

# PEACE CHILD ALPHA OMEGA

## A Musical Journey through Faith

When catastrophe strikes, four young people from different religious backgrounds are forced to re-examine their identities and belief systems. Join us in this musical conversation, followed by a question time with distinguished spiritual leaders.

MUSIC AND ORIGINAL PRODUCTION BY DAVID GORDON MUSICAL DIRECTOR ANDREW PARNELL DIRECTOR OF SCENES ABDUL SHAYEK

STORY ADAPTATED FROM THE ORIGINAL WORK BY DAVID WOOLLCOMBE AND ROSEY SIMONDS

#### NARRATOR GEMMA CRAVEN

WITH ELY CHORAL SOCIETY AND
CHOIRS FROM SOUTHFIELDS JUNIOR SCHOOL PETERBOROUGH
AND WITCHFORD VILLAGE COLLEGE

### Ely Cathedral Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 -7.30pm

Tickets: £20; £15; £12; £5; £4.50 for students available from Ely Cathedral box office on 01353 660349 (Mon-Fri 11am-3pm) https://tickets.elycathedral.org/







## PEACE CHILD - ALPHA OMEGA

RELIGIONS SHOULD UNITE NOT DIVIDE PEOPLES

"I, who am I? What is this world? Why am I here? I, what am I? What is my cause? What must I be?"

DAVID GORDON - "PEACE CHILD - ALPHA OMEGA"

**PEACE CHILD - ALPHA OMEGA:** The magisterial music of <u>ALPHA OMEGA</u> was first heard as a rock opera, produced by David's brother, Yusuf Islam (formerly Cat Stevens). Telling the story of humanity from the birth of the universe through to the final apocalypse, the songs were re-scored for symphony orchestra and chorus for a stunning performance in Coventry Cathedral. This became the basis of the Peace Child musical which was performed all over the USA and USSR as part of the citizen diplomacy effort that helped end the Cold War.

Peace Child - Alpha Omega is a further incarnation of the same, powerful music in a totally new show that links people of different faiths, through a discussion of current threats ranging from climate change, war, racism and other issues to see how faith helps us, or fails to help us, find solutions to these challenges - some of which threaten the very survival of humanity. This is a musical conversation for our modern age. Multi-faith dialogue is encouraged at all stages of development - before, during and after the event: the script is developed for each performance through improvisation with the young cast members. Peace Child International's goal is to encourage schools, faith and community groups to do their own performances of all or part of the show to get them and their families thinking about these issues.

Funded by the European Commission's Culture Programme, this performance in Ely is the first in a series which will take the show to Tallinn, Estonia and Istanbul, Turkey.

After the performance refreshments will be served and the audience will be invited to submit questions to a Question Time Panel that will include distinguished representatives of the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths.

WHO ARE WE? Peace Child International is a registered British Charity and one of the largest networks of youth-led organisations in consultative status with the United Nations. PCI's mission is to 'empower young people' to address the most pressing global challenges they will encounter in their lifetimes – peace, human rights, climate change, ending poverty and the achievement of sustainable prosperity for the entire human family. PCI does this through supporting young people to undertake small youth-led development projects, running trainings/educational programmes on sustainability, gender, conflict resolution and producing youth-created books and teaching materials. PCI also runs the bi-annual World Youth Congress series on Youth and Development.