EDINBURGH ROYAL CHORAL UNION SAT 18 MARCH 2023, 6pm Melrose Parish Church, Melrose SUN 19 MARCH 2023, 7.30pm

Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh

The *Seasons* with Haydn

WINTER

water psalms Thomas LaVoy

and music by James MacMillan & Paul Mealor

Michael Bawtree conductor

John Kitchen organ

'The choir is currently on very fine form indeed'

The Herald, 2023

JOSEPH HAYDN THE SEASONS: WINTER

Saturday 18 March 2023, 6pm Melrose Parish Church, Weirhill, Melrose Sunday 19 March 2023, 7.30pm Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh

Edinburgh Royal Choral Union · Michael Bawtree conductor John Kitchen organ · Sam McLellan piano Tickets £15/£12 (£5 students) from ercu.org.uk or on the door

We continue our celebration of the seasons with winter music including Joseph Haydn's depiction of Winter, the fourth part of his oratorio *The* Seasons. The piece is loosely based on a poem by James Thomson – but Haydn decided that the Winter section was too miserable to finish his work with. so he added a rousing chorus at the end, "Then comes the dawn".

Our concert also features ERCU's second performance of water psalms, in the presence of its American composer Thomas LaVoy. We commissioned the work in celebration of the 400th

anniversary of the opening of Greyfriars Kirk for worship: the premiere was at Greyfriars in 2021 amid Covid restrictions. As the composer says, this is a "musical exploration of the many variations of the theme of water in the Book of Psalms ... It is also, in many ways, a personal and spiritual reaction to the difficulties of 2020, the year in which it was composed."

NEXT CONCERT:

SPRING & SUMMER Saturday 17 June, 7.30 pm St Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh

More info: ercu.org.uk







f 💟 💿 @ercunews

ERCU Company no: SC267148 Charity no: SCO12050 Photo: Richard Lee/Unsplash Design: Fogbank Projects

