



Photo: Thousand Word Media

About Bob Chilcott:

Described by The Observer, as “A contemporary hero of British choral music”, Bob Chilcott has enjoyed a lifelong association with choral music as an institutionally renowned composer, conductor and singer with a prolific output of works, performed worldwide.

Bob Chilcott’s affinity with music grew from his time as a young chorister, then choral scholar in the choir of King’s College, Cambridge, and for 12 years as a member of the King’s Singers. He became a full-time composer in 1997, embracing his career with energy and commitment and has produced a large catalogue of music, for all types of choirs, published by OUP.

His music for Christmas forms a considerable part of his most popular repertoire, setting both new and traditional texts in his carols, and writing for mixed-voice and upper-voice choirs. Among his multitude of works, community-based projects, pieces for children, and a significant amount of music for the church, Bob is also renowned for A Little Jazz Mass, Requiem, and St. John Passion.

He has written large-scale works, including The Angry Planet, commissioned by the BBC Proms in 2012. And, in 2013, The King Shall Rejoice, commissioned by Westminster Abbey to celebrate the Queen’s 60th Anniversary of her Coronation.

Bob’s music has been widely recorded by leading British choirs and groups including the King’s Singers, The Sixteen, Tenebrae, The Bach Choir, BBC Singers, Houston Chamber Choir and Wroclaw Philharmonic Choir.

In 2016 he collaborated with Katie Melua on her album In Winter, and in 2017 with Choralis, to release In Winter’s Arms, and also with Commotio, to release his album of jazz infused choral works, All Good Things.

Bob was invited to write the Raymond Brock Memorial Commission for the ACDA National Conference in Dallas in 2021: Collaborating with poet Delphine Chalmers, Songs My Heart Has Taught Me explores and embraces themes of identity, diversity, inclusivity, unity and commonality.

For 7 years Bob was conductor of the Chorus of The Royal College of Music. He has been Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers since 2002. In 2017 he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the Royal School of Church Music and in 2019 took up the role of Principal Conductor with Birmingham University Singers. In Autumn 2020, Bob was appointed Musician-in-Residence at Downe House School.

Working with choirs in more than 30 countries around the world, Bob Chilcott inspires all age groups. He works annually as an adjudicator and conductor at choir festivals and with many thousands of amateur singers across the UK in a continuing series of Singing Days.