

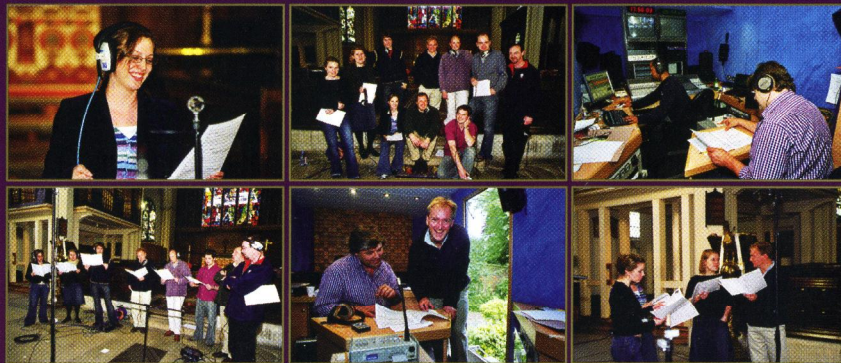
TENEBRAE TITLES ON
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CLASSICS

The Dream of Herod (SIGCD046) - features music for Christmas and Advent
“...more polished choral singing would be hard to find anywhere” BBC Music Magazine

Mother and Child (SIGCD501) - a distinctive and distinguished collection of works by Tavener, Dove, Pott,
Swayne, L'Estrange, Filsell, and Rodney Bennett. “...an almost ecstatic tenderness...” Gramophone

February 2005 - **Rachmaninov Vespers** (All night vigil) - recorded “live”.

For further information contact **SignumClassics** on **020 8997 4000** or info@signumrecords.com
www.signumrecords.com www.tenebrae-choir.com



SIGCD050

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CLASSICS

GAUDETE
ARRANGED BY KARL JENKINS

Fauré • Tavener • Pachelbel • Reich
Tenebrae Nigel Short



GAUDETE

1	Gaudete	Traditional arr. Karl Jenkins	[1.43]
2	Après un rêve	Fauré arr. Alexander L'Estrange	[3.25]
3	The Lamb	Sir John Tavener	[3.54]
4	Gaudete (a cappella)	Traditional arr. Karl Jenkins	[1.45]
5	Canon	Pachelbel arr. Alexander L'Estrange	[4.46]
6	Mother and Child	Sir John Tavener (extract)	[4.37]
7	Clapping Music	Steve Reich	[5.33]

Total Running Time: [25.45]

Soprano - Grace Davidson, Julia Doyle

Alto - Anna Stephany, Alexander L'Estrange

Tenor - Christopher Watson, Nigel Short, Andrew Busher, John Bunghard

Baritone - Gabriel Crouch, Matthew Brook

Bass - Adrian Peacock, David Porter Thomas

Clapping Music performers - Gabriel Crouch, Nigel Short

TENEBRAE

Director - Nigel Short / Percussion - Jody Jenkins

www.signumrecords.com

TENEBRAE

PASSION & PRECISION

Tenebrae is the brainchild of ex-King's Singer, Nigel Short, and is one of the most innovative and gifted singing ensembles in Britain. Celebrated as much for its supreme musical standards as for its mesmerising concert presentation, the 18-strong group is made up of some of the most talented singers from such thoroughbred stables as the King's Singers, the Monteverdi Choir, Westminster Abbey, the Royal Opera House and King's College, Cambridge.

Often performing by candlelight, the choir creates an atmosphere of spiritual and musical reflection, where medieval chant and renaissance works are interspersed with contemporary compositions to create an ethereal mood of contemplation. The beautiful acoustics and lighting effects of a Tenebrae concert are further enhanced by the choir's dramatic use of movement. As singers move around their surroundings to explore all possible sound perspectives, each member of the audience is able to experience the power and intimacy of the human voice.

Gaudete

Music: Traditional

Arranged: Karl Jenkins

Gaudete ("rejoice") is an anonymous composition that was first published in 1582 in a collection of carols and other religious songs called *Piae Cantiones*. This collection, made by a Scandinavian called Peter Nyland, is very significant because it also included a huge number of other Christmas melodies that

The result is a unique ensemble whose precision, vocal blend and virtuosity has won them unstinting critical praise and the admiration of critics and public alike.

Nigel Short, Tenebrae's founder and music director, started singing at the age of 7 and studied at the Royal College of Music. He has sung in many of the country's foremost choirs, including Westminster Abbey and the English National Opera. After seven years as a member of the world's most celebrated vocal ensemble – the King's Singers – Nigel Short left to follow his dream of conducting and composing for his own chamber choir, Tenebrae.

The group has been taken under the wing of Formula One racing champion Jacques Villeneuve and his management company Claymore.

have since become 'standards', but it only gives music for the chorus of Gaudete; the verses, which tell of the wonder of God's arrival on earth in human form, have been taken from a Czech medieval song about the Virgin Mary, Ezechielis Porta. Gaudete, made famous in the 1970's in the recording by Steeleye Span, is on this disc in two new arrangements written for Tenebrae by **Karl Jenkins**. One has percussion (Jody Jenkins), and the other is a cappella.

