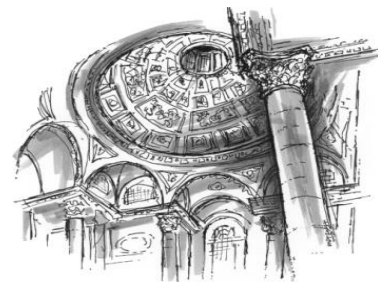




## St Martin-in-the-Fields with St Stephen Walbrook

### Choral Scholarships 2023-24



The **St Martin-in-the-Fields Choral Scholarships** are among the most stimulating and educative choral programmes available in London. The scheme is aimed at choral singers who are wishing to embark on a professional career in singing. The Choral Scholarships provide an opportunity for ten singers to enjoy an intensive, focused period of training with others of a similar standard and interests and are an integral part of an exciting choral music programme.

For 2023-24 we are delighted to continue our partnership with **St Stephen Walbrook** in the City of London. The Choral Scholars will sing at services, concerts and events at both St Martin-in-the-Fields and St Stephen's. The main focus of the scholarship will be regular services on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays**.

*With thanks to The Arts Society, The Williams Church Music Trust and the Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust for supporting the Choral Scholarship programme at St Martin-in-the-Fields.*

### St Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin-in-the-Fields is a hospitable, vibrant and forward-thinking church, which has a long history of opening its doors to people from all walks of life and from all faiths or no faith at all. The first religious broadcast was made from St Martin's and we regularly broadcast church services as well as the annual BBC Radio 4 St Martin-in-the-Fields Christmas Appeal. Pioneering work with homeless people started in the First World War and continues today with the Connection at St Martin's. Amnesty International was conceived at St Martin's and Shelter and the Big Issue were launched on the church steps.

Music has always played a central part in the life of St Martin-in-the-Fields. The Academy of St Martin in the Fields was founded here in 1958 by Sir Neville Marriner and the then Master of Music, John Churchill. The breadth of musical activity at St Martin's is astonishing. During the coronavirus pandemic, our Choral Scholars and St Martin's Voices recorded resources for churches across the country to use in their online worship, in partnership with the Church of England and the Royal School of Church Music which have had over 1 million downloads to date.



St Martin's has a wide and varied liturgical programme covering a range of styles from traditional Choral Evensong to contemporary services which combine music and liturgy in creative ways. Alongside the regular pattern of music in worship, our concert series features regular performances given by our own choral and instrumental ensembles.

We have a number of other choral ensembles at St Martin-in-the-Fields:

- **St Martin's Voices** is our professional ensemble of talented singers who come together to sing world-class concerts and special services at St Martin-in-the-Fields and beyond. As well as their extensive concert and broadcasting programme, St Martin's Voices explore the great classical music of our religious heritage at our weekly *Great Sacred Music*. The newest development to the music programme at St Martin-in-the-Fields is the **St Martin's Voices Fellowship**, an advanced training programme for emerging professional singers.
- The **Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields**, our voluntary liturgical choir, joins with clergy and laity in leading our worship on Sundays and at significant festivals in the church year including Christmas, Holy Week and Easter.
- **St Martin-in-the-Fields Chamber Choir** is a voluntary chamber choir, founded in April 2015, drawing from a pool of around thirty singers, that performs concerts of both major choral works and more intimate, small-scale works.
- **St Martin-in-the-Fields Junior Choir** was formed in 2014 and has quickly become an integral part of the St Martin's musical community. This choir of 7-13 year-olds has joined our existing ensembles to regularly enhance our music-making at church services and concerts whilst providing invaluable musical training for its young singers.

## St Stephen Walbrook

With its impressive dome, St Stephen Walbrook church stands by Mansion House in the heart of the City of London. The present building was erected to the designs of Sir Christopher Wren following the destruction of its medieval predecessor in the Great Fire of London in 1666.

In 1953 the Samaritans charity was founded by the rector of St Stephen's, Dr Chad Varah. The first Samaritans branch operated from a crypt beneath the church. In tribute to this, a telephone is preserved in a glass box in the church. St Stephen's, with its glorious acoustic, has a vibrant musical tradition.



## Recent Choral Scholar projects

In addition to their regular pattern of sung choral services at St Martin's and St Stephen's, the Choral Scholars have taken part in concert projects with *I Fagiolini* and *The Gesualdo Six*, and sung a live broadcast of BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong. The Choral Scholars have also been on tour to Berlin, Manchester, Northumberland and Holy Island, and Scotland, and have sung Choral Evensong in Southwark Cathedral and St Paul's Cathedral.

