

## *Welcome!*

A warm welcome to MIV's Christmas Concert. **Wayne Ellington and the MIV choir will be bringing you** songs to ease you into the Christmas mood as well as some of our favourite songs of the year. We will be joined by members of the RNCM's highly successful Session Orchestra so capably led by Andy Stott, and our very own fabulous **MIV Band** directed by James Ritchie.

Our guest tonight is the very talented **Anita Ryan** together with the "Fiddle of Fire" Dezi Donnelly.

**We are looking forward to spending a very enjoyable evening in your company.**

## *Programme*

- 1. REJOICE GREATLY!** (Handel's Messiah, arr. R. Smallwood) lead: Cherilee Namee
- 2. WONDERFUL IS YOUR NAME** (Hezekiah Walker)
- 3. HALLELUJAH** (written and arranged Brenda Okioga) lead: Brenda Okioga
- 4. SILENT NIGHT** (trad.) lead: Anita Ryan
- 5. MARY DID YOU KNOW** (trad.) lead: Anita Ryan
- 6. HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING** (trad., arr. by Kingdom Choir) lead: Wayne Ellington
- 7. COUNT ON ME** (Bruno Mars) lead: Selina Kirkham
- 8. THANK YOU LORD** (W. Hawkins) lead: Caroline Bridge

*30 minute interval - visit the MIV Desk and say hello!*

- 9. BUT WHO MAY ABIDE** (Handel's Messiah - gospel arrangement) lead: Denise Rodgers
- 10. AVE MARIA** (F. Schubert) lead: Annie Train
- 11. GIVE US PEACE** (R. Smallwood)
- 12. PUT LOVE, LOVE, LOVE IN IT** (John Stoddart) lead: Wayne Ellington
- 13. HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS** (trad.) lead: Wayne Ellington
- 14. YOU'RE THE VOICE** (John Farnham) lead: Anita Ryan & Wayne Ellington
- 15. JESUS LIVES IN ME** (John P. Kee) lead: Stephen Goodwin
- 16. HALLELUJAH** (Handel's Messiah - gospel arrangement)

## MIV Choir



Manchester Inspirational Voices is an 80-strong community choir directed by **Wayne Ellington**, an Internationally recognised vocal coach, who formed the choir in 2006. We are a community choir, open to all, there are no auditions and our members come from all sections of society, many different ethnic backgrounds and cover a wide range of ages. <http://manchesterinspirationalvoices.co.uk/>

## Choir Director Wayne Ellington

**Wayne's** career in the arts is extensive and has seen him performing in musicals, working with top recording artists, and internationally with choirs.

In 2017 Wayne made a big impact in ITV's "The Voice" joining "Team Tom". Sir Tom was heard to say "...Wayne reminds me of me".

For the past two years Wayne has successfully toured the UK with his own theatre show "Wayne Ellington Sings Nat King Cole". Wayne simply believes anyone can sing. [www.wayneellington.co.uk/](http://www.wayneellington.co.uk/)



## Our Guest Anita Ryan



*(Accompanied by Dezi "Fiddles on Fire" Donnelly)*

Born into a musical family a love for music is in her DNA Her talents blossomed as the years watching her family perform passed by. Anita has an undeniable musical talent which has led to her leading musical formations all over the world. [Anita Ryan](http://www.dezidonnelly.com/) <http://www.dezidonnelly.com/>



## RNCM Session Orchestra

The Royal Northern College of Music Session Orchestra was launched in 2011 and is the first ensemble of its kind in a major UK conservatoire. It performs several sell-out concerts each year. <https://en-gb.facebook.com/RNCMSessionOrchestra/>



## MIV Band



Our wonderful band have supported us over the years in the UK and travelling with us on tours abroad. Our band are:

Keyboard/piano and Musical Director James Ritchie, Bass: Nigel Nguruve, Guitar: Reuben Reynolds and Drums: Marcus Copeland.



## *Thank You To:*

**You** first and foremost for supporting us this evening. Many of you are friends and family of choir members, you are our extended family! Thank you for the support you have undoubtedly given to our members as they prepared for this evening

**Our hosts** the RNCM for being so accommodating and supportive of our singing and promoting music of all genres in the North West.

**RNCM Session Orchestra** for bringing that extra sparkle under Andy Stott's direction. A special thank you to the very talented Andrew Jones for finalising the orchestral arrangements.

**Our Band** dedicated and hardworking band supports us wherever we go and brings drive and energy to our songs, a big thank you to James Ritchie and the boys.

**The Choir**, this concert would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of everyone in the choir. Their commitment and willingness to enrich each other's lives in the sharing of song has been extraordinary. Many of our members have given extra time to organise and manage this event and to them we owe an extra thank you.

## *Happy Christmas to one and all!*

Wayne and The Team