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20 May 4pm -

Bicentennial Hall Sunshine Beach

A thrilling, extraordinarily beautiful and moving experience awaits concert goers on 20 May. Noosa Chorale and Noosa Sinfonia will present *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins and the *Messa di Gloria* by Puccini.

Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* (Glorious Mass) will start the program and this piece lives up to its name with truly glorious music. It is very Puccini, operatic and beautiful. It has the same dramatic qualities, richness of sound and melodic freshness that this young Puccini so successfully brought to his popular operas later in his life.

Next comes Karl Jenkins *The Armed Man* (A Mass for Peace) which is the most performed work by a living composer, with over 1,000 performances worldwide in the last 12 years. Jenkins' work is rarely out of the Classic FM's Hall of Fame. Excerpts from this extremely popular work will be familiar to many. It was voted number 68 in the ABC's recent 20th Century Classic 100.

It is no ordinary piece of music - it is an emotional journey exploring the horrors of war and the desire for peace. The music is vibrant, exciting, dramatic and poignant and appeals to all musical tastes.

"Just went to one of the many *The Armed Man: A Mass For Peace* concerts worldwide today in honour of 9/11 (I will never forget it). It was the most beautiful concert ever. This coming from someone who usually hates classical music. This just speaks to your heart."

WAR * PEACE * GLORY



The Armed Man (A Mass for Peace)

By Karl Jenkins

Messa Di Gloria By Puccini

This is the first opportunity for Sunshine Coast audiences to experience this amazingly powerful work. It will leave audiences breathless with wonder and awe just as it did when it was recently performed at The Lincoln Centre New York as part of the 10th anniversary concert of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

"After the performance concluded, the crowd gave a long standing ovation. People remained standing, applauding warmly, as if expressing deep gratitude for the solace they received from the music. For many in the audience it made the 10th anniversary of pain and loss more memorable and more hopeful."

The Armed Man reflects on war and peace in a multi-cultural, global society. Karl Jenkins has chosen to set to music poetry and prose from many sources from around the world. Jenkins uses these diverse texts to great effect by composing using a varied array of musical styles to enhance the words, ranging from lush orchestral sounds to military band influences, monk-like chanting, Brazilian drum rhythms and Celtic sounding flutes, a veritable classical-ethnic-ecclesiastical combination.

The Armed Man is a kaleidoscope of musical gems which, when listened to at one sitting, gives the listener a rich, powerful and stimulating experience - never boring.

View some of these gems by going to www.youtube.com. A short list of some of the best YouTube snippets are listed overleaf on page 2

A major innovation for this concert will be images projected on a screen behind the choir which will highlight and enhance the music.

The orchestra of over 50 musicians includes an exceptionally large percussion section. The choir of over 80 will be joined by Andrew Pryor who has an exquisite tenor voice. Andrew was a founder member of the Ten Tenors and later joined the 4-man Tenorissimos.

The bass will be Sam Piper, a young talent from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. He is a member of Opera Queensland's "Youth Ambassador" program.

The conductor will be Adrian King who time after time has demonstrated his ability to get superb performances from the orchestra and singers.

With the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan and the ever-present threat of terrorism, A Mass for Peace, with its message of peace and reflection, is still very relevant today. Don't miss this once off opportunity to hear this moving and exciting work performed live on the Sunshine Coast to great effect by a large choir and orchestra.

U—Tube Clips, **THE ARMED MAN**

To listen, copy the highlighted web address link into the top address line on your web site and go directly to the video

U Tube comments

Once in our lives we accidentally stumble upon a piece of music which evokes melancholy, wonder and such ebullient emotions, which gives us hope for mankind. If heaven is like this, I want to be allowed in.

