

# UKRAINIAN FREEDOM ORCHESTRA

KERI-LYNN WILSON, CONDUCTOR

## BEETHOVEN NINTH FREEDOM TOUR



barbican

### UKRAINIAN FREEDOM ORCHESTRA AND SONGS FOR UKRAINE CHORUS

Conductor **KERI-LYNN WILSON**

Violin **MARKO KOMONKO**

Soprano **OLGA BEZSMERTNA**

Mezzo-Soprano **NATALIIA KUKHAR**

Tenor **VALENTYN DYTIUK**

Baritone **ANDRII KYMACH**

Royal Opera House Chorus Director **WILLIAM SPAULDING**

Patron of the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra **OLENA ZELENSKA,  
FIRST LADY OF UKRAINE**

Produced by **ASKONAS HOLT** and **TEATR WIELKI-POLISH  
NATIONAL OPERA** in association with **UKRAINIAN MINISTRY  
OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION POLICY** and the  
**METROPOLITAN OPERA**

With generous support from

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**Bruce and Suzie Kovner**



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MONDAY 29 JULY 2024 AT 7.30PM - ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

## SUPPORT UKRAINE

Please consider donating to the work of the Olena Zelenska Foundation, either by following the link below or scanning one of the QR codes around the building.

The Olena Zelenska Foundation is a Ukrainian charitable foundation founded by the First Lady of Ukraine in September 2022 as a direct response to the full-scale invasion. Its main goal is the restoration of the human capital of Ukraine, as well as the reconstruction of medical and educational institutions. Your donations will support the Foundation's many projects, including the creation of educational spaces for long-term paediatric patients in hospitals, and the building of bomb shelters for schools in Ukraine.

Find out more about the work of the Foundation and donate here:  
<https://zelenskafoundation.org/en>

## PROGRAMME

*Bucha. Lacrimosa*

by **VICTORIA VITA POLEVÁ**

*Bucha. Lacrimosa* was written in response to the terrible atrocities committed by Russian armed forces that took place in Bucha in spring 2022. Of the piece, Plevá says: "After seeing the atrocious acts and crimes committed in those photographs, I burned with despair and my world changed forever. I started writing Bucha. Lacrimosa to survive. Bucha's ashes strike my heart."

*Symphony No. 9 in D minor*

by **LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**

The Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra's performance version of Schiller's great poem "Ode to Joy," sung by the soloists and chorus in Ukrainian, and captured in the recent Deutsche Grammophon recording, follows in the tradition of another remarkable cultural and historical gesture. On Christmas Day 1989, just weeks after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Leonard Bernstein conducted Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* in the city and made one important change to the text. Bernstein altered Schiller's opening word "Freude" (Joy) to "Freiheit" (Freedom) and in so doing defined a moment of hope in German, and world, history. In making her performance version, the orchestra's founder and conductor, Keri-Lynn Wilson, working with her Ukrainian musical colleague Ievgeniia Iermachkova, changed "Freude" to "Slava" (Glory), from the phrase that has become familiar around the world as the rallying call of Ukrainian resistance in the face of ruthless Russian aggression, Slava Ukraini! (Glory to Ukraine!).

The orchestra's performances of the new performance version were the first time the symphony's text had been presented in translation outside of Ukraine. A concert in Warsaw, the occasion of the Deutsche Grammophon recording, was followed by a performance in Berlin on Ukrainian Independence Day, August 24, 2023. The orchestra and soloists were joined by 40 singers made up of Ukrainian refugees and other residents in Berlin. The concert was attended by the Federal President of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, in a public show of support for Ukraine's fight for its freedom. Wilson subsequently took this version of the symphony back to Ukraine and performed it in Lviv in December 2023 with Lviv National Opera.

