

Thames
PHILHARMONIC
Choir

Summer Concert

Saturday 15th June 2019

7.30 pm

All Saints' Church

Market Place

Kingston KT1 1JP

(entrance via Market Place)

Parry: I was Glad, Blest Pair of Sirens
Vaughan Williams: Five Mystical Songs
Stanford: Songs of the Fleet
Howells: Two Rhapsodies for organ
Gershwin: Songs from The Shows

Baritone - Dan D'Souza
Thames Philharmonic Choir
Organist - Stephen Disley
Pianist - Benjamin Costello
Conductor - John Bate

*Free entry to the afternoon rehearsal from 2.30pm

TICKETS (including programme): £20, £16, £5 (restricted view behind Choir);

under 18s and full-time students: £18, £14.50. 10% reduction on 8 or more full-price tickets

Disabled friendly:- accompanying carers admitted free (notify box office for wheelchair access)

Box Office: 07522 524081 Online reservations: www.thamesphilchoir.org.uk

Parry's anthem "I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord", composed for the Coronation of Edward VII in 1902, has been sung at each Coronation since. Blest Pair of Sirens is a setting of Milton's ode At a solemn Musick, a fine poem extolling the partnership of 'Voice and Verse'. Howells, a prolific composer of Anglican church music, made a significant contribution to the organ repertoire. His Rhapsodies of 1919 are contrasted examples of his distinctive harmonic and expressive style. Vaughan Williams was the greatest English composer of the 20th century. The Five Mystical Songs are settings for baritone and choir of poems by the 17th-century metaphysical poet George Herbert. The composer matched the intense spirituality of the words with music of sublime beauty. Stanford composed much fine English sacred music. The Songs of the Fleet were written for the Leeds Festival of 1910 as a sequel to Songs of the Sea of 1904. The words by Henry Newbolt, which display the poet's strong feelings for the sea and all things naval, are very much of their (Edwardian) period. Gershwin, a leading figure in the musical theatre genre which made a major contribution to 20th-century American music, is represented by three songs – I got rhythm (from Girl Crazy), S'wonderful (Funny face) and Summertime (Porgy and Bess), in arrangements for choir and piano.

In 1964, Artistic Director John Bate founded two choirs that subsequently merged to form Thames Philharmonic Choir. This concert will be John's final concert performance with the Choir after 55 years, as he retires in the summer following the residency at Winchester Cathedral.

Thames Philharmonic Choir is an amateur mixed choir based in SW London, with some 90 members, students to seniors. We work towards three major performances a year in well-known London concert venues, and are one of the few London choirs to sing cathedral choral services on a regular basis. Artistic director John Bate is a former cathedral chorister, conservatoire scholar and Director of Music Performance at Kingston University. Rehearsals are held weekly, on Tuesdays.

New Members are Welcome. If you enjoy singing, joining the Choir is a great opportunity to develop your voice and understanding of music, to make new friends and to experience the thrill of performing great choral works to a high standard. Free membership for full-time students. For more information, contact Sue Ready, 07729 349713, membership@thamesphilchoir.org.uk

Support the Choir. Support from Sponsors and Friends helps to fund performances at top concert venues with professional soloists and orchestra. Sponsorship is an effective means of target marketing for businesses while simultaneously supporting the arts and the local community. Contact: Susan Mason on 020 8788 9390 or 07713 793193, sponsorship@thamesphilchoir.org.uk For an annual subscription of £25, Friends have access to discounted concert tickets and advance information. Contact: Linda Kirby 07946 533374, tpcfriends@thamesphilchoir.org.uk

For full information, and an insight into the life and work of the Choir,
follow us on www.thamesphilchoir.org.uk