L'Homme arme

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZFNIyyGT2o>

Kyrie

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZV6sEgr6WA&feature=related>

Hymn Before Action

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1ULVDSnAM>

Sanctus [At about 5 minutes into these clips the music changes and explodes with Hosannas]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8VIZOg9iv4&feature=fsr>

Agnus Die

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OJIMkqQOsc>

Better Is Peace Than Always

War [At about 7 minutes in there is an exquisitely beautiful peaceful hymn-like section - "Praise the Lord" - which concludes the whole piece]

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4l-OAIP_xM&feature=related

Charge

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_RjJ7dJOzz0&feature=related

PUCCINI'S MESSE DI GLORIA

Gloria [At about 5 minutes in there is tenor solo which is very operatic and dramatic]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJ0hwbx6wC0&feature=related>

Agnus Dei

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x74ie08j5-A&feature=related>
(with video images which reflect the words)

Read what other music lovers had to say about performances of the Armed Man

International

It's been a sheer delight for the National Youth Choir of Great Britain to record and perform Karl's music with him. Young singers respond instinctively to his driving rhythms, expansive melodies, and the unbelievable variety of styles and moods he creates. Karl has given the choir a unique experience which will be treasured for a lifetime.

Mike Brewer, Musical Director of NYCGB

Noosa Chorale Singers about the upcoming concert

The Armed Man is very powerful music. I find myself very deeply moved when rehearsing this wonderful music. A great dramatic treat lays in store for our audience. **Nan Felton**

The pieces that we are singing have introduced me to sounds that have absolutely blown me away. When particular chords are reached, something touches and tugs at my heart and absolutely makes it leap. I hope that our audience will come and enjoy this unique experience. **Anne-Marie Jones**

Singing this piece in the winter of 2011 with the Brisbane Concert Choir was a life changing experience. The emotion and excitement of the music was almost too much to bear. Re-

As a composer, he recognizes no boundaries – musical, commercial, geographical or cultural. His is a way of thinking and composing that is perfectly in tune with the spirit of the times.

Classic FM Magazine

I adore Karl Jenkins compositions. From this quiet, gentle human being, comes the most amazing, haunting music that is instantly recognisable and loved across the world.

Dame Kiri Te Kanawa

counting the experience to my daughter the next morning, I was in tears. It was clear that the audience was deeply moved and I am sure anyone who attends the Noosa Chorale concert will experience an amazing musical journey. **Julie Simpson**

Startlingly beautiful – a unique style of composition – a truly wonderful work. **Barrie Craig**

I love singing *The Armed Man* because it's so contemporary, being dedicated to the victims of Kosovo, and yet echoes a fifteenth century folksong. I love that it's a Mass for Peace, much needed in today's world. **Carolyn Hay**

Puccini Gloria is a joy to sing – such sublime melodies and arrangements. *The Armed Man* is so dramatic and will deeply move everyone who sings or hears it. **Valerie Cozens**

Please [Like](#) Noosa Chorale Facebook Page

Noosa Chorale now has a Facebook page. If you are on Facebook please go to Noosa Chorale and [Like](#) our page so that this can be used as a means of communication about Noosa Chorale news and events. Also it is a quick and easy way to comment or suggest things and post response to any of our concerts. If you are in an organisation that would like to increase its circulation, contact the Administrator of the Noosa Chorale Facebook page John Woodlock about Liking your page, 5474 0334. With the demise of the Noosa, Maroochy and Caloundra Journals and The Weekender, social media contact is becoming even more important for publicising events for non profit community arts organisations.

THE ARMED MAN - a powerful anti-war piece

The Royal Armouries Museum commissioned Karl Jenkins to write this piece as part of its commemoration of the Millennium. It was to mark the end of a millennium ravaged by wars and to create a legacy of peace and hope for the future.

According to Guy Wilson, Master of the Royal Armouries, "*The theme that 'the armed man must be feared' which is the message of a fifteenth century French song L'Homme Armé (used to start six centuries of armed man masses) seemed to me painfully relevant to the 20th century and so the idea was born to commission a modern Armed Man Mass*".

Karl Jenkins, commissioned to write a Mass for Peace, saw an opportunity to look ahead with hope and commitment to a more peaceful millennium.

