

## Programme

### **Կռուկի (Krunk) Crane**

KOMITAS  
Ani Batkian (violin)  
Varazdat Khachatryan (piano)

### **Introduction**

President of the Oxford University Armenian Society

### **Միրանի ծառ (Tsirani Tsar) Apricot Tree**

KOMITAS  
Shakeh Major Tchilingirian, solo dance

### **Դիւ յաման (Dle Yaman) I miss my beloved**

A. HAROUTYUNIAN/A. BOBIKYAN

### **Preludia Lagonamante**

A. BOBIKYAN  
Artur Bobikyan (piano)

### **Գարուն ա (Garun a) It's Spring**

KOMITAS  
**Օրոր (Oror) Lullaby**  
B. KANACHYAN

### **Ախ, մարալ ջան (Akh, Maral Jan) Ah, my dear Maral**

KOMITAS  
Anais Heghoyan (mezzo-soprano)  
Varazdat Khachatryan (piano)

### **Բողոք (Boghok) Protest**

Shakeh Major Tchilingirian, solo dance

Sacred music arrangements by KOMITAS

### **Ով զարմանալի (Ov Zarmanali) O, Amazing**

### **Նորահրաշ (Norahrash) Wondrous**

### **Տէր ողորմեա (Ter Voghormea)**

### **Lord, Have mercy**

Oxford Armenian Choir

*Intermission*

### **Կարոտ (Karot) Longing**

Shakeh Major Tchilingirian, solo dance

### **Prelude E. BAGHDASARYAN**

### **Elegy A. BABAJANIAN**

### **Capriccio A. BABAJANIAN**

Varazdat Khachatryan (piano)

### **Զինար էս (Chinar es) Like a Poplar Tree**

KOMITAS

### **Nocturne**

E. BAGHDASARYAN

Ani Batkian (violin)

Varazdat Khachatryan (piano)

Folk song arrangements by KOMITAS

### **Շողեր ջան (Shogher Jan)**

### **My dear Shogher**

### **Քելեր, ցուեր (Qeler, Tsoer)**

### **Striding, Beaming**

### **Զինար էս (Chinar es) Like a Poplar Tree**

### **Հոյ, Նազան իմ (Hoy, Nazan Im)**

### **My charming one**

### **Հով արեւ, սարեր ջան (Hov Areq Sarer Jan)**

### **O mountains, breeze**

Oxford Armenian Choir

### **Իմ չինարի յարը (Im Chinari Yare)**

### **My tall beloved**

KOMITAS

Anais Heghoyan (mezzo-soprano)

Varazdat Khachatryan (piano) and

Oxford Armenian Choir



Oxford University Armenian Society presents

# Remembering Komitas

Armenian music to commemorate the  
centenary of the Armenian Genocide

Saturday, 9th May 2015, 7:30pm

Magdalen Grove Auditorium, Magdalen College, Oxford

Supported by The Mihran & Azniv Essefian Charitable Trust



Ani Batikian



Anais Rebecca Heghoyan

Armenian violinist **Ani Batikian** graduated from the Yerevan State Conservatoire and the Royal Academy of Music in London with top prizes. She has won many competitions and has played concerts at renowned venues including Edinburgh's Usher Hall, Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre, Glenn Gould Studios in Toronto, London's St. Martin-in-the-Fields and St. John's Smith Square. Recently Ani was the guest of Sean Rafferty on the high-profile BBC Radio 3 programme "In Tune". She has also been broadcast on BBC Scotland Radio. Ani was a Violin Lecturer at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama from 2007 to 2012.

**Artur Bobikyan** is a concert pianist, organist and composer. He has been the organ curator for nine years for the prestigious Cathedral of Holy Echmiadzin. Bobikyan's portfolio of compositions includes piano and violin concertos, several preludes for organ and piano, vocalises, choral arrangements, a number of TV commercials, documentary music, and a musical. Currently he is working on his second musical. His compositions have been recorded in a number of albums, including the piano album "My Keys To Christmas," released in November 2011. During his career Artur has had the honour to work and perform with Giuseppe Canova, Jean-Claude Van Damme (viola), Charles Aznavour and others.

**Anais Rebecca Heghoyan** studied at The Royal College of Music's International Opera School studying with Timothy Evans-Jones as the Aldama award for Opera, Derek Butler Trust and Constant and Kit Lambert Awards scholar. In 2004 she graduated from Brunel University gaining a BA Hons in English Literature and Theatre Studies. She has performed in many operas and oratorios and is currently working on the world premiere of Tansy Davies' opera "Between Worlds" with the ENO directed by Deborah Warner. Future engagements include: Handel's "Passion of the Christ", several concerts, Tamar in Tigranian's "David Bek" with LAO and working with Scottish Opera season 2016-18.

**Varazdat Khachatryan** has performed extensively as a soloist in his home country Armenia and abroad, with recent appearances in recital halls in the United Kingdom, Netherlands, Armenia, Russia, Lebanon, Syria and the Czech Republic. He has won numerous prestigious awards, including First Prize in the Peter Donohoe piano competition and the Delia Hall Accompanist Prize. He also performs as an accompanist and choral conductor. He holds Masters of Music degrees and PgDip, MMus degrees in piano performance and MMus in piano accompaniment from Birmingham Conservatoire. Varazdat is currently pursuing his PhD degree at the Dublin Conservatory of Music and Drama..

Varazdat Khachatryan



Artur Bobikyan



## ԿՈՄԻՏԷՍ Komitas



Soghomon Soghomonian (1869–1935), commonly known by his priestly name Komitas, was an Armenian monk, composer, ethnomusicologist, choirmaster and the founder of modern Armenian classic music. As the music critic and ethnomusicologist Michael Church wrote: "he single-handedly

laid the foundations for Armenia's classical tradition. And as a collector and arranger of folksongs, he did for Armenia what Bartók did for Hungary, turning simple material into bewitchingly sophisticated polyphony. After a Komitas concert in Paris, Claude Debussy declared that on the basis of a single song, he deserved to be recognised as a great composer." During the days of the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire (1915-1923) Komitas was arrested to be liquidated along with the other Armenian intellectuals and notables of Constantinople. His life was spared through the intervention of a group of influential figures, but he lived to see many of his colleagues and people he loved be killed in the Genocide. Komitas never recovered from the emotional and psychological shock of what he saw and experienced and died in a psychiatric institution in Paris.

**Oxford Armenian Choir** was founded in September 2013 by a group of inspired young people from many backgrounds who love and appreciate the Armenian sacred and folk music traditions. The highlights of the choir's first year included the celebration of the Armenian Divine Liturgy at Pembroke College Chapel in February 2014 and their London debut at St Sarkis Church in September 2014. The choir's latest success was at an evening of Armenian culture organised at RichMix by the Armenian Institute, where the choir performed arrangements of folk and sacred music by Komitas and Suni. Marianna Asatryan is the founding director of the choir.

**Shakeh Major Tchilingirian** is an acclaimed solo dance artist, choreographer and performing artist based in London. Shakeh turns her dances into intricate 'narratives' of the human spirit as in her productions of "Spirit and Passion", "1001 Journeys" and numerous other performances and collaborations. She played the role of the bride in the London premiere of Anoush Opera and performed the lead role in "Nerdurs" at Kino Moskova in Yerevan. She performed in and was the choreographer of Garineh operetta, staged by the London Armenian Opera in 2014. As part of her ongoing efforts to keep Armenian folk dance culture alive, she leads "the masses" in the tradition of circle dance at public ceremonies ([www.shakeh.info](http://www.shakeh.info)).