# UKRAINIAN FREEDOM ORCHESTRA

Violin I **MARKO KOMONKO, YAROMYR BABSKYY, VIKTOR IVANOV, KYRYLO BONDAR, MYKOLA HAVIUK, IULIIA RUBANOVA, KYRYLO MARKIV, ALISA KUZNETSOVA, OLEKSANDR BOZHYYK, MARTA SEMCHYSHYN, MARTA BURA, ANNA BURA, IRYNA SOLOVEI, MIHALY STEFKO**

Violin II **MAKSYM GRINCHENKO, ALINA KOMISAROVA, ROMAN SOKRUTA, ADRIAN BODNAR, ALISA RUBANOVA, MARTA KOLOMYIETS, VIKTOR SEMCHYSHYN, MARIYA SICHKO, LIUDVIKA IVANOVA, OLHA MALYK, YULIYA TOKACH, HANNA VIKHROVA**

Viola **ANDRII CHOP, USTYM ZHUK, KATERYNA SUPRUN, DMYTRO KHRESHCHENSKYI, VALENTYNA BUGRAK, ANDRII TUCHAPETS, NADIYA HUSAR BARBATO, HRYHORII ZAVHORODNII, ROKSOLANA DUBOVA, LYUDMYLA GARASHCHUK**

Cello **ARTEM SHMAHAYLO, LESYA DEMKOVYCH, YEVGEN DOVBYSH, DENYS KARACHEVTSEV, VLADYSLAV PRIMAKOV, VIKTOR REKALO, OLHA BOICHUK, YULIIA BEZUSHKEVYCH**

Double Bass **IVAN ZAVGORODNIY, NAZARII STETS, YURII PRYRIZ, MYKOLA SHAKHOV, VIKTOR ASHMARIN, SERHII DIKARIEV**

Flute **IHOR YERMAK, ANDRIY LEMEKH, INNA VOROBETS**

Oboe **YURII KHVOSTOV, IEVGEN MARCHUK**

Clarinet **OLEG MOROZ, VASYL RIABITSKYI**

Contrabassoon **IHOR NECHESNYI**

Bassoon **MARK KRESHCHENSKYI, ROMAN VASYLCHENKO**

Horn **STEPAN BEBYHK, YEVHEN CHURIKOV, IGOR SZELIGOWSKI, OLEG BEZUSHKEVYCH**

Trumpet **OSTAP POPOVYCH, ROMAN KUPRIIANOV**

Trombone **TARAS ZHELIZKO, VASYL SHPARKYI, ANDRII SHPARKYI**

Timpani **DMYTRO ILIN**

Percussion **YEVHEN ULIANOV, SVIATOSLAV YANCHUK**

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## ROH SONGS FOR UKRAINE CHORUS

Director of Learning and Participation **JILLIAN BARKER**

Head of Opera (Learning and Participation) **TOM FLOYD**

Opera Officer (Learning and Participation) **NIAMH MURPHY**

Repetiteurs **DANNY PARASHCHAK, THOMAS ANG,**

**ALEX NORTON, JONATHAN WILLIAMS**

Volunteers **AUDREY PICKARD, SHIRLEY PIGOTT**

Royal Opera Chorus Manager **LEE BAMFORD**

Royal Opera Chorus Assistant Manager **ROSIE PURDIE**

## SINGERS

Alina Goncharova, Alina Levtsun, Alina Berestnieva, Alyona Mitryayeva, Amy Au, Anastasia Vvedenska, Anastasiia Shupyk, Andrii Loboda, Andriy Boytsov, Anna Barabanova, Anna Lapczak, Anna-Mariia Kyrychevska, Arina Koroletska, Bogdan Hrechka, Bogdana Babiac, Dan Gutowski, Daria Moskaliuk, Daria Agafonova, Darina Soldatenko, Daryna Chorna, Daryna Torgovtseva, Denys Iliasov, Denys Smacheliuk, Denys Yeltarov, Diana Chudlia, Diana Lypyska, Dmytro Hovorov, Eduard Skrypka,

