee:  
because by thy holy cross  
thou hast redeemed the world.*

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

**AVE VERUM CORPUS, K. 618**

c. 13<sup>th</sup> century Eucharistic Hymn

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine,  
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:  
cuius latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine:  
esto nobis prægustatum in mortis examine.

*Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,  
having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross  
for mankind,  
from whose pierced side water and blood flowed:  
Be for us a foretaste in the trial of death.*

attr. **Tomás Luis de Victoria**

**JESU DULCIS MEMORIA**

Attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

Jesu dulcis memoria  
dans vera cordis gaudia:  
sed super mel et omnia  
ejus dulcis praesentia.

*Jesus, the very thought of thee  
with sweetness fills the breast!  
Yet sweeter far thy face  
to see and in thy Presence rest.*

**Amy Beach**  
**COMMUNION SERVICE IN A**

From the Book of Common Prayer (1928)

**SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of, hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee,  
O Lord Most High. Amen.

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy  
great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that  
takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art  
most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Leopold Stokowski**  
**PIANISSIMO AMEN**

Amen.





### **The Organ**

The Æolian-Skinner pipe organ at St. Bartholomew's Church is the largest in New York City and one of the quintessential examples of the American Classic organ. The instrument in the present church was originally built by Ernest M. Skinner of Boston in 1918 and incorporated pipes from instruments in the previous building by Hutchings of Boston and Odell of New York. The Skinner organ was a double organ, placed in the chancel and west gallery, and was one of the firm's most prestigious instruments.

Expansion of the organ began in 1927 and the Celestial organ was added in 1930. Located in the dome 110 feet above the crossing, this department contains ethereal celestes, colorful flutes, orchestral reeds, and brilliant trumpet stops on elevated wind pressure. The reflective dome imparts a distinctive quality to these voices. In 1937, the west gallery organ was replaced by Æolian-Skinner under the direction of G. Donald Harrison. These divisions were designed to provide resources appropriate to renaissance and baroque repertoire. The chancel divisions were revised in 1953 and a new Positiv division was added. The last major rebuilding of the organ took place in 1971 and the entire instrument was tonally refinished by Donald M. Gilett of Æolian-Skinner. This was the final project completed by the company, which ceased operations in 1972. The organ comprises 12,422 pipes, with 168 stops, 225 ranks, and is tonally unchanged since 1971. A complete restoration of the Celestial organ was completed in 2017.

St. Bartholomew's organ may be regarded as the final development in the tonal evolution of the American Classic organ, as built by Æolian-Skinner. In the clear and articulate ensembles throughout the instrument, the skillful inclusion of the romantic and orchestral stops by E. M. Skinner, Hutchings, and Odell, the organ stands as a monument which lends itself with ease to the full demands of the organ repertoire.

In 2006 a movable five-manual console was built by Harris Organs, Inc. and designed to harmonize visually with St. Bartholomew's chancel furnishings. It incorporates many elements common to Æolian-Skinner consoles, while incorporating newer technologies that offer vastly greater flexibility in controlling the tonal resources of such a massive instrument. Its cabinetry is of fumed solid quarter-sawn white oak and polished mahogany.

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY

Restoring a National Historic Landmark

St. Bartholomew's Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping restore and preserve the exterior and gardens of the St. Bartholomew's site, a treasured New York City landmark and, since 2016, a National Historic Landmark. The site is home to one of the world's largest and most distinguished musical instruments, a 12,422-pipe masterpiece of organ design and construction set in the four walls and dome of the acoustically visionary building that houses it. The building and the instrument are, in effect, inseparable, making the Conservancy's mission to help restore the building exterior an essential step toward preserving both. Please visit [www.stbconservancy.org](http://www.stbconservancy.org).

### In Tribute

St. Bartholomew's Conservancy is profoundly grateful to Bruce Horten and Aaron Lieber for so generously underwriting this recording. *Stokowski and St. Bartholomew's Choir: A Prodigious Pairing* is a tribute to them both.

### Acknowledgements

St. Bartholomew's Conservancy gratefully acknowledges the support of the Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe, Rector, and the Wardens and Vestry of St. Bartholomew's Church in the City of New York in the production of this recording.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S  
CONSERVANCY

Cover art: *St. Bartholomew's Church*, watercolor by Adam Van Doren.  
Photographs: Kara Flannery [Pages 5, 12 and 13] and Alan Barnett [Page 11].





## 1. PIANISSIMO AMEN

by  
LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI

Lento molto tranquillo

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BARITONE BASS

men, — *mp* *pp*

men, — *pp* *mp* *pp*

A men, A men, A men.

Octavo Series (Mixed Voices, Sacred) N<sup>o</sup> 1523

Communion Responses  
Kyrie eleison

Mrs. H. H. A. BEACH  
Op. 122

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Lento *pp*

Lento *pp*

Lento *pp*

Lento *pp*

Lord have mer - cy up - on us and in -

Lord have mer - cy up - on us and in -

Lord have mer - cy up - on us and in -

Man.

*pp* Lento

**MSR**  
Classics

SP902I

- 1** **CHARLES VILLIERS STANFORD** (1852-1924)  
Te Deum, from Service in B-flat, Op. 10 6:48  
attrib. **GIOVANNI PIERLUIGI DA PALESTRINA** (c. 1525-1594)
- 2** Adoramus te, Christe 2:21
- JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH** (1685-1750)
- 3** Fugue in G Minor, ("Little") BWV 578 3:36
- WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART** (1756-1791)
- 4** Ave Verum Corpus, K. 618 2:59  
attrib. **TOMÁS LUIS DE VICTORIA** (c. 1548-1611)
- 5** Jesu dulcis memoria 1:46
- AMY BEACH** (1867-1944)
- 6** Prelude on an Old Folk Tune: "The fair hills of Eire, O" 4:34  
Communion Service in A
- 7** Sanctus 1:40
- 8** Gloria in excelsis 3:13
- LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI** (1882-1977)
- 9** Pianissimo Amen 1:07

Aine Hakamatsuka, Olivia Sue Greene, David Young and Jeff Morrissey *soloists* [1]  
Paolo Bordignon *organ* [3][6]

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHOIR**

PAOLO BORDIGNON *Organist and Choirmaster*

ALEXANDER PATTAVINA *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*

Recorded on 5 April 2022 at St. Bartholomew's Church, New York. A Candlewood Digital high resolution Natural Presence™ recording: Produced and mastered by Richard Price. Engineered by Wayne Hileman and Richard Price. Product management: Robert LaPorta. Package design: Tim Schwartz © UnionProductions.com. Cover: St. Bartholomew's Church, watercolor by Adam Van Doren.

© & ©2022 St. Bartholomew's Conservancy. All Rights Reserved. Unauthorized duplication or use of this protected material in public performance is a violation of copyright laws. MSR Music LLC, Newtown, CT 06470. Made in U.S.A.

**WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS**

[ Tracks 6-10 ]



SCAN WITH SMARTPHONE



A Candlewood Digital  
Natural Presence™  
Recording



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S  
CONSERVANCY

[www.stbconservancy.org](http://www.stbconservancy.org)

[www.msrd.com](http://www.msrd.com)

**STEREO** **DDD**

