

Report on concert by Arun Choral Society and Kantorei
Marienfelde on 24 October in Arundel Cathedral

Arun Choral Society with Kantorei Marienfelde, a choir from Berlin, accompanied by Sinfonia of Arun presented the largest performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in West Sussex this year with 190 performers in Arundel Cathedral on 24th October.

The plus side of a large choir is the potential for a full, sonorous effect, which was fully exploited and very effective for example in 'Thanks be to God' where the flood resembled a tsunami! On the minus side it is much more difficult to produce fast, tight, rhythmic passages which are completely synchronized; especially in the difficult acoustics of this building and the musicians worked hard to overcome the problem.

Two delightful sections were the ladies quartet in 'Holy, holy, holy' and the trio 'lift thine eyes'.

Jmaes McOran- Campbell proved to be a compelling *Elijah*, singing with sensitivity and displaying his dramatic talents in the development of the life story of the prophet *Elijah*. The other soloists- Yvonne Patrick, Alison Henson- Jones and Alexander Anderson-Hall all fulfilled their various roles competently, adding to the drama of the work.

John Henville, conductor, is to be congratulated on co-ordinating the massed musicians so efficiently, resulting in an exciting concert.

M. Haines 26.10.09