## Schedule

The regular focus of the scholarship is on **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.**

Each Wednesday and Thursday, the full group of Choral Scholars will sing **Choral Evensong** at St Martin's, and **Choral Classics** and **Choral Eucharist** at St Stephen Walbrook.

In addition, half the group will sing **Morning Song** and occasional **Sung Evening Prayer** on a Monday, and the other half will sing **Bread for the World** at St Martin's each week. These half groups are allocated by the Music team and are different each week.

### Monday schedule @ St Martin's

#### *Half Group*

2.30pm	Rehearsal
3.15pm	<b>Morning Song</b> - recorded for broadcast the following Friday on St Martin's social media pages
4.30pm	Rehearsal (service takes place 2/3 times a month)
5.30pm	<b>Sung Evening Prayer</b> (service takes place 2/3 times a month)

### Wednesday schedule

#### *All choral scholars*

11.30am	Rehearsal @ St Stephen Walbrook
12.30pm	<b>Choral Classics</b>
2.15pm	Rehearsal @ St Martin's
4.00pm	<b>Choral Evensong</b>

#### *Half Group*

5.30pm	Rehearsal @ St Martin's
6.30pm	<b>Bread for the World</b>

### Thursday schedule @ St Stephen Walbrook

#### *All choral scholars*

11.45am	Rehearsal
12.45pm	<b>Choral Eucharist</b>

### **The term dates for the 2023-2024 academic year are:**

<b>Autumn</b>	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October – Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 (inclusive, plus some December commitments – below)
<b>Spring</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 (inclusive)
<b>Summer</b>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2024 (inclusive)

There are also occasional events outside the normal schedule – broadcasts, trips and additional services – for which the Choral Scholars will be required. This will include monthly Evensongs at St Stephen Walbrook, occasionally concerts at St Martin's and elsewhere, and two December commitments, both of which are high profile significant events in the life of St Martin's: the **Community Carol Service**, and St Stephen Walbrook: **Parish Carol Service**. Scholars will be notified of these additional dates in writing before the start of each scholarship term.

In addition, we are currently building a programme of Choral Scholarship activity in the **Square Mile in the City of London**. The **Square Mile Choral Scholars** programme builds on the choral scholarship scheme at St Martin's and St Stephen's. It is a new initiative based at All Hallows by the Tower, working alongside other churches in the City, filling beautiful and unique sacred spaces with the glory and mystery of music for city workers, residents and visitors to London. This includes approximately two Sunday morning services each term at All Hallows'. Choral Scholars will be invited to take part in this programme (for which additional remuneration will be offered).

St Martin's and St Stephen's have been moving to a hybrid model of in-person and online worship. Many of the Choral Scholarship services will also be either live-streamed or recorded for future broadcast on our social media channels and our digital platform, StMartins.Digital.

## Honorarium

Choral Scholars receive a remuneration of **£4000 per annum** (£1,334 per term), paid in three equal instalments at the end of each term. In addition, we will reimburse public transport costs incurred in travelling between the two churches on a Wednesday. This will be calculated on an individual basis and added to your termly remuneration.

Choral Scholars are allowed to be absent from up to four services (or standalone rehearsals or other events) per term with no money deducted from their Choral Scholarship, providing these dates are agreed in advance in writing. Suitable deputies will be organised by the Music Department and a deduction will be made from the Choral Scholarship remuneration at the end of each term for any absences exceeding the allowance of four per term.

Choral Scholarships will be tenable for **one year only** and will only be renewed in exceptional circumstances. Throughout the scholarship period, you will be a scholar at St Martin's and not an employee. Nothing in this document is intended to create a relationship of employer and employee between you and St Martin-in-the-Fields.

## Eligibility and requirements

Candidates for Choral Scholarships should have a confident singing voice and good standard of sight-singing ability. Enthusiasm for singing as a member of a team, together with a willingness to develop their musical talent, will be determining factors in the appointment of Choral Scholars. Applications are welcome from all singers at the beginning of their choral music careers; our Choral Scholarships are particularly aimed at bridging the gap between university and professional-level choral experience.

Our ambition is to work together to promote a more inclusive environment, which attracts all candidates and signals our commitment to celebrate and promote diversity. We particularly encourage applications from those who are currently underrepresented within choral music.

## To apply

Please complete the application form and send, along with a current CV, by email to Alicia Hill, Music Programme Manager at [Alicia.hill@smitf.org](mailto:Alicia.hill@smitf.org) by **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May** at the latest.

Auditions will take place on:

- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 1430 – 1800
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 1400 – 1800
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 1400 – 1730