

FUTURE CONCERTS

Date : Saturday, 4th October 2008 at 8.00pm

Vivaldi works for choir and orchestra,
together with

Event : *Vivaldi Concerto in A Minor for Two Violins*,
featuring nationally acclaimed local soloists
Alexandra and Charlotte Reid.

Venue : All Saints' Church, Marlow SL7 2AