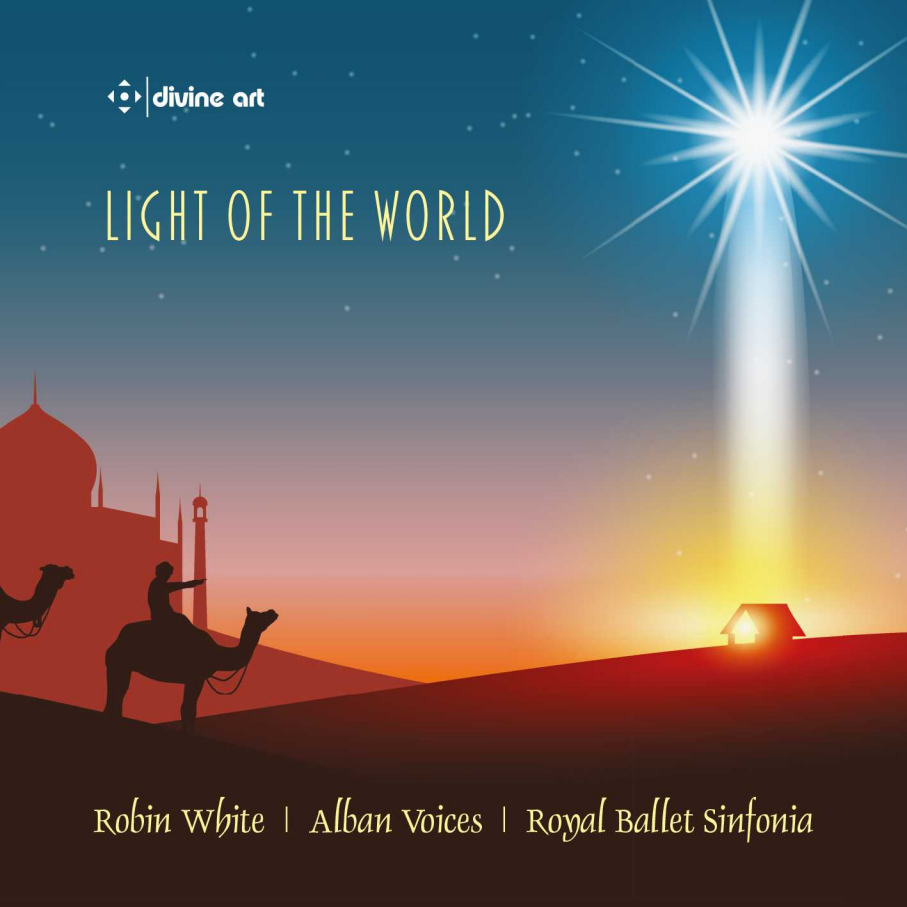




LIGHT OF THE WORLD



Robin White | Alban Voices | Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Light of the World

A song for Christmas

Originally a too-late entry for a 2014 carol competition, **Light of the World** remained under wraps until composer/conductor **Robin White** had the chance to record it in 2020, with his own **Alban Voices** and the **Royal Ballet Sinfonia**.

"What can you say about Christmas that's new?" asks Robin. "Nothing: that's the whole point! Christmas is always what we expect it to be: certainly since Victorian times, and before – OK, it was more rough-and-ready, but the message has always been the same. And yet for every child growing up it can be a wonderful new experience, and even for us adults: yes, we've seen and heard it all before, but sometimes we may discover a new slant on the familiar story".

"For this setting, I've chosen one of my favourite idioms: the Viennese waltz. Perhaps more associated with New Year, and the wonderful concert from Vienna's Musikverein that we're now able to enjoy all over the world, still as an expression of sheer joy the waltz is hard to beat".

Light of the World

Words & music by Robin White

Alban Voices

Royal Ballet Sinfonia

Conductor: Robin White

Producer: Johnny Mindlin

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Robin White trained at Imperial College, London and the Royal College of Music. He has conducted open-air, pop-classics concerts at National Trust and other venues across the south-west of England and the midlands. He has also worked with leading soloists such as John Lill, Christopher Warren-Green, Alexander Baillie and Emma Johnson in concerts in Bristol and the Channel Islands.

As an arranger, his work has been recorded and broadcast on Radio 2 and Classic FM, and played live in Melbourne by the Australian Pops Orchestra.

Alban Voices is a small, ad-hoc choir formed over 20 years ago by Robin White and his late wife, Freda. Originally a relief choir for services in St. Albans Abbey, it has since performed at other venues, and featured most notably in a pivotal episode of the BBC TV soap opera **EastEnders** in December 2003.

Royal Ballet Sinfonia is the orchestra which accompanies Birmingham Royal Ballet on its extensive tours, in the UK and elsewhere. Recently it has been increasingly in demand as a recording orchestra, particularly featuring the work of British and/or living composers.

*Angels are singing, and bells are a-ringing
To welcome the Light of the World
People are thronging, and children are longing
To see all the streamers unfurl'd*

*Deep in the snow and the winter
Warm to the glow from the Child
Tell out the story of Christ in his glory
And Mary his mother so mild*

*Shepherds are drawn to the stable
Wise men come from afar
Fulfilling the ancient fable
Led by a guiding star*

*Thousands of years behind us
Still the story is told
Of the family's ride at Christmas-tide
And the Child who came in from the cold*

*Heaven rejoices, uplifting her voices
To welcome the Prince of Peace
Christmas inspires all our fervent desires
For wars and conflicts to cease*

*Each year anew comes the message
Love for our fellow-men
Joyfully sing it and cheerfully bring it
Tell it again and again*

*Join the festivity of the Nativity
Welcome the Light of the World!*



Robin White

'From Russia'

Music for Clarinet and Orchestra
Ian Scott/ Royal Ballet Sinfonia/ Robin White
Divine Art DDA 25223 (CD/digital)

A man blessed with many talents, Robin White is the conductor, composer of the album's core work, and arranger of all 13 tracks. Pleasure-giving music." – *London Light Music*
White serves up colorful, sparkling, and idiomatic arrangements; and the Royal Ballet Sinfonia executes them with great aplomb and panache." - *American Record Guide*