Elena Vydrine, Elizaveta Putrenok, Gregory Ivahnenko, Halina Kucsera, Halyna Terletska, Hannah Spilna-Kesidy, Iestyn Roberts, Igor Bartkiv, Igor Mykhailov, Ihor Zapolukh, Inna Zhdanova, Iryna Marciuk, Iryna Milchynska, Iryna Perova, Iryna Rodionova, Iuliia Iugai, Iurii Goryn, Ivan Pavliuk, Ivan Tarasov, Jennifer Harkins, Karina Luchinkina, Katerina Kalinichenko, Kateryna Gudzenko, Kateryna Ozatska, Kateryna Karpenko, Kateryna Riepina, Katya Kuznetsova, Kseniia Romaniuk, Kostiantyn Ponomar, Lesia Khomichak, Liliia Revak, Liuba Colotelo, Liudmyla Glushchenko, Lyuba Mikhalovska, Marharyta Morozova, Maria Stefanko, Maria Turynska, Mariia Bezusa, Mariia Krapivina, Mariia Raievska, Marina Pesenti, Marina Skrypka, Marta Volokhina, Mathieu Robert, Mihai Colotelo, Mihai Hrabatin, Mykola Maleikiyi, Mykola Maletych, Natalia Stadnyk, Natalliia Chorna, Natalliia Davydiuk, Natalliia Hrabovska, Natalliia Huz, Nataliya Rummyantseva, Nataliya Zayats, Odarka Iwanczuk, Oksana Bilyk, Oksana Bolshakova, Oksana Dubyk, Oksana Kolomiets, Oksana Muzaeva, Oksana Vynohradova, Oksana Sliubyk, Oleksandr Tarabukhin, Oleksii Zasiadko, Oleksiy Soroka, Olena Geda, Olena Hodlevska, Olena Krupnova, Olena Mykolaenko, Olena Perederii, Olena Oliinyk, Olesia Turok, Olga Dudnik, Olga Skachko, Olha Petruk, Olha Shvets, Orysia Hunder, Olha Terletska, Pavlo Melnychenko, Pavlo Petrychenko, Peter Sawula, Petro Kochanskyi, Petro Solovii, Renata Neporozhnia, Robin Sadler, Roman Zahasaylo, Roza Momot, Sabina Neporozhnia, Sergiy Rubis, Serhiy Kotsun, Sofiia Chorna, Sofiia Polishchuk, Sofiia Stelmakh, Solomiia Havrylova, Solomiia Rohush, Stephen Lorimer, Svitlana Deresh, Svitlana Dankevych, Svitlana Granovska, Svitlana Mykhailova, Svitlana Omelchenko, Svitlana Shamina, Tamara Fedotiuk, Tanya Kot, Tetiana Loskutova, Tetiana Makovei, Tetiana Opanasenko, Tetiana Tanska, Tetiana Tsymbal, Valentyna Bilan, Valentyna Malaspina, Valentyna Rozumovska, Valeria Morozova, Valeria Zhminka, Vasylyna Melnyk, Viktoriia Khadzhyu, Viktoriia Vovchenko, Vira Terletska, Vira Tsypuk, Vitalie Bilac, Vladyslav Kyriyenko, Yana Polish, Yaroslav Odnorogov, Yaroslava Matvieienko, Yevhenii Ivanov, Yousef Panchenko, Yuliia Kohut-Kalynyuk, Yuliia Komyshan, Yuliia Martyniuk, Yuliia Meleshyn

## ROYAL OPERA CHORUS

Andrew O'Connor, Charbel Mattar, Dawid Kimberg, Eleanor Pennell-Briggs, Emma Smith, Eryl Royle, Eugene Dillon-Hooper, George Freeburn, John Bernays, John Morrissey, Kathryn Jenkin, Kiera Lyness, Lee Hickenbottom, Louise Armit, Luke Price, Madeleine Mitchell, Michael Burke, Miranda Westcott, Nicholas Sharratt, Olle Zetterstrom, Patrick Ashcroft, Phillip Brown, Renata Skarelyte, Rosalind Waters, Simon Davies, Thomas Barnard

# UKRAINIAN FREEDOM ORCHESTRA

The Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra was formed in 2022 by Canadian-Ukrainian conductor Keri-Lynn Wilson in direct response to Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine. Working in collaboration with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, the Polish National Opera in Warsaw and the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture, Maestro Wilson brought together an ensemble composed of leading Ukrainian musicians from inside the embattled country, as well as recent refugees and Ukrainian members of European orchestras. Its explicit mission was to defend Ukraine's cultural legacy as the country fights for its freedom. It has been under the patronage of Ukraine's First Lady Olena Zelenska since 2023.