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine, Gaudete.
Tempus adest gratiae
Hoc quod optibamus,
Carmina laetitiae
Devote redamus.

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine, Gaudete.
Deus homo factus est
Natura mirante,
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo regnante.

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine, Gaudete.
Ezechielis porta
Clausā pertransitur,
Unde lux est orta
Salus invenitur.

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine, Gaudete.
Deus homo factus est
Natura mirante,
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo regnante.

Gaudete, gaudete, Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine, Gaudete.

Après Un rêve

Music: Gabriel Fauré

Arranged: Alexander L'Estrange

Text: Romaine Bussine

Rejoice, rejoice, Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary, rejoice.
The hour of grace is here
For which we have prayed.
Let us sing with devotion
Songs of joy.

Rejoice, rejoice, Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary, rejoice.
God is made man,
A being of wonder.
The world is renewed
By Christ the King.

Rejoice, rejoice, Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary, rejoice.
Closed gates of death
Have been passed through.
Light is risen
Salvation is found.

Rejoice, rejoice, Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary, rejoice.
God is made man,
A being of wonder.
The world is renewed
By Christ the King.

Rejoice, rejoice, Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary, rejoice.

Après un rêve is one of the best-loved songs of French composer Gabriel Fauré. Fauré, a pupil of Camille Saint-Saëns, worked as an organist and choirmaster for most of his life, with time to compose only during the summer holidays. Despite his subsequent fame

and reputation as one of France's finest composers, his songs brought him almost nothing - his publisher bought them, with full copyright, for 50 francs each. Fauré wrote well over a hundred songs, and developed a very personal style that had considerable influence on many later 20th-century composers, particularly in its subtle but adventurous use of harmony, freed from the restraints of the conventional 'rules' of tonality. Après un rêve, written in 1878 and taken from his first published collection of songs, is a good

Dans un sommeil que charmaient ton image
Je rêvais le bonheur, ardent mirage,
Tes yeux étaient plus doux, ta voix pure et sonore,
Tu rayonnais comme un ciel éclairé par l'aurore;
Tu m'appelais et je quittais la terre
Pour m'enfuir avec toi vers la lumière,
Les cieux pour nous entr'ouvraient leurs nues,
Splendeurs inconnues, lueurs divines entrevues,
Hélas, hélas, triste réveil des songes !
Je t'appelle, ô nuit, rends-moi tes mensonges;
Reviens, reviens radieuse
Reviens, ô nuit mystérieuse.

The Lamb Mother and Child Music: Sir John Tavener

Among the most popular of all present-day composers, notably for his piece for cello and orchestra, The Protecting Veil, and for the anthem sung at Princess Diana's Funeral, Song for Athene, Sir John Tavener has written a large number of sacred choral works, often based on Greek Orthodox texts. The Lamb is a setting of William

Blake's poem from Songs of Innocence and Experience and shows his predilection for long-spun, gradually-unfolding melodies and charming, rich but rarely self-indulgent harmonies. Its words are from an anonymous Italian poem, translated into French by a friend, Romaine Bussine, and tell of the experience of awaking from a beautiful, romantic dream, only to wish one could return once more into the "mysterious night". This most romantic of arrangements was written for Tenebrae by Alexander L'Estrange.

In a slumber charmed by your image
I dreamed of happiness, ardent mirage;
Your eyes were more tender, your voice pure and clear.
You were radiant like a sky brightened by sunrise;
You were calling me, and I left the earth
To flee with you towards the light;
The skies opened their clouds for us,
Splendors unknown, glimpses of divine light...
Alas! Alas, sad awakening from dreams!
I call to you, oh night, give me back your illusions;
Return, return with your radiance,
Return, oh mysterious night!

Blake's poem from Songs of Innocence and Experience and is striking in its simplicity, beauty and economy of expression. It contrasts sections where a simple, short phrase (first heard to the words "Little lamb, who made thee?") is turned upside-down and back-to-front with sections where the same musical phrase appears in rich four-part harmony, with special dissonance (a chord with an added seventh and ninth) every time on the word "Lamb". In his programme note for the first performance, which was written for Winchester Cathedral in 1982, the composer

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GAUDETE

ARRANGED BY KARL JENKINS

Arranged by Classic FM's Hall of Fame 2004 'top-ten-composer' Karl Jenkins, and sung by crack professional choir, Tenebrae, "Gaudete" is released on **SignumClassics** both with percussion and as a pure, unadulterated, a cappella version. Alexander L'Estrange's new arrangement of Pachelbel's "Canon" and his spine-tingling arrangement of Fauré's romantic "Après un rêve" will surely become all-time favourites. Sir John Tavener's haunting, mesmeric "The Lamb" is also on the disc with an excerpt of a piece written especially for Tenebrae, "Mother and Child". And to close the recording, a very special kind of applause from Steve Reich.

Enjoy a taste of Tenebrae.

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Tenebrae

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Percussion - Jody Jenkins

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TENEBRAE - GAUDETE

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