But as Jenkins explains, "*As I started composing The Armed Man the tragedy of Kosovo unfolded. I was reminded daily of the horror of such conflict and so I dedicated the work to the victims of Kosovo*".

Although the work concentrates on the effects of war, like Benjamin Britten's War Requiem, it is essentially an anti-war piece. It ends with a clear message of hope for a peaceful future, "*Better is Peace Than Always War*".



The Armed Man received its world premiere in April 2000 at London's Royal Albert Hall. "*In a rapturous performance, by turns visceral and ethereal, the Mass was a firebomb of orchestral and human voices.*" *The Times*.

Unfortunately the 21st Century has still been ravaged by wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and conflicts throughout the Middle East demanding democratic reforms. So this music, with its plea for us all to live together in peace, resounds

even stronger today.

In fact, The Armed Man was the piece chosen for the international Global Sing for Peace as part of the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and hundreds of performances took place world-wide. The most significant of these worldwide concerts was held at Avery Fisher Hall in the Lincoln Centre, New York on Sunday, September 11. It was conducted by Karl Jenkins himself and presented by Distinguished Concerts International New York. Their program featured music that explored both the depths of grief and the strength to carry on. Those who attended felt the astounding power of music to heal and console.

The Armed Man is still being performed in outstanding venues and at especially significant occasions. Two years ago it was performed in the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds in the presence of the nation's collection of arms and armour, left behind by "armed men" from across the ages, which added to the poignancy of the occasion. Two more performances were then held in York Minster and Coventry Cathedral.

In July of this year a special concert will be held in the Royal Albert Hall as a prelude to the London Olympic Games. It will feature The Armed Man and a new piece specially written for the occasion by Karl Jenkins about the Gods of Olympus.

Karl Jenkins

Composer of The Armed Man

Karl Jenkins is the most performed living composer in the world with seventeen gold and platinum disc awards. As a child he studied piano and oboe and then music at Cardiff University and the Royal Academy of Music.

He has a passion for jazz and made his mark as a jazz oboeist. He played at London's Ronnie Scott's club before co-forming *Nucleus*, which won first prize at the Montreux jazz festival. Then he became a member of *Soft Machine*, one of the most progressive bands of the 70's embracing a variety of

styles from jazz and classical rock.

Over the years, Karl Jenkins has shown himself to be one of the most versatile composers of our time composing experimental jazz (the *Soft Machine* years), classical works, pop music, film scores and a popular classical-ethnic-ecclesiastic work called *Adiemus*. *Adiemus*, an enormous success worldwide.

Then came *The Armed Man* in 2000 which, has become his most performed and popular work. In 2011 it was the centrepiece of the 9/11 10-year commemoration concerts throughout the world.

Recent CD releases include: Requiem, "Kiri Sings Karl" with Dame

Kiri Te Kanawa, and This Land Of Ours with the Cory Band.

Karl Jenkins has received many commissions to write music from such renowned organisations as UNESCO, THE Welsh Assembly, the London Symphony Orchestra and the Welsh Millennium Centre.

His latest commission came from The Really Big Chorus (30,000 members in the UK) to write a piece for the London Olympic Games celebrations. Karl's piece entitled *Gods of Olympus* will be premiered in a special pre-olympic games concert at the Royal Albert Hall in July and will include a performance of *The Armed Man*. It will be a major highlight of the Cultural Olympiad's London 2012 Inspire programme.

PUCCINI'S GLORIA MASS (Messe di Gloria)

The world of music is full of surprises and Noosa Chorale's next concert will surprise and delight many concert goers and lovers of music.

Puccini, the composer of *La Boheme*, *Madame Butterfly* and *Turandot*, was only 18, and still a student, when he composed this mass and what an amazing piece of music it is coming from one so young. It already shows strong similarities to his later famous operas with melodic freshness, richness of sound and the dramatic qualities that later made Puccini one of the greatest of all opera composers. Musically, when hearing his Gloria Mass, you could easily be listening to a chorus from the likes of *La Boheme*.

