

Herald Music Barges

"From Handel's famous *Water Music* in the 18th century onwards, the Thames has been the site of all manner of spectacle and celebration. But even this great river will never have seen or heard anything quite like the riches of this Jubilee pageant. Music old and new from around the globe, ceremonial bells and much-loved English classics, specially commissioned pieces and hits from the Queen's reign -- it will be a spectacular, moving musical feast available to all."

Sir Nicholas Kenyon CBE, Managing Director, Barbican Centre

Ursula Katherine/Steven B

The Royal Jubilee Bells

A floating belfry carrying eight church bells leads the Pageant's rowed and paddled boats. Collectively known as the Royal Jubilee Bells, each bell has been named after a senior member of the Royal Family, with the largest, *Elizabeth*, weighing in at nearly half a ton. The Royal Jubilee Bells were cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, established in 1570, in the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth. On Pageant day, members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, led by Dickon Love, will ring two *quarter peals*, each one a set of at least 1,250 changes. As the floating belfry's chimes ring out, the bells of many of the churches on the banks of the Thames, elsewhere in London and even across the Commonwealth will respond in kind. "It's a hugely ambitious endeavour," says Dickon Love, "nothing like this has ever been done before." The bells will be installed in the 17th century City Church of St James Garlickhythe after their outing on the Thames.

Edwardian

Academy of Ancient Music

Academy of Ancient Music (AAM) plays two of Handel's best known works on the top deck of *Edwardian*. *Water Music* was written for a royal procession on the Thames on 17 July 1717, whilst *Music for the Royal Fireworks* accompanied a celebration in Green Park in 1749. AAM plays on instruments similar to those which would have been used in those first performances. The way they perform, and the sound they make, is close to what Handel himself would have known. The orchestra is conducted by Music Director Richard Egarr.

Connaught

Royal Marines Herald Fanfare Team

There are seven buglers from The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth on board *Connaught*, the vessel heralding the Royal squadron of boats. Fanfares (short musical exclamations usually performed on brass instruments) have been a central part of royal pageantry since the Middle Ages and this particular team's origins date back to the formation of the Royal Marines in 1664. Using E-flat herald trumpets decorated with red banners bearing the distinctive crest of the Royal Marines, the buglers will perform fanfares along the Pageant route to announce the imminent arrival of the Royal Barge.

Valulla

The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth

Thirty musicians from The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth, led by Principal Director of Music Lieutenant Colonel N J Grace, broadcast the arrival of the Dunkirk Little Ships. They are one of the most famous and most highly regarded military bands in the world. Amongst their many duties, they were responsible for performing the music on the Royal Yacht *Britannia* throughout The Queen's reign until the craft was decommissioned in 1997. Their Pageant programme is a rousing selection of nautically themed tunes, including *A Life on the Ocean Wave*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and the popular classic *Sailing*. Stood at attention on the top deck of *Valulla*, the band provides a glittering spectacle in their distinctive dark blue uniform with white hats.

City Alpha

Shree Muktajeevan Pipe Band & Dhol Ensemble

Seventy musicians on board *City Alpha*, heralding the Pageant's historic vessels with a mixture of Indian and Scottish tunes on bagpipes, western drums and dhol (Indian double-headed barrel drums). The band's high energy 12-minute repertoire is repeated over the course of the Pageant and it includes extracts of the classics, *Scotland the Brave* and *When the Saints go Marching In*, as well as melodies from popular Bollywood films. The ensemble took part in the concert on the Mall to mark the Golden Jubilee in 2002 and have been looking forward to the Pageant for months. "Performing in front of The Queen at a big event like this is a massive privilege," says Drum Major Nahari Khimani.

Silver Bonito

The Jubilant Commonwealth Choir

A choir of a hundred enthusiastic amateurs on board *Silver Bonito* leads the Pageant's group of Service, Steam and Working vessels. The choir, assembled specially for the Pageant, is made up of representatives from countries across the Commonwealth. Co-directed by the charismatic choral maestros, Mary King and Orlando Gough, the choir also includes professional vocal soloists Talitha Mackenzie, Hazel Holder and George Ikediashi, plus the bagpipe player Barnaby Brown and percussionist Richard Rayner. They perform new arrangements of traditional British folk songs by Jeremy Avis, Orlando Gough, Michael Henry and Tim Sutton. These include *Scarborough Fair* and *Lisa Lan* as well as an amazing Scottish song called *Mouth Music*, where voices are used to imitate instruments, and *Pastime with Good Company*, which is allegedly by Henry VIII. The repertoire also features a new Pageant commission, entitled *Common Wealth*, with music by Gough and lyrics by the Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy.

