



Directed by Neil Ferris, Wimbledon Choral Society make a lovely sound – clean, clear and bright. The uninhibited expressivity of those who sing for pleasure with no payment is distinct from the polished virtuosity of the professional choir. Scan the faces of the singers, here more than 200, and all you see is pride and excitement, a sense of investment and ownership that a life of unsympathetic touring schedules, frozen fees and tantrum-throwing conductors can drain from the most idealistic paid chorister.



## *After da Vinci*

*May 9 2019*

*Dear Friend of WCS*

*How is that for the start of a review from today's Times?*

*We, the Choir, had a glorious Tuesday rehearsing in the afternoon and then performing the world premiere of Cecilia MacDowell's **da Vinci Requiem**.*

*The Festival Hall was wonderfully full; it transpires we sold 2021 tickets which, with 50 complimentary seats, gave us an amazing audience of **2071**. What a magnificent audience it was – when Neil stood us up at the end the sound was magical to hear.*

*I am not sure how many of you were there but thank you so very much to all who could make it.*

*We would love to gather your impressions and comments on our website with attributions - if you are happy for us so to do. That would be amazing. Please email to [friends@wimbledon-choral.org.uk](mailto:friends@wimbledon-choral.org.uk) and I will forward all provided.*

*The above quote comes from the article featured at: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cb6b1fa8-7190-11e9-a5e9-48f686bb2833>. We were also reviewed in the Evening Standard: <https://www.standard.co.uk/go/london/arts/neil-ferris-philharmonia-orchestra-review-festival-hall-a4136731.html>*

*Monday we start preparing for our Summer Concert and look forward to seeing you on June 15 if you can make it. More information to follow.*

*Best wishes*

*Friends of WCS*