



real  
**Life**

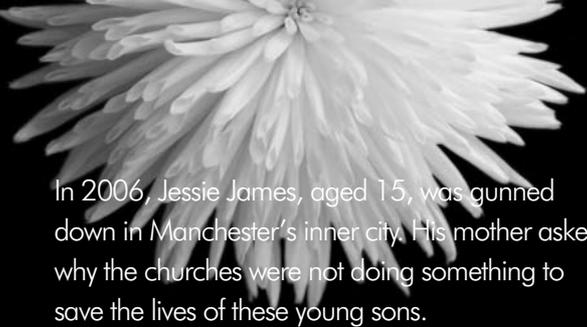
real  
**Soul**

real  
**Gospel**

Maureen Brathwaite, international solo soprano,  
and new talent from the soul & gospel tradition

**Saturday 1st November, 7.30pm**

**at Manchester Cathedral**



In 2006, Jessie James, aged 15, was gunned down in Manchester's inner city. His mother asked why the churches were not doing something to save the lives of these young sons.

Three years prior to this agonised cry something was beginning in secret, hidden from view. We believe that this project may be the beginning of a response to the anguish of the mothers who have lost their sons in this way. The Gospel Requiem project: 'Don't take a life: Getta life' was born from a spiritual experience within prayer. It is fronted by an emerging Anglican based Order: 'The Sisters of Jesus.' Money has been found to finance this work to begin a project to make a difference. It is looking for people of good-will who together can begin to change things. The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.

This project aims to offer the gift of skill: a skill worth having: a way to 'getta life': to win "respect". We already have matched funding for two bursary places for three years at Junior RNCM ... for young people of talent in any one of the following: keyboard, percussion-drums, voice, brass and woodwind.

We are looking to raise funds for a third place. Donations will also go to provide extra tuition to bring young people up to audition standard and provide travel and equipment grants for apprenticeship places.

We need: Apprenticeship places that will be personally supervised and mentored so that they can hold their head up high in the street: young people will then have a skill worth having and some money in their pocket. We are looking for places in:

- Roadie positions with concert and rock/performance P/A systems
- Cabinet making
- Musical instrument and repair work.
- Stage hands
- Silversmithing
- Technical drawing (architecture)

Can you offer a place, a new skill that can make a difference?

● **Maureen Brathwaite** Solo soprano in opera and classical repertoire. Maureen has studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where she won the Capital Radio Anna Instone memorial Award and the Ian Fleming Award. She has wide concert and oratorio experience ranging from Porgy and Bess to Mozart's Masses, Beethoven's Missa Solemnis and the Requiems of Brahms, Fauré and Verdi and Fanshawe's African Sanctus. The Financial Times says of this singer, "With a winning smile and a vivacious personality she has found the way to capture the attention of her audience..."

● **Ni-cola** was born and raised in Manchester. One of her goals is to incorporate singing talent into the education system within the schools to engage with young people through the arts: singing, dancing, writing songs. Currently at work on an arts, music and media-focused degree at Salford University, she aims to link her performance and wider studies into a unique whole. She is presently working with disadvantaged youngsters on a regular weekly basis. Her support for this event is part of her commitment to make a difference to youngsters who can be empowered through the joy of making music.

● **Keneva** is an exciting talent to come out of the Manchester Gospel scene. She has a voice full of richness and depth. Coming to the North West from Jamaica, and growing up within the heart of this city, Keneva is a more than a powerful voice and a performer. Her motivation and commitment comes from a direct knowledge of being strengthened to deal with some profoundly difficult things. She knows that God has given her this talent to encourage others. Along with this project, Keneva want to help make a difference to give hope and new beginnings. Keneva is currently in the studio working on her debut release. For more information see [www.kenevamusic.com](http://www.kenevamusic.com) or contact, 'Peculiar Music Group' on 0782 894 911

● **D-Cype** is a rapper based in Manchester. Coming from a life of drug dealing, violence and crime he was dramatically changed by an encounter with the hidden mystery of Christ. Now he presents the good news in rap form. He will tell his story anywhere, whether it's rapping on the street, in prisons, schools or warming up for Lecrae; his mission is to tell people about the transforming power of God as experienced by him.

