



Ivan Rachov, *Lamb of God*, Ceiling of the Apostolic Nunciature (Vatican Embassy) in Sofia, Bulgaria

## **Benjamin Britten: *Rejoice in the Lamb***

[Click](#) to read about Benjamin Britten.

[Click](#) to read about *Rejoice in the Lamb*.

Performance by **David Hemmings**, boy soprano; **Sir Peter Pears**, tenor; **The Aldeburgh Festival Choir and Orchestra**; **Lord Benjamin Britten** conducting. [[musicMe](#)]

Performance by **James Lancelot**, organ; **Marcus Creed**, bass; **Richard Morton**, tenor; **James Bowman**, countertenor; **Simon Channing**, treble; **David Corkhill**, percussion; **Choir of King's College**, Cambridge; **Sir Philip Ledger** conducting. [[musicMe](#)]

Performance by **Daniel Sladden**, bass; **James Crookes**, alto; **Rupert Johnston**, treble; **Simon Spencer Williams**, tenor; **Peter Barley**, organ; **Choir of King's College**, Cambridge; **Stephen Cleobury** conducting.  
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**Click** to go to **17 versions of *Rejoice in the Lamb* on YouTube.**

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues;

Give the glory to the Lord, And the Lamb. Nations, and languages, And every Creature In which is the breath of Life. Let man and beast appear before him, And magnify his name together.

Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter, Bind a leopard to the altar And consecrate his spear to the Lord.

Let Ishmail dedicate a tyger, And give praise for the liberty In which the Lord has let him at large.

Let Balaam appear with an ass, And bless the Lord his people And his creatures for a reward eternal.

Let Daniel come forth with a lion, And praise God with all his might Through faith in Christ Jesus.

Let Ithamar minister with a chamois, And bless the name of Him That cloatheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the satyr Bless God in the dance, Dance, dance, dance.

Let David bless with the bear The beginning of victory to the Lord, To the Lord the perfection of excellence.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Hallelujah for the heart of God, And from the hand of the artist inimitable, And from the echo of the heavenly harp In sweetness magnificent and mighty. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

For I will consider my cat Jeoffry.

For he is the servant of the living God.

Duly and daily serving him.

For at the first glance Of the glory of God in the East He worships in his way. For this is done by wreathing his body Seven times round with elegant quickness. For he knows that God is his saviour. For God has bless'd him In the variety of his movements. For there is nothing sweeter Than his peace when at rest.

For I am possessed of a cat, Surpassing in beauty, From whom I take occasion To bless Almighty God.

For the Mouse is a creature

Of great personal valour. For this is a true case-- Cat takes female mouse, Male mouse will not depart, but stands threat'ning and daring. If you will let her go, I will engage you, As prodigious a creature as you are.

For the Mouse is a creature Of great personal valour. For the Mouse is of  
An hospitable disposition.

For the flowers are great blessings.

For the flowers are great blessings. For the flowers have their angels, Even  
the words of God's creation. For the flower glorifies God And the root  
parries the adversary. For there is a language of flowers. For the flowers  
are peculiarly The poetry of Christ.

For I am under the same accusation

With my Savior, For they said, He is besides himself. For the officers of the  
peace Are at variance with me, And the watchman smites me With his staff.  
For the silly fellow, silly fellow, Is against me, And belongeth neither to me  
Nor to my family. For I am in twelve hardships, But he that was born of a  
virgin Shall deliver me out of all, Shall deliver me out of all.

For H is a spirit

And therefore he is God. For K is king And therefore he is God. For L is  
love And therefore he is God. For M is musick And therefore he is God.  
And therefore he is God.

For the instruments are by their rhimes, For the shawm rhimes are lawn  
fawn and the like. For the shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like. For  
the harp rhimes are sing ring and the like. For the harp rhimes are ring  
string and the like. For the cymbal rhimes are bell well and the like. For the  
cymbal rhimes are toll soul and the like. For the flute rhimes are tooth youth

and the like. For the flute rhymes are suit mute and the like. For the  
bassoon rhymes are pass class and the like. For the dulcimer rhymes are  
grace place and the like. For the clarinet rhymes are clean seen and the  
like. For the trumpet rhymes are sound bound and the like.

For the trumpet of God is a blessed intelligence And so are all the  
instruments in Heav'n. For God the Father Almighty plays upon the harp Of  
stupendous magnitude and melody. For at that time malignity ceases And  
the devils themselves are at peace. For this time is perceptible to man By a  
remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah for the heart of God, And from the hand of the artist inimitable,  
And from the echo of the heavenly harp In sweetness magnificent and  
mighty. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.