



THE ROYAL HARMONICS
A CAPPELLA CHORUS
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



THE ROYAL HARMONICS

It is both remarkable and deeply gratifying to celebrate twenty-five years of The Royal Harmonics. What began in 2000 as a small gathering of six men united by a shared vision of *singing excellence and serious fun* has grown into a chorus of distinction and camaraderie. From those modest beginnings, The Royal Harmonics has flourished—at one time numbering more than fifty voices—and has become a cherished fixture in the barbershop community.

Known for our distinctive blend of professionalism and camaraderie, The Royal Harmonics brings together singers from all walks of life who share a passion for harmony and performance. The chorus continues to develop its craft under inspired musical leadership, constantly seeking new challenges and opportunities to share its music with wider audiences.

Like so many musical ensembles around the world, the chorus faced considerable challenges during the 2020 pandemic, when rehearsals fell silent and numbers diminished. Yet from that difficult period emerged renewed determination and resilience. Today, with a dedicated membership of thirty singers, The Royal Harmonics continues to rebuild and thrive, embodying the joy, fellowship, and artistry of close harmony singing that have always been at the heart of our music.

Throughout our history, we have been privileged to achieve many memorable milestones. The chorus earned silver medals at the British Association of Barbershop Singers' national conventions in 2008 and 2012, and a bronze medal in 2013. We have proudly represented the United Kingdom at the European Barbershop Convention (most recently earlier this year) and have had the distinct honour of performing for royalty, including in celebration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee. Our musical journey has also taken us far beyond our home stage, with performances across Europe in Austria, Ireland, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, and Sweden.

As we look back with pride and forward with anticipation, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have supported us over the years—our members past and present, our musical directors and coaches, our families, friends, and audiences. Your encouragement has sustained and inspired us.

Here's to the next twenty-five years of harmony, friendship, and song.



SEAN BUI: MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Sean Bui is an experienced conductor, composer, singer, and teacher with a background in music editing, having previously worked for Oxford University Press before focusing on a freelance musical career. Sean read Music at Royal Holloway University of London, where he received both his bachelor's and master's degrees.

During this time, he joined the choir of The Royal Chapel, Windsor, subsequently becoming Composer in Residence in 2008 and Assistant Director of Music in 2009, positions he continues to hold today.



In 2011, Sean took up his first directing position when he co-founded Quire Voices. As well as Quire Voices, he currently directs The Knights of Harmony, The Royal Harmonics, The Marist School Senior Choir, and Spelthorne Choral Society. He is also a sought-after choral clinician and directing coach, working with choirs throughout the United Kingdom, as well as being Harmony College Education Manager and Musical Directors' Education Manager for the British Association of Barbershop Singers.

Sean is in great demand as both a composer and arranger, and has been published by the Royal School of Church Music. Recent commissions include *I will go in the strength of the Lord*; *Let my Prayer come up*; *Prayer of Saint Columba*; and *Thy throne, O God, endureth forever*, which was commissioned for a service in celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III.

As a professional singer and singing teacher, Sean has a keen interest in vocal technique and has completed training with Janice Chapman and Dr Ron Morris at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He currently teaches singing at The Marist School, Ascot, and Caldicott, Farnham Royal, as well as offering private tuition.

Sean's past solo performances include Mozart's *Requiem* and *Great Mass in C minor*. He also won the International Quartet competition at the Irish Association of Barbershop Singers Convention in 2017.





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