

## Short Biography

Ronald Corp OBE is founder and Musical Director of the New London Orchestra (1988), and the New London Children's Choir (1991-2023). He is also Musical Director of the London Chorus and the Highgate Choral Society. He has worked with the BBC Singers, the BBC Concerto Orchestra and various orchestras here and abroad. Among an extensive discography are his award-winning Hyperion discs of British Light Music Classics. His own compositions include four symphonies, two piano concertos, concertos for flute recorder and cello, three string quartets and a clarinet quintet. His choral works include large sacred cantatas (including 'And all the trumpets sounded') and shorter works for unaccompanied choir including Dover Beach, commissioned for the BBC Singers. He has written over one hundred songs and significant cycles include 'Fields of the Fallen' and 'Letters from Lony' as well as the scena 'The Yellow Wallpaper'. Operas include 'The Ice Mountain' (for children) and 'The Pelican'.

## Long Biography

Ronald Corp is Musical Director of The London Chorus, New London Children's Choir and Highgate Choral Society. He is also Artistic Director of New London Orchestra and New London Children's Choir, both of which he founded, respectively, in 1988 and 1991.

Among his extensive discography as a conductor are award-winning Hyperion discs of British Light Music Classics (1996 to 2002) with New London Orchestra and an acclaimed recording of Rutland Boughton's opera, *The Queen of Cornwall* (2010).

Corp is well known as one of Britain's most prolific choral composer-conductors, and in recent years has become an increasingly established composer of orchestral and chamber music. His compositions include four symphonies (four symphonies *Symphony*), two Piano Concertos and concertos for flute, recorder and cello. Other works include *The Wayfarer* (In Homage to Mahler), which was given its world première at a Royal Festival Hall concert in July 2011, and *This Scept'r'd Isle*, also for choir and orchestra, which was given its première in a June 2012 Barbican concert with Highgate Choral Society, marking the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Releases on CD include *The Songs of Ronald Corp* sung by Mark Stone; *Dhammapada*, a setting of Buddhist texts for chamber choir; *Things I Didn't Say*, a work in which a son deals with the death of his mother from Alzheimer's disease; three String Quartets, a Clarinet Quintet (*Crawhall*), and a setting of *The Yellow Wallpaper*. His most recent works are *Songs of the Elder Sisters* and *Lullaby for a Lost Soul*. The latter three pieces have been choreographed by Chantry Dance Company as a triple bill – Corp de ballet.

Other works (Recent projects) include *The Pelican*, an opera based on Strindberg's play, and a song cycle for baritone and ensemble – *Fields of the Fallen* – settings of poems by German and British poets who died in the first world war (also now issued on CD).

Other commissions include *Dover Beach* for the BBC Singers, a setting of Dante for Gesualdo Six, *An Essex Posy* for the Chigwell Choir, *Riddle Me This* for the Frinton Festival, and *Behold the Sea*, commissioned by Highgate Choral Society and premiered by them at the Royal Festival Hall in March 2016. Among his (His) latest work is *Letters from Lony*, a setting of letters written by a Jewish grandmother in Nazi controlled Amsterdam to her newly born grandson in England. This was premiered by Sarah Pring with the Chilingirian Quartet and pianist Andrew Brownell at the Proms at St Jude's, Hampstead Garden Suburb in June 2017 and has subsequently been performed twice in Germany and also in Serbia (2022). His *Symphony No3* was premiered in 2022 and his *Symphony No4* and his song cycle for Roderick Williams will be performed this year, the latter as part of the Three Choirs Festival.

His experience and expertise in choral directing are crystallised in the textbook *The Choral Singer's Companion*, which is now in its third edition.

He was awarded an OBE for services to music in the Queen's 2012 New Year's Honours. He has been made an Honorary Doctor of Music by Anglia Ruskin University and has received an Hon D Mus from University of Hull.