The Georgian

The New Water Music

George Frederic Handel's music, written almost three hundred years ago during the reign of George I, is still the most commonly used underscore for film and television references to festivities on the Thames. But now, this supremacy is under threat. Eleven of the UK's foremost composers have been commissioned to write short pieces of inspirational music for the Pageant and, under the musical direction of Gavin Greenaway, this new suite will be given its world premiere by an ensemble of eighteen musicians performing on the top deck of the appropriately named vessel *Georgian*. There are new pieces by Anne Dudley *Fast-Fast-Slow*, Graham Fitkin *Slowish*, Gavin Greenaway *Passepied*, Christopher Gunning *Jubilee Gavotte-rock*, Howard Goodall *Rigaudon*, Adrian Johnston *Alla Hornpipe*, John Lunn *Bourree*, Julian Nott *Overture & Allegro*, Jocelyn Pook *Bourree*, Stephen Warbeck *Air on the River* and Debbie Wiseman *Gigue*. The suite of New Water Music has been recorded and is available on CD, check the Pageant's website for details.

Westminster

The Mayor's Jubilee Band

The eighth music barge heralds the Thames' passenger boats and cruise operators. On the top deck of *Westminster*, is a 54-piece brass band of young musicians performing a varied selection including *Fantasia on Tico Tico* and *Let's Face the Music and Dance*. The highlight is the premiere performance of a new piece, commissioned especially for the occasion from Academy Award-winning composer Rachel Portman. The band

has been specially assembled by the Mayor's Fund for Young Musicians and features players, aged 11 to 21, from the junior brass departments of London's four world famous music colleges: the Guildhall School of Music, the Royal Academy of Music, the Royal College of Music and Trinity Laban College. The band also integrates young aspiring brass players drawn from these colleges' local communities. Spencer Down, Musical Director of the Docklands Sinfonia, conducts.

Wyndham Grand

Rhythm on the River

The penultimate music barge, *The Wyndham Grand*, takes the audience on a Diamond Jubilee journey through six decades of music. A 16-piece band, put together by jazz trumpeter and popular composer, Guy Barker, offers a mix of instrumental and vocal pieces in a range of styles, from big band to pop. Guy has made "fun, funky and soulful" arrangements with something for every generation of The Queen's reign. The 1950s are represented by *African Waltz*, a hit for the British bandleader John Dankworth, the 60s by the Beatles, the 70s by a selection from the Brotherhood of Breath. Star of the 80s, Junior Giscombe, is on hand to sing one of his big hits of the era *Mama Used to Say*, and we are brought right up to date by soul singers Noel McKoy and Natalie Williams.

Symphony

London Philharmonic Orchestra

The glass fronted vessel *Symphony* hosts musicians from one of the country's most well respected orchestras, the London Philharmonic, conducted by David Parry. The repertoire has been carefully crafted by LPO's Artistic Director Timothy Walker, to link pieces of music to Thames-side locations. For instance, an arrangement of *Country Gardens* will be played close to Battersea Park and Chelsea Physic Garden; when the orchestra passes the MI6 building at Vauxhall it will strike up the James Bond theme; the Royal Air Force Memorial will be saluted with a rousing rendition of *The Dam Busters*; the *Overture* from Gilbert & Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* is played, appropriately, in the vicinity of the Savoy Theatre. The Orchestra is accompanied by the Royal College of Music Chamber Choir, directed by Thomas Blunt, for *I Vow to Thee My Country*, *Jerusalem*, *Land of Hope and Glory*, *Rule Britannia* and the finale, performed as the barge approaches Her Majesty at the end of the Pageant, the National Anthem. The repertoire has been recorded and is available on CD, check the Pageant's website for details.