● **Damian Coley**, Mc name 'Righteous': a Manchester man, born and raised here and living in the heart of the city. Damien has been producing positive Hip Hop over the past eight years. He has performed in Prisons, schools, concerts, and churches inspiring young people with his positive message. "Righteous is a Rapper with melody style and a young man with a profound concern for the 'lost' young men of the city's streets. Damien has performed at events such as Brighton Beach Concert, and for the Mother's against Violence,. In 2005 he signed with independent Record company 1nc promotions. 2006

saw 'Righteous' in the finals of the Gospel Star awards Talent Competition and the following year was the release of his debut E.P: a collection of Hip Hop beats with underlying poetic lyrics. His unique talent is working at the creative edge of Rap and hip-hop, The final judgment is yours.

● **Bass Drum** have performed mainly in and around the London area and this is their first appearance in the North West. Lead singer, Emma Tansey aims to lift your heart and take your soul to other places. From Reggae to Gospel, from Latin to Blues, forget the sometimes overproduced singers on the commercial beat, with the BassDrum band behind Emma Tansey, we hope you will have an impression you will not forget. BassDrum are an experienced band of musicians with Fabio Iacono (drums), Jamie Howell - (guitar/vocals), Michael Mederer (saxophones) & Steve Read (Bass).

● **Antonio Sabatini**, is a young pianist and aspiring musicologist. From an early love of film music and keyboard, Antonio developed a passion for classical piano once his talent and potential was noted, in particular by Andrew Wilde who became one of his tutors. Antonio continued his musical development with Xaverian V1 form College and the Junior RNCM where he studied classical percussion with Andrea Vogler. After Trinity College of Music, in London, where he was awarded Diploma of Higher Education in Music Performance with Distinction he is now currently reading music at The University of Manchester and subsequently hopes to become a teacher.

● **The Junior RNCM** provides specialist training to musically gifted youngsters between the ages of 8 and 18. Juniors attend on Saturdays outside normal school hours, travelling from as far as Cumbria and Cleveland, North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Shropshire. Many Juniors are members of the National Youth Orchestra, the National Children's Orchestra or the National Youth Wind Orchestra and several have achieved notable success in festivals and music competitions, both locally and nationally.

**Jessica Wilkes** flute

**Joseph Donmall** cello - Joseph will play the solo part in *the Armed Man*

**Matthew Woodward** trumpet

**Charlotte Dykes** trumpet

**Lucy Wilkins** trumpet

**Delia Stevens** percussion

**Johnathan Beevers** percussion

**Felicity Hindle** percussion

● **Ewan Anderson** studied at both the University of Manchester and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Ewan has a wealth of experience in composing, arrangement and as a musical director.

● **Leroy Johnson** is the musical director for Voices in Praise Gospel Choir (Leeds). Leroy directed a major gospel concert at Ripon Cathedral in July 2007 as well as the musical director for the event at the Manchester Evening News Arena in 2002 leading the mixed race choir convened to back Heather Small (M People). Leroy is a freelance musician and choir leader within the Gospel networks nationally and internationally.

● **Tim Williams** trained at Cambridge and draws on experience when musical director at Iona Abbey for a year. Tim completed his doctoral studies in 2007 and is now the musical director for Grantham Parish Church.

● **Sisters of Jesus** This microcosm of a religious community, four Anglican women, three Lay and one Priest the latter, was one of the first tranche of women ordained in the Anglican church in 1994. Revd. Dr. Susan Gabriel Talbot is the foundation sister of this embryonic new dispersed community of Anglican women living under vows within ordinary life. The group began in 2000 under the patronage and encouragement of Bishop Christopher Mayfield, then Bishop of Manchester and Patron of this new mini-community. For further information [www.sistersofjesus.org.uk](http://www.sistersofjesus.org.uk).

