

The NCEM Young Composers Award 2014

in partnership with

BBC Radio 3 and The Tallis Scholars

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Outline

Young composers from across the UK are invited to compose a new work for a *cappella* (unaccompanied) choir (SSATB), utilising the remarkable singing skills of The Tallis Scholars.

A shortlist of entries will be rehearsed by the York based Ebor Singers in a workshop led by the composer Christopher Fox at the National Centre for Early Music, York, on Thursday 8 May 2014. At 7.30pm on the same day the Ebor Singers will present each of the pieces in front of a panel of judges: Peter Phillips, Director of The Tallis Scholars; Les Pratt, Lead Producer, BBC Radio 3; and Delma Tomlin, Director of the National Centre for Early Music. Two winners will be announced, one for each of the two age categories.

The winning work(s) will then be premiered by The Tallis Scholars on Friday 24 October 2014 at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Oxford as part of the Music at Oxford International Concert Season 2014/15. This concert will be recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3's Early Music Show in November 2014.

Compositions must set verses from the Book of Jeremiah, a Biblical text which mourns the destruction of the city of Jerusalem in about 600 BCE. It is a text which has inspired many composers, from Tallis to Palestrina and Gesualdo and, more recently, Stravinsky (his *Threni*). They all set the text in Latin but settings of an English translation, or even a combination of Latin and English, will be acceptable. There are many Lamentations, so we suggest that you concentrate on the verses used by Tallis in his first set of Lamentations:

1:1 ALEPH. Quomodo sedet sola civitas plena populo! Facta est quasi vidua domina gentium; princeps provinciarum facta est sub tributo.

(1:1 ALEPH. How lonely sits the city that was full of people! How like a widow has she become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the cities has become a vassal.)

1:2 BETH. Plorans ploravit in nocte, et lacrimæ ejus in maxillis ejus: non est qui consoletur eam, ex omnibus caris ejus; omnes amici ejus spreverunt eam, et facti sunt ei inimici.

(1:2 BETH. She weeps bitterly in the night, tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies.)

Like Tallis, you may also choose to include the text which announces what is to be sung:

Incipit Lamentatio Ieremiae Prophetæ

(Here begins the Lamentation of the Prophet Jeremiah);

and/or the text which concludes many settings:

Ierusalem, Ierusalem, convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum
(*Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord thy God*)

You may choose as much or as little of this text as you like, with the minimum requirement that you set one Hebrew Letter (e.g. Aleph, Beth etc.) and the text which follows that Letter in the Bible.

Application forms can be accessed from the National Centre for Early Music website www.ncem.co.uk/composersaward2014 .

Competition Rules

- Entry is open to all UK residents aged up to 25 at the time entry closes.
- There are two categories for the awards as follows:
 - 18 years and under (born after 21/03/95)
 - 19 – 25 years (born between 21/03/88 and 21/03/95)
- Applicants and winners of past competitions are eligible to enter the 2014 competition.
- Employees and close family members of the BBC, the NCEM and The Tallis Scholars, and persons connected to the competition and their close relatives are not eligible to enter. Proof of age, identity and eligibility may be requested.
- The composition must be unaccompanied.
- The composition should be suitable for a church performance by The Tallis Scholars.
- The composition should be scored for SSATB (two to a part), with the possibility of dividing these voices into ten parts.
- The composition should be between approximately 3 and 4 minutes' duration.

How to enter

- Entrants must register their interest in entering the competition by emailing education@ncem.co.uk by 5.00pm on Friday 21 February 2014.
- Entrants should send 2 copies of the score in an A4 format (preferably produced on computerised publishing software), together with a completed application form, to: The Music Administrator, National Centre for Early Music, St. Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York YO1 9TL. Application forms are available on the National Centre for Early Music website at www.ncem.co.uk/composersaward2014 .
- Entries in the form of completed scores should be received no later than 5.00pm on Friday 21 March 2014. Entries received after the deadline will not be considered.

Judging criteria

The shortlisted entrants will be judged on the following criteria:

1. skill of compositional techniques including writing for voices
2. innovation of composition fused with an awareness of The Tallis Scholars style
3. awareness of the acoustics of a church venue

Selection process

- A shortlist of up to 8 entrants will be chosen by a judging panel consisting of a member of the National Centre for Early Music, the BBC, The Tallis Scholars and a professional composer, and will be notified no later than 11 April 2014.
- All shortlisted entrants must attend a workshop on Thursday 8 May 2014, led by composer Christopher Fox at the NCEM, where they will have an opportunity to hear their compositions rehearsed by the York-based Ebor Singers. The workshop will be live streamed on the internet.
- The workshop will be followed the same evening, Thursday 8 May, by a public performance at 7.30pm at the National Centre for Early Music, when the pieces will be performed in front of the panel of judges. The panel of judges will select and announce the winners at the end of the concert, based on the aforementioned criteria, and will award them the prize.
- Should a shortlisted entrant not be available after reasonable attempts to contact him/her, the NCEM reserves the right to select another entrant to attend the workshop or – where applicable – to be awarded the prize.
- The NCEM's selection of the winners is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Reasonable transport costs to the workshop and Finalists' concert will be reimbursed by the NCEM

The Prize

- The prize offered is a performance by The Tallis Scholars of the winning compositions on Friday 24 October 2014 at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Oxford as part of the Music at Oxford International Concert Season 2014/15. The concert will be recorded and broadcast by BBC Radio 3.
- There will be no cash equivalent and the prize cannot be transferred.
- The winner will receive a complimentary set of top-priced tickets to this concert for themselves and up to two members of their family/friends.
- Reasonable transport and accommodation costs to this concert will be reimbursed by the NCEM to the winners and up to two members of their family/friends.

