

Queens Park Singers

Minutes of committee meeting on 23rd October, 2008 at 62 Tiverton Road, NW 2 at 8 p.m.

Present:

Monica Healy, Chairperson
Simon Judge, Treasurer
David Till, Musical Director
Liz Till, Librarian
Marion Paul, Minutes Secretary
Peter Burtt-Jones, observer
Mary Phillips, observer

Apologies:

Glyn Jones, Publicity Officer
Maggie Turp, Membership Secretary

Previous minutes

Minutes were read and agreed.

Christmas Programme

Mary reported that the junior singers were learning their parts already. Requested that they attend rehearsals on 30th November and 7th December from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.

Music: two sets of orchestral parts would be required. Peter B-J would check that the continuo part was included.

Juniors were already practising, using the Mendel edition. Junior singers included three boy sopranos.

It was agreed to buy 10 copies of the score for purchase by members of the choir.

Geoff Dancer was willing to play the continuo, for which a fee should be paid.

Suggested the harpsichord on keyboard should be used.

Mary Phillips would play recorder with a second performer, known to her.

About Twenty-eight adult members were signed up to take part, most of them wishing to act.

Costumes

For women: plain dark long skirts, cream tops. Shawls and headdresses would be added, in the style of Bruegel paintings.

For men: dark “joggers” and long socks over shoes; various tops; colours for lead singers

Juniors: surplices as angels. They would incorporate games as in Bruegel pictures.

Monica suggested surplices might be available for borrowing from the Church of the Transfiguration.

David suggested two performances be held: 6.30 and 7.15

The programme should request members of the audience to be seated by 5.50 (or by 7.05.)

It should include mention of the next concert, planned for 22nd February, 2009.

Production of programme: Peter with Glyn. Names of performers, etc. needed to be compiled.

Simon suggested two different colours to distinguish programmes for each performance.

Audience space

It would be necessary to configure choir and orchestra space in order to work out seating capacity for audience. Mary and Peter would discuss and arrange. This would develop in the process of rehearsals. There would be about 30 adult singers and 18 children.

Peter B-J was urgently seeking a soloist for the role of Evangelist.

Orchestra

A rehearsal for the orchestra would be needed. The orchestra could “dress down” wearing plain dark colours. No logos!

Instrumentalists needed

2 violins – need to rehearse with Juniors.

1 cello

1 keyboard

2 oboes – on day only

2 trombones (alto and tenor)

2 recorders - Mary Phillips + 1

Costumes

Instructions would be needed for the choir – to include a Bruegel illustration. No jewellery should be worn.. Mary would address this for the first rehearsal.

Refreshments

It was agreed that there would be water and juice only between the two performances.

Mulled wine, soft drinks and mince pies would be served after the second performance.

Non-performers would be needed for doorman, ushers, ticket-sellers. Monica would appeal to choir members to find volunteers.

Staging and lighting would be simple.

Audience capacity probably 80 – 100.

Ticket prices: £8, Concessions £5, Family £15.

A refreshment schedule would be needed for rehearsals.

On 16th and 23rd November, one hour (second half) would be taken for rehearsing polyphony pieces.

Date for next committee meeting

23rd November 2008 at 5.30 at the church.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.