The orchestra's summer tours have included some of the most prestigious venues across Europe and the United States such as the BBC Proms and the Barbican in London, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie, Lincoln Center in New York City and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. This year's tour sees them perform at some of the great cathedrals and concert halls on both sides of the Atlantic as well as a special concert in the Polish shipyard that was instrumental in the birth of the Solidarity movement. The Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra is proud to have showcased contemporary Ukrainian composers alongside the greats of the wider European musical tradition and has enjoyed a rapturous and emotional public response, critical acclaim and unprecedented media attention for an artistic venture of this kind.

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## SONGS FOR UKRAINE CHORUS

The Royal Opera House's Songs for Ukraine Chorus was established in spring 2023 in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Made up of 160 Ukrainian people, a majority of whom have been displaced by the war, the Chorus celebrates Ukrainian culture and resilience. The Chorus are proud to donate their time and effort in support of Ukraine, its people, cultural heritage and artistic development, and members range from seasoned professional singers to people taking part in a classical music concert for the first time.

Formed as part of the Royal Opera House's Creative Exchange programme, the Songs for Ukraine Chorus, performing alongside members of the Royal Opera Chorus, demonstrate the power of music to inspire hope and solidarity. Appearances to date have included a Christmas concert at Bradford Cathedral and concerts at the Royal Opera House, the US Embassy Commemoration Gala at the Palace Theatre, and media features both nationally and internationally on CNN, BBC Radio 3 and ITV.

# TRANSLATION

Adapted from the translation by **М****У****К****О****Л****А** **Л****У****К****А****Ш**

## Ukrainian

### Соло баритона

О друзі, ці марні звуки!  
краще заспіваємо разом  
радісніше.  
І благовісніше!

Слава! Слава!  
Слава, гарна іскро Божа!  
Несказанно люблю нам  
Увійти, царице гожа,  
В твій пресвітлий дивний храм.

### Хор та солісти

Все, що строго ділить мода,  
В'яжеш ти одним вузлом,  
Розцвітає згода братня  
Під благим твоім крилом.

### Солісти

Кого доля ошастила  
Тим, що другові він друг,  
Кого любить лада мила,  
Йдіть до нас в веселий круг.  
Йдіть усі, хто зве своєю  
В світі душу хоч одну!  
Хто ж весь вік черствів душею -  
Йди у іншу сторону!

### Хор

Йдіть усі, хто зве своєю  
В світі душу хоч одну!  
Хто ж весь вік черствів душею –  
Йди у іншу сторону.

### Солісти

Славу п'ють усі істоти  
З груді матері-землі,  
Ті солодкіі щедроти  
мають всі – і добрі, й злі.  
Слава нас вином сп'яняє  
І цілунком огневим;  
І черв'як утіху знає,  
І небесний херувим.

### Хор

Слава нас вином сп'яняє  
І цілунком огневим;  
І черв'як утіху знає,  
І небесний херувим.  
І небесний херувим, херувим.  
В раю! В раю!

### Соло тенора та чоловічий хор

Так у безмірі світила  
Хором райдужним пливуть.  
Браття, йдіть у славну путь,  
Що вам радість освятила.

Браття, йдіть у славну путь  
Що вам радість освятила.

### Хор

Слава гарна, іскро Божа!  
Несказанно люблю нам  
Увійти, ца рице гожа,  
В твій пресвітлий дивний храм.

Все, що строго ділить мода,  
В'яжеш ти одним вузлом,  
Розцвітає згода братня  
Під благим твоім крилом.

Обніміться, мільйони,  
Поцілуйтесь, мов брати!  
Вічний Отче доброти,  
Дай нам ласки й охорони!  
Ви вклонились, мільйони?  
Чи відчули Бога світ?  
Сповніть милістю серця  
І чиніть його закони!  
Слава, гарна іскро Божа,  
Несказанно люблю нам  
Увійти, царице гожа,  
В твій пресвітлий дивний храм.

Слава! Слава!  
Обніміться, мільйони,  
поцілуйтесь мов брати!

Ви вклонились, мільйони?  
Чи відчули Бога світ?  
Сповніть милістю серця  
І чиніть його закон! Браття!