Copyright and permissions

- By submitting your composition, you grant to the BBC, NCEM and The Tallis Scholars (TTS), free of charge, permission to use the material in any way they want (including modifying and

adapting it for operational and editorial reasons) for services in any media worldwide (including on the sites accessed by international users).

- In order that the BBC can use your composition you must confirm that your composition is:
 1. your own original work
 2. has not previously been performed or published
 3. does not infringe any UK laws
 4. you have the right to give the BBC permission to use it for the purposes specified above
- Copyright in your composition will remain with you after the premiere and the aforementioned permission is non-exclusive. You can continue to use the material in any way you wish and you can also permit others to use the material.
- All entries, including composers' details, may be used in publicity campaigns post competition. Photographs of winning entries may also be used in publicity campaigns.
- The shortlisted entrants must agree to take part in any post-competition publicity if required.
- Any competitor under the age of 18 who attends a workshop or public performance must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- The shortlisted entrants may be filmed and/or interviewed and will be required to assign to the BBC/NCEM/TTS the copyright and other rights for all purposes (including use in all media now known or which may hereafter become known) in their contribution for broadcast for the full period of copyright and any extensions, revivals or renewals thereof.
- The shortlisted entrants will grant the BBC/NCEM/TTS the unlimited right to edit, copy, add to, take from, adapt or translate their contributions for broadcast or performance. The entrants also waive irrevocably any "moral rights" they may have under the laws of any jurisdiction.
- The shortlisted entrants will grant the NCEM/TTS the right to perform the piece after the premiere.
- Contributions cover all contributions made by the shortlisted entrants in connection with the production of any BBC programme including, but not limited to, their performance (including rehearsals) and spoken, written and artistic materials (including audio and video recordings thereof).
- The NCEM reserves the right to:
 1. cancel or adapt the competition
 2. vary or change the prizes
 3. disqualify any entrant who breaches the rules or who commits a fraud, at any stage, if in their opinion it is deemed necessary or if circumstances arise outside its control.
- In so far as it applies, the programme accords with the BBC's Code of Conduct for Competitions and Voting, details of which can be found on the BBC's Standards and Guidelines website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/competitioncode>.
- The promoter of the competition is the National Centre for Early Music and is subject to the law of England and Wales.
- Entrants will be deemed to have accepted these rules and agree to be bound by them by entering the competition.

- The NCEM Young Composers Award is intended as an educational project and preference will be given to those who have not yet embarked on a professional career.

Personal data

- The personal data you provide will be processed by the NCEM in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 for the purposes of administering the competition.
- You can see the NCEM's Privacy Policy at <http://www.ncem.co.uk/default.asp?idno=240> .
- If you give your consent on the application form, your contact details will be used by the NCEM to send you details of future educational activities and events. You may unsubscribe from this service at any time.
- The personal data of all entrants will be passed to the BBC for the purposes of judging the competition and recording of the winners' scores. After the competition, the BBC will destroy all personal data except that of the winners, which will be kept in programme records.
- Personal data passed to the BBC will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and will not be passed by the BBC to any third party.
- You can see the BBC's Privacy Policy at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/privacy/> .

General Information

- Composers interested in entering this competition should email the Music Administrator of the NCEM at education@ncem.co.uk to register their interest by 5.00pm, Friday 21 February 2014.
- Following registration, two copies of the score should be sent by post along with an application form to the NCEM to arrive no later than 5.00pm, Friday 21 March 2014. Applications should be addressed to: The Music Administrator, National Centre for Early Music, St Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York YO1 9TL. The scores should be in A4 format and ideally produced using computerised publishing software.
- All entrants will be informed by 5.00pm on Friday 11 April 2014 whether or not their pieces have been shortlisted for performance at the NCEM.
- All shortlisted candidates will be expected to attend a full day workshop and evening performance at the NCEM on Thursday 8 May 2014. The workshop will be led by composer Christopher Fox and the Ebor Singers and will be live streamed on the internet.
- At 7.30pm on Thursday 8 May 2014, the shortlisted pieces will be performed in front of a panel of judges and an invited audience. The winning piece(s) will be announced that evening.
- The winning piece(s) will be performed by The Tallis Scholars at a public concert in Oxford on Friday 24 October 2014. BBC Radio 3 will record the concert. Each finalist will be awarded top-price tickets to the concert for themselves and up to two members of their family/friends and their names and educational institutions (if appropriate) will be listed in the programme.

- The finalists must be prepared to work with the NCEM and its partners to raise the profile for this Award. This will include consent to be photographed and filmed during the process and to supply information for press materials and conduct radio and television interviews if requested. The publicity materials gathered will be used by the NCEM and its partners on their websites and in general publicity material. It is understood that the NCEM and its partners have the right to perform, record and broadcast the winning piece(s) subject to the usual Performing Rights contractual arrangements.
- It is recommended that all interested candidates listen to recordings of The Tallis Scholars.
- Application forms can be accessed via the National Centre for Early Music website at www.ncem.co.uk/composersaward2014.
- Compositions must set verses from the Book of Jeremiah, either in Latin or an English translation, or in a combination of Latin and English.