● **Revd. Dr. S G Talbot** has worked for the BBC and Manchester University before moving formally into her work for the Diocese in Wythenshawe and Cheetham Hill. From her research at Manchester University together with her passion for music came the beginning of a growing interest in the energy, hope and ongoing musical life of the Gospel networks within the North West. This unique performance draws on those sources but has been given further life by a gifted, diverse and experienced musical team.

● **The Central Choir** who sing tonight with the choirs from Leeds are drawn from young people from the main colleges and schools in the heart of the city, including Trinity School, Manchester Academy, the Adventist church youth choir, (south) Loreto and Xaverian. These young people have given their time to be a part of making a difference, as have the Voluntary choir of the Cathedral, students from Xaverian and choiristers from St Ann's city centre church. Ewan Anderson, Jeff Makinson, Leroy Johnson and Tim Williams and the staff at Xaverian college also lent their strength, talent and skill to bring together this wonderful array of talent and musicality.

# An Evening of Lament and Celebration

## Introduction and Welcome

### "The Last post"

Drummers, Trumpets. Musicians from junior RNCM.



## Silence

## The Reading

Patsy Mckie, Mothers Against Violence, reads the names of the sons lost.

### "The Reveille-Fanfare"

Musicians from junior RNCM

## The Lament

### "How can I cherish my man in these days?"

Aria from "A child of our Time" by Michael Tippett. Sung by Maureen Brathwaite.

### "Steal Away"

Traditional Spiritual/chorus from "A child of our Time" by Michael Tippett. Combined Choirs led by Tim Williams.

### "Lord Help Me To Hold On"

Traditional spiritual. Central Choir led by Leroy Johnson.

### "Gospel Mass - Kyrie"

By Robert Ray. Central and Gospel Choirs.

### "My heart is broken But I Thank You"

Sung by Keneva.

### "I've Been Working Nine To Five"

Emma Tansey & Bass Drum.

### "I Need Someone To Protect Me"

Emma Tansey & Bass Drum.



### "I'm Not Going To Bow"

Ni-Cola.

### "Better Days"

Ni-Cola.

### "Gospel Mass - Agnus Dei"

By Robert Ray. Combined Gospel choirs and Central Choir.

### "Don't take life, Gettalife"

Righteous & D-cype (Damien Coley & David Moore).

### Mamma Gwen interview

### "Rhapsodique Improvisation"

Played by Antonio Sabatini.

### "Gospel Mass - Gloria"

By Robert Ray. Combined Gospel choirs.

### "The Reason Why We sing"

traditional Gospel Song. Adventist choir led by Mederick Allison.

### "How Great is our God"

Lyrics by Chris Tomlin. Sung by KENEVA.

### "Armed Man – Sanctus"

by Karl Jenkins. Led by Tim Williams. Combined choirs.

### "Armed Man - Benedictus"

by Karl Jenkins. led by Tim Williams. Combined choirs.

## Finale

... a medley of traditional spirituals sung by young men from the Adventist South Youth choir.

**Amen... Everyone**

## Gospel Mass Requiem supporters and collaborators:

Maureen Brathwaite, Junior RNCM, Manchester Cathedral, Mothers Against Violence, Manchester Academy, Xaverian Music Department.

Thanks To: Getta Life Central Choir, Jeff Makinson and Manchester Cathedral Voluntary Choir, Manchester Cathedral, Geoffrey Reed and Junior RNCM, Alan Myerscough and Cross Street Chapel, Mike Carter (Graphic Designer), Wigwam, Paul Patrick Percussion, STS Touring Productions, Radisson Hotel, CDH Creatives, David Sharp and the Jamdeli Café Bar, Andrew Levendis and Xaverian VI Form College, Ann Patrick, Erin Jenner and the Bowdon Quilters, Singers from St Ann's Church Manchester, Voices in Praise Gospel Choir and the Youth Choir, United Voices, Adventist Choir, Colin Ruddock, Tapiwa Madovi, Mamma Gwen, Maria Bonner and Manchester Academy. A final thank you to all those who have been involved and supported this project and without whose patience, generosity, creativity and understanding would not have made this journey and performance such a success.