Браття! Господа шукай,  
Під зірковим небосхилом  
Шукай нашого Творця.

### Солісти та хор

Слава, гарна іскро Божа!

Все, що строго ділить мода,  
В'яжеш ти одним вузлом,  
Розцвітає згода братня  
Під благим твоім крилом.

### Хор

Обніміться, мільйони,  
Поцілуйтесь, мов брати!  
Немов браття! Браття!  
Під зірковим небосхилом  
Творця нашого шукай.

Слава!  
Слава, гарна іскро Божа,  
Несказанно люблю нам!  
Слава, гарна іскро Божа!  
Іскро Божа!

## English

### Baritone Solo

Oh friends, these futile sounds!  
Let's sing together more joyfully.  
And it's sweeter!

Glory! Glory, glory, beautiful  
divine spark!  
Inexpressibly dear to us,  
To enter, fitting queen,  
into your bright and wondrous  
temple.

### Chorus and Soloists

All that fashion strictly divides,  
you bind with one knot;  
blooms yearly the brotherhood  
under your benevolent wing.

### Soloists

Those whom fate has favoured, by  
having a friend be a friend,  
Those whom love's kind embrace  
cherishes, come join our joyful  
circle,  
Come all, who call their soul their  
own in this world!  
But whoever has grown embittered  
in spirit, go the other way!

### Chorus

Come all who call even one soul their  
own in this world!  
But whoever has hardened their soul  
throughout their life, go the other  
way.

### Soloists

All creatures from the bosom of  
Mother Earth drink in glory.  
Those sweet gifts belong to all,  
the good and the evil; glory  
intoxicates us like wine,  
and with a fiery kiss; even the  
worm knows delight, and the  
heavenly cherub.

### Chorus

Glory intoxicates us like wine,  
and with a fiery kiss;  
even the worm knows delight,  
and not the raging cherubim.  
And heavenly cherubim, cherubim,  
in paradise! in paradise!

### Tenor Solo and Male Chorus

Yes, yes, yes, the boundless stars float  
like boundless lights together,  
paradise mighty floats.  
Brothers, go on the glorious path,  
brothers, go on the glorious path,  
that joy has sanctified for you, has  
sanctified for you.

Brothers, go on the glorious path,  
brothers, go on the glorious path,  
that joy has sanctified for you, has  
sanctified for you.

Brothers, go on the glorious path.  
Brothers, go on the glorious path  
that joy has sanctified for you,  
that has consecrated you,  
joy, joy that has sanctified you.

## Chorus

Glory, beautiful divine spark!  
We are inexplicably fond  
to enter, fitting queen,  
into your bright and wondrous  
temple.

All that fashion strictly divides,  
you bind with one knot;  
blooms the harmony of  
brotherhood  
under your benevolent wing.  
All that fashion strictly divides,  
you bind with one knot;  
blooms the harmony of  
brotherhood  
under your benevolent wing.

Embrace millions,  
kiss each other like brothers!  
Eternal, Father of Kindness,  
give us your grace and protection!  
Have millions bowed,  
or felt the presence of God in the world?  
Fill hearts with mercy!  
And enact His laws. !

Glory, beautiful divine spark!  
Inexpressibly dear to us,  
to enter, fitting queen,  
into your bright and wondrous  
temple.  
Glory! Glory!  
Embrace millions,  
kiss each other like brothers!

Millions have bowed,  
Have they felt God's presence in  
the world?  
Fill hearts with mercy.  
And fulfill His law! Brothers!  
Brothers, seek the Lord,  
under the starry sky,  
seek our Creator.

### Soloists

Glory, beautiful divine spark!  
All that fashion strictly divides,  
All that fashion strictly divides,  
You bind with one knot  
All that is strict, all that is strict.

All that fashion  
strictly divides,  
You bind with a knot.  
Blooms the harmony of  
brotherhood  
under your benevolent wing.

### Chorus

Embrace millions,  
kiss each other like brothers!  
Not just like brothers!  
Brothers! Under the starry sky,  
seek our Creator,  
Glory, glory beautiful divine spark  
beautiful divine spark!  
Inexpressibly dear to us!  
Glory beautiful divine spark  
divine spark!