

# EDINBURGH ROYAL CHORAL UNION

## Edinburgh Royal Choral Union Conducting Fellowship 2018-19

**Applications for the ERCU Conducting Fellowship are now open. This is a funded post for 12 months and we invite expressions of interest by CV. To apply, please send your CV to [admin@ercu.org.uk](mailto:admin@ercu.org.uk) by Tuesday 2nd October (closing date).**

The successful applicant will gain further experience of choral conducting under the direction of Michael Bawtree, ERCU's Chorus Director. Attendance at rehearsals in Edinburgh on Tuesday evenings will be expected: the number of rehearsals required will be at the discretion of the Chorus Director. The successful applicant will attend performances and the opportunity to direct and conduct works will be agreed in advance with the Chorus Director. Funding will be offered according to specific rehearsal and concert duties performed, as agreed with the Chorus Director, and is capped at £1,500 for the year.

Five concerts are currently scheduled for ERCU's 2018-2019 season. The World War I Centenary concert will feature works by Malcolm Archer, Ravel, Rachmaninov and other pieces by German, French and American composers. The Christmas concert will include movements from J S Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. The traditional new year concert is Handel's *Messiah*, performed in the Usher Hall. In early spring, Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man* will be performed in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. J S Bach's *Mass in B Minor* will be performed in May.

Alongside performances of music composed over several past centuries, ERCU promotes new music and gives Scottish premieres including Paul Mealar's *The Farthest Shore*, Thea Musgrave's *The Voices of our Ancestors* and Bob Chilcott's *St John Passion*. The SCO joined ERCU in 2009 for its world premiere performance of Judith Bingham's *Shadow Aspect*, commissioned for the choir's 150th anniversary. ERCU performed another work by Judith Bingham, *The Christmas Truce*, in November 2014 as part of a programme of music to commemorate the centenary of the beginning of the Great War. Earlier that year the choir joined the RSNO in concerts to celebrate the Commonwealth Games and the centenary of the completion of the Usher Hall. Other highlights have included visits to Orkney's St Magnus Festival for performances alongside the St Magnus Festival Chorus, the festive Street of Light in Edinburgh, for which *Messiah* choruses were recorded with the SCO, Holst's *Planets* in the Usher Hall with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and a sell-out performance at the McEwan Hall in Edinburgh this summer with a dramatic staging of Verdi's *Requiem* and Szymanowski's exquisite *Stabat Mater*, side-by-side with the Edinburgh University Chamber Choir, student instrumentalists and a wonderful line-up of soloists.

For fuller information about ERCU, please see website at [ercu.org.uk](http://ercu.org.uk)

Edinburgh Royal Choral Union is a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland SC267148. Scottish Charity Number SC012050.