*MUSIC AT WESLEY*

TUESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERT

WESLEY CHURCH CENTRE, ST JOHN STREET, CHESTER CH1 1DA

March 18th 2025, 12.45pm

HEATHER BUCKMASTER (Soprano)

JOSEPH BUCKMASTER (Tenor)

TIM KENNEDY (Piano)

Parigi, o Cara (‘La Traviata’) ) Verdi (1813 – 1901)

Lunge da lei (‘La Traviata’) )

Donde Lieta (‘La Boheme’) Puccini (1858 – 1924)

**Nicht wandle, mein licht** (‘**Liebeslieder Waltzes**’ **Op.52)**  **)** **Brahms (1833 – 97)**

Ich kose süß mit der und der (‘Neue Liebeslieder’ Op. 65) )

Crucifixus (‘Petite Messe Solennelle’) ) Rossini (1792 – 1868)

Domine Deus (‘Petite Messe Solennelle’) )

Green ) Fauré (1845 – 1924)

Après un rêve )

Dalla sua pace or Il mio tesoro (‘Don Giovanni’) Mozart (1756 – 91)

People Will Say We’re in Love (‘Oklahoma’) Rodgers (1902 – 79)

Maria (‘West Side Story’) Bernstein (1902 – 90)

I Could Have Danced All Night (‘My Fair lady’) Loewe (1901 – 88)

 *FUTURE ‘MUSIC AT WESLEY’ CONCERTS*

 **Tuesday Lunchtime Concerts Series**, 12.45pm. Retiring collection.

 March 25th: Rachel Fillhart (clarinet), John Gough (piano)

 April 1st: John Bush (trump[et), Brian Heald (organ/piano)

 April 8th: Edward Harris-Brown (piano)

 **Saturday Lunchtime Organ Recitals**, 12.45pm. Retiring collection

 April 26th: Graham Eccles (St Asaph)

*Thank you for supporting this recital. The retiring collection (suggested minimum donation £4 per person) covers performer, performing rights and other direct expenses, with the balance in aid of Wesley Church funds. If you are a taxpayer it would be much appreciated if you would donate using a Gift Aid envelope (just add your name, address & post code).*

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**Heather Buckmaster** graduated from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire with First Class Honours in 2013. In 2020 Heather completed her master’s degree in Music Therapy at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Now a qualified Music Therapist, as well as performing, Heather specialises in dementia care working in care homes. Since leaving the Conservatoire she has played numerous operatic roles including Susanna in Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro, Adele in Strauss’ Die Fledermaus, Olympia in Offenbach’s The Tales of Hoffman, Tatyana in Tchaikovsky‘s Eugene Onegin, Micaela in Bizet‘s Carmen, Donna Elvira in Mozart‘s Don Giovanni and Gilda in Verdi‘s Rigoletto.

Heather made her debut role with Heritage Opera playing Zerlina in Mozart’s Don Giovanni and has performed with them as Nedda in Leoncavallo’s I Pagliacci, Lola in Mascagni’s Cavalleria Rusticana, Despina in Mozart’s Così fan Tutte, 1st Lady in Mozart’s Die Zauberflöte, Mabel in The Pirates of Penzance and Susanna in Mozart’s The

Marriage of Figaro. Heather has also performed with Flat Pack Music as Pamina in Mozart’s The Magic Flute, Fiordiligi in Mozart’s Così fan Tutte, Mimì in Puccini’s La Bohème.

Heather is just as at ease on the concert platform performing in Mendelssohn’s Elijah, Finzi’s In Terra Pax, Faure’s Requiem, Handel’s Messiah, Carl Orff’s Carmina Burana, Schubert’s Mass in G, Mozart’s C Minor Mass, Haydn’s Creation and Bach’s St John Passion. She is also a regular concert and recital performer across the country.

British tenor **Joseph Buckmaster** is equally at home on both the opera stage and concert platform. Joseph studied at both the Royal Northern College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music.

In 2024/2025 he returns to Opera Holland Park as Arturo in Lucia di Lammermoor. 2024 highlights included his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for Verdi’s Requiem and Malcolm in Macbeth for Mid Wales Opera. In 2023 Joseph returned to Opera Holland Park as Rodolfo in La Bohéme after a successful Monsieur Triquet in their production of Eugene Onegin the previous year. In 2024 he made his debut with Longborough Festival Opera covering Rodolfo in La Bohéme. Joseph has a close relationship with IF Opera and recently returned as a guest artist in Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. In 2021, Joseph made his debut with Grange Park Opera singing the role of Male 1 in the world premiere of The Life and Death of Alexander Litvinenko. Whilst at the Royal Academy roles included Apollo Semele and Alméric Iolanta.

On the concert platform, performances include Handel’s Messiah, Judas Maccabaeus and The Foundling Hospital Anthem, Rossini’s Petite Messe Solennelle, Bach’s Christmas Oratorio and St John Passion, Mendelssohn’s Elijah, Mozart’s Requiem, Ramirez’s Misa Criolla and Puccini’s Messa di Gloria.

**Tim Kennedy** studied music at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, but he has now been based in Manchester as a freelance professional musician for more than fifteen years. As well as being a piano accompanist, he also works as a professional singer, vocal coach and organist. He is a staff repetiteur for the School of Vocal and Opera Studies at the Royal Northern College of Music, playing for singing classes, assessments and recitals. He is also an accompanist for the British and International Federation of Festivals. This involves working regularly as an official accompanist at a number of competitive music festivals in the North of England, including Alderley Edge, Blackburn, Bowdon, Burnley, Buxton, Chester, Cleethorpes, Fleetwood, Hazel Grove, Heaton Mersey, Sheffield, and at Regional Championship events.

Tim is one of the official accompanists at a prestigious competition for singers from conservatoires and universities around the country, called the Singers’ Platform, part of the David Clover Festival in Sheffield. He has regular accompaniment work at various schools including Sale Grammar school, and he has worked as the regular rehearsal pianist for the Tatton Singers (Knutsford) for more than ten years. Tim is also a staff accompanist for the CSSM Summer School, and regularly accompanies singers and instrumentalists in concerts, competitions and exams across the North of England. He has recently accompanied in competitions at the Uppermill Summer Music Festival and the Keldwyth Cumbrian Young Musicians’ Award. See www.tim-kennedy.co.uk