

Join us

De Merc Chamber Choir is always pleased to hear from singers who are interested in performing in a small ensemble

We are a friendly group of amateur singers who rehearse weekly in Harlow

New singers are always welcome and we are particularly looking for sopranos and tenors

To register your interest or to find out more, please email info@demerc.org.uk or visit our website www.demerc.org.uk

No audition necessary!

Join our mailing list

If you would like to keep up to date with De Merc and be the first to know about our concerts, please email info@demerc.org.uk to join our mailing list



Hire Us

We are available for hire for weddings, parties and any other occasions.

To find out more please email info@demerc.org.uk or visit our website www.demerc.org.uk

De Merc Chamber Choir would like to thank everyone who has supported us over the years. Your continued support has not gone unnoticed. Here's to the next 50 years!

De Merc Chamber Choir is a registered charity (no. 1095387) and is also affiliated to Making Music, which represents and supports amateur vocal and instrumental music groups throughout the U.K.

To learn more about the choir, please go to www.demerc.org.uk.

De Merc Chamber Choir

Musical Director - Janette Ruocco

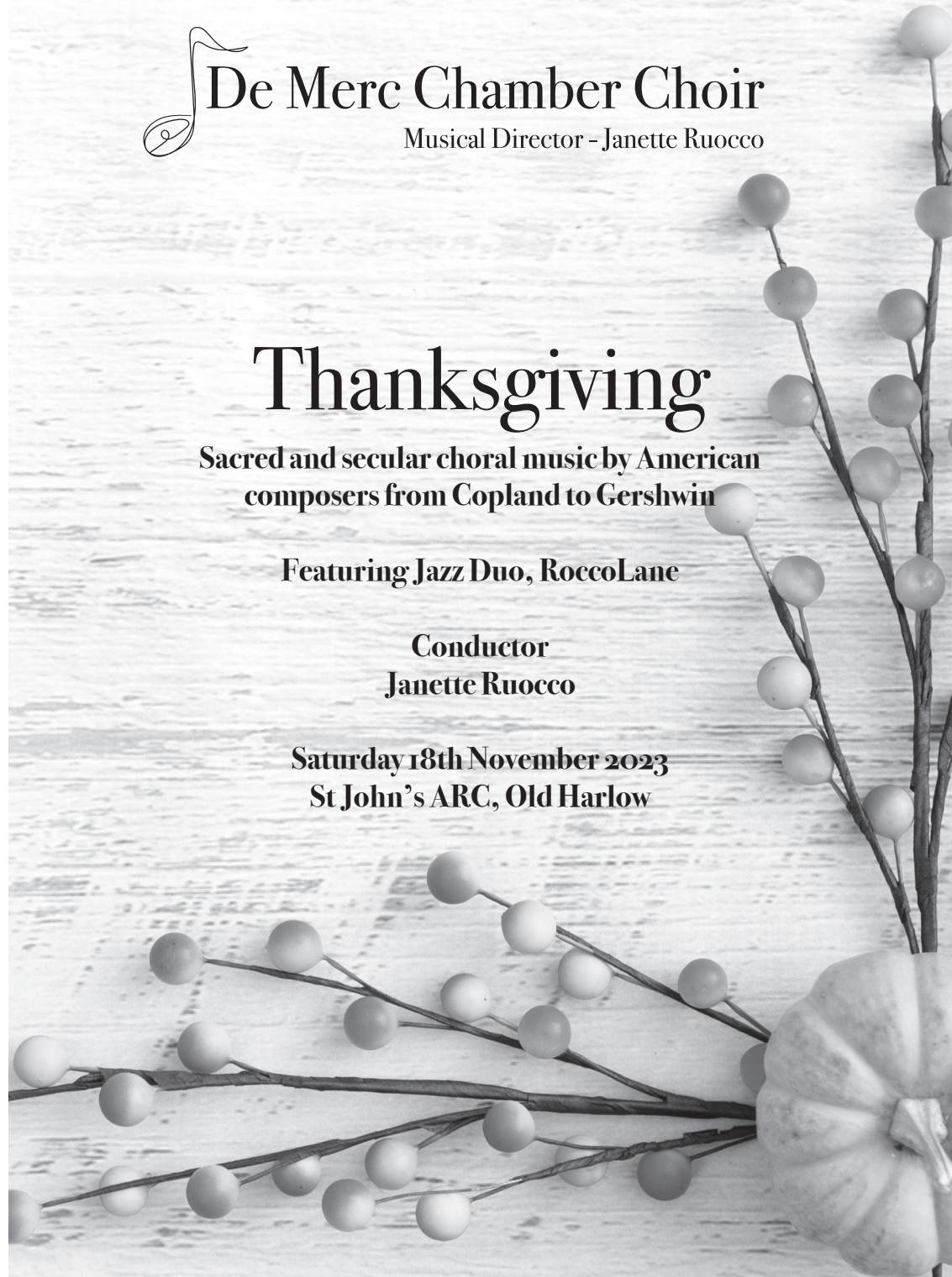
Thanksgiving

Sacred and secular choral music by American composers from Copland to Gershwin

Featuring Jazz Duo, RoccoLane

Conductor
Janette Ruocco

Saturday 18th November 2023
St John's ARC, Old Harlow



Programme

Torquato Tasso Madrigals – William Hawley (b. 1950)

Siepe che gli orti vaghi
Ore fermate il volo
Vita de la mia vita

Four Motets – Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

Help us, O Lord
Thou, O Jehovah Abideth forever
Have mercy on us, O My Lord
Sing ye praises

Two Shakespeare Settings – Matthew Harris (b. 1956)

It was a lover and his lass
Tell me where is fancy bred

Jazz Duo

Adon Olam – Kenneth Lampl (b. 1964)

Two Spiritual Settings by women composers

Daniel, Daniel servant of the Lord – Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)
Any How – Evelyn la Rue Pittman (1910-1992)

Jazz Duo

Three Items from the 30s & 40

I got rhythm – George Gershwin (1898-1937)
Tea for two – Vince Youmans (1898-1946)
In the Mood – Glenn Miller (1904-1944)

After the concert please join us for refreshments in the refectory

De Merc Chamber Choir is a compact, versatile mixed voice adult choir specialising in a cappella repertoire ranging from the 16th century through to contemporary works.

Based in Harlow, the choir was founded in 1973 so we are currently celebrating our Golden Jubilee year!

Currently around nineteen singers, the De Merc Chamber Choir gives listeners the opportunity of enjoying the intricacy and intimacy of unaccompanied singing that is the essence of smaller ensembles. We have sung in many venues around Herts and Essex and are available for hire to sing at weddings, funerals, parties.

Janette Ruocco has been Musical Director of de Merc since January 2022, building on the group's traditions and creating fresh and imaginative concert programmes. She holds a degree in music and has undertaken extensive training as a choral conductor, holding an MA in Choral Education and an LRSM in Choral Direction. She recently formed her own string orchestra, the Dargason Ensemble, which specialises in working with choirs.

A dedicated music educator, Janette brings her own passion for choral music to groups, helping to develop musical literacy, vocal technique, a love of performance and an appreciation of the wealth of possibilities available for combinations of the human voice. Janette is also Musical Director of the vocal ensemble Bocca Aperta, Gippeswyk Singers, The Meljon Singers and Nota Bene Chamber Choir.

RoccoLane

Duncan Lane is a keyboard player equally at home accompanying ballet and dance classes or playing church organ for services. He first met jazz bassist Rafaele Ruocco in the late 1960s at Broadfields primary school. They been performing as RoccoLane in various combinations since the 1990s at various local venues - including the Gibberd Garden and the ARC - and further afield across East Anglia.

De Merc Chamber Choir Singers

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses
Kate Daynes	Jane Fox	Paul Borcham	John Bilton
Gill Jones	Imelda Laybourn	Julian Roques	Colin Bromage
Janet Kiddier	Margaret O'Dwyer		Gavin Buchan
Kate Lambert	Helen Reynolds		Peter Kincey
Isky Roberts	Gaynor Tregidgo		Graham Savage
			Ray Schöne