

Future Events

Christmas Concerts

Friday 18th December 2009
St Catherine's Church, Tilehurst

Sat 19th December 2009
Tilehurst Methodist Church

Easter Concert

23rd and 24th April 2010
Details to be available soon

With thanks to Purley
Players for providing the
staging

Thank you for attending this
event and we hope you
enjoyed your evening.

We look forward to seeing you
at our future events.

THAMES VALE SINGERS

present

Offenbach's

ORPHEUS

In the



UNDERWORLD

Concert Version

23rd & 24th October 2009

Orpheus in the Underworld

Script adapted from the full libretto by

Annie Parkinson

Narrator Margaret Broadbent

Characters

<i>Eurydice</i>	Wendy McMahon
<i>Calliope</i>	Jo Day
<i>Cupid</i>	Simon Frewin
	David Jordan
<i>Venus</i>	Alison Shephard
	Karen Patten
	Sabita Clark
<i>Diana</i>	Julie Darch
	Chris Minton
	Sheila Allen
<i>Juno</i>	Melanie Griffiths
<i>Orpheus</i>	Paul Livingston
<i>Pluto</i>	Norman Bagshaw
<i>Jupiter</i>	John Dimmock
<i>Mars</i>	John Wigmore
<i>Mercury</i>	Ken Baker
<i>Bacchus</i>	Peter Farrow
<i>Styx</i>	Ken Baker

Act 1 A Landscape near Thebes and Mount Olympus

1. Opening Act 1
(Chorus with Calliope)
2. The Violin Duet
(Eurydice and Orpheus)
3. 'A Shepherd Am I'
(Pluto, as Aristaeus, and Girls)
4. 'Mortals Below, Gods Up Above'
(Eurydice, Pluto and Chorus)
5. Finale Act 1
(Orpheus, Calliope, Pupils and Chorus)
6. Nothing we can do
(Juno Pluto and Jupiter)
7. 'Ha-Ha-Ha!'
(Cupid, Venus, Diana, Mars and Chorus)
8. Finale Act 2 (Ensemble)

Refreshment Interval

Act 2 Pluto's Den and Hades

1. 'Sorry I Came' (Eurydice)
2. 'Cherchez La Femme!'
(Pluto, Jupiter, Mercury and Styx)
3. The 'Fly' Duet
(Eurydice and Jupiter)
4. The Hades Chorus
(Chorus, Venus and Cupid)
5. Reprise: 'Mortals Below, Gods Up Above'
(Eurydice, Pluto and Chorus)
6. Minuet (Jupiter, Pluto and Ensemble)
7. Galop (Ensemble)
8. Finale Act 3 (Full Company)
9. Curtain Call (Full Company)

Synopsis

The operetta by Jacques Offenbach, was first performed in 1858. It is an irreverent parody of Greek mythology, which has been rewritten several times; our concert version dates from a 1990 performance in London.

Orpheus and Eurydice are in an unhappy marriage. She has an affair with Pluto, one of the gods, disguised as a shepherd, and goes off with him to the Underworld. Orpheus is persuaded by his mother, Calliope, to go to Jupiter, the king of the gods, and demand the return of his wife! Jupiter has a history of similar flirtations with various ladies, and after meeting Eurydice, schemes to prevent her returning to earth. However, Calliope insists that justice must be done, so Jupiter decrees that Orpheus must take Eurydice back with him - but imposes one condition.....and the rest, as they say, is history. Or in this case, mythology!

Musical Director: Bernard Soper
Accompanist: Peter Bernard