



Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* at Colston Hall, Bristol

Saturday 9th June at 7.30pm

**City of Bristol Choir, Exultate Singers with City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra**  
conducted by David Ogden

Tickets from £14 - £25 (concessions for under 18s and students available)

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News release – 9th May 2007

#### WORLD FAMOUS ORCHESTRA MAKES RARE VISIT TO BRISTOL

A Bristol choir is celebrating having attracted the world-famous City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra to play in a concert on 9th June as part of a major music festival in the city.

City of Bristol Choir, conducted by David Ogden, is staging its Elgar Festival 2007 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of one of Britain's foremost composers, Sir Edward Elgar. Throughout the year the choir is performing his three great oratorios in concerts around the city, the highlight being a concert of *Dream of Gerontius*. The piece is the composer's most famous and celebrated choral work, a favourite of audiences and performers alike.

The performance, to be given in the week of Elgar's birthday, features a choir of 120 singers who will be joined by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. It is nearly 12 years since the orchestra performed in Bristol. Stephen Maddock, Chief Executive of City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra said, "We're thrilled to be returning to Bristol after so long and are particularly delighted to be bringing *Dream of Gerontius* in the week of Elgar's 150th anniversary".

David Ogden, who will conduct the concert, said, "We are delighted that we have managed to attract this fantastic orchestra to Bristol. We hope that many people who have enjoyed their playing, in concerts, recordings and on the radio will look forward to hearing them play live at this unique event, right on our doorstep." The orchestra is also performing the work in Birmingham and has recorded it for a new CD.

Tickets for the concert are available from the Colston Hall box office on 0117 922 3686, priced from £14. A special website for the festival has been set up at [www.elgar2007.com](http://www.elgar2007.com) which has more information about the performers and an online booking request.

The festival ends closes with a performance of *The Kingdom*, Elgar's last choral work, which will be given on Remembrance Sunday, 11th November in the Colston Hall. Throughout the year the Elgar Festival 2007 also features talks, chamber concerts and orchestral concerts. More details about the Festival, the concerts and all the Fringe events can be found on the website or by telephoning 01275 373981.

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

- **City of Bristol Choir's Elgar Festival 2007** features performances of the three main Elgar oratorios alongside fringe events given by local ensembles. Full details together with high resolution images are available on the Festival website: [www.elgar2007.com](http://www.elgar2007.com). Click on 'media' for links high resolution images.
- **Tickets for the concert** are priced from £14 - £25 (concessions for under 18s and students are available) and can be obtained from the Colston Hall box office on 0117 922 3686. The concert will be held on Saturday 9th June and begins at 7.30pm.
- **City of Bristol Choir** is a well-established adult choir of around 80 singers who perform a varied repertoire at venues around the South West. It was founded in 1991 and David Ogden was appointed Music Director in 2000. More information about the choir is available at [www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk](http://www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk)
- **Exultate Singers** is a chamber choir of 40 adult singers which has made regular appearances on BBC Radio and gives concerts in Bristol and the South West. It was featured on Aled Jones' BBC Radio 3 programme, The Choir. It was founded in 2002 by David Ogden and has quickly built a reputation for its strong performances of choral music of all kinds, from plainsong to jazz. [www.exultatesingers.org](http://www.exultatesingers.org)
- **For further information** or to arrange photography or an interview with David Ogden, please contact Judith Ogden, Publicity Manager, City of Bristol Choir on 01275 373981 or 07753 742553 or email [publicity@elgar2007.com](mailto:publicity@elgar2007.com).

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## HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES

Available to download by clicking on the thumbnails below, or from the media section of the website [www.elgar2007.com/media](http://www.elgar2007.com/media) or by emailing [publicity@elgar2007.com](mailto:publicity@elgar2007.com)



**City of Bristol Choir**  
Image **must** be credited  
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**City of Birmingham  
Symphony Orchestra**



**Exultate Singers**



**David Ogden**

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For more information about the Elgar Festival 2007 or to arrange an interview or photography please call Judith Ogden on 01275 373981 or 07753 742553.