Four years earlier, in 1876, he had demonstrated his mastery of the orchestra in his *Preludio Sinfonico*; his Gloria Mass he combined this

flair for orchestration with a similar command of vocal writing in a style which opera aficionados will recognise as unmistakable Puccini.

The Gloria is a breathtaking tour de force of compelling excitement.

GIACOMA PUCCINI

Giacomo Puccini was born in 1858 into a musical family. He was the fifth in a line of composers from the Italian town of Lucca. He started his musical career at the age of 14 as an organist at the local church.

He entered the Milan Conservatory in 1880 and, while still a student, entered a competition for a one act opera. Although he failed to win, his work came to the attention of the music publisher, Giulio Ricordi, who arranged a successful production in Milan and commissioned a second opera. This led Puccini to a lifelong association with Ricordi as

the publisher of all of his music.

His first independent opera was *Manon Lescaut*, but it was *La Boheme*, composed in 1886, that established his reputation. This opera, a masterpiece, remains his most popular opera to this day. In 1890 he composed *Tosca* and later that year visited London and saw the play, *Madam Butterfly*. He was so impressed with the story that he used it as the subject for his next opera. He wrote a couple more operas and then his talent lay fallow until his 60s when he started work on *Turandot* which, unfortunately, he was unable to complete before his death in 1924.

Although his output was much smaller than Verdi's, Puccini is truly Verdi's successor in the field of Italian opera. He is cherished throughout the world for his passionate and glorious music.

Concert Soloists



Andrew Pryor Tenor

Andrew Pryor has an exquisite tenor voice. His voice has thrilled many Sunshine Coast audiences. Last year he took part in "A Night at the Proms" in Noosa and Kawana. He also performs regularly at Caloundra RSL in a show called "The Tenors" which is Caloundra RSL's most popular concert. Andrew was a founder member of the Ten Tenors and later joined the 4-man Tenorissimos.

Andrew studied for five years at The Queensland Conservatorium. He has performed in many productions with Opera Australia, Opera Queensland and State Opera of South Australia. Andrew has also performed as the Tenor Soloist in *The Messiah*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Beethoven's *Choral Symphony*. Noosa Chorale is thrilled that Andrew will be the Tenor Soloist in Verdi's *Requiem* with them 2013.

Andrew has just released an album entitled "My Way" and another album with fellow Tenorissimo, David Kidd, which includes tracks such as *The Pearl Fisher's Duet* and *Serenade from the Student Prince*. If you go to Andrew's website at <http://www.andrewpryor.com.au/> you can hear some tracks from these albums.

Andrew was also the special guest artist on Kathleen Procter-Moore's CD. They created magic especially on the track *The Prayer*. Kathleen praised Andrew: "I am very honoured to have sung these duets with him. He truly has a most magnificent voice." Go to <http://www.kathleenprocter-moore.com/cdfromtheheart.htm> to hear these duets.

It is such a pleasure to have Andrew Pryor taking part in this concert. His magnificent operatic tenor voice will do justice to the exquisite tenor aria in Puccini.



Sam Piper Bass

Sam Piper is a young up and coming talent who is currently in training at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music under the tutelage of Gregory Massingham (Head of Opera).

He performs a wide array of repertoire, embracing classical, popular and musical theatre.

He is a member of Opera Queensland's "Youth Ambassador" program. He has performed in many of the Queensland Conservatorium Opera School's productions for the last

2 years and has also been in several of Opera Queensland's "Moving Opera" performances.

When Sam is not studying or performing, he can be found busking at local markets, playing and singing folk music.

Booking Information, Tickets for this performance

RING NOW

Date	Sunday 20 May at 4.00pm
Venue	Bicentennial Hall, Sunshine Beach
Price	\$36 General Admission \$33 Concessions \$15 School Students
Bookings	5447 4561
Tickets	Written Dimension Bookshop, Noosa Junction River Road, Thomas Street, Noosaville Annie's Books, Peregian Possums Books and Coffee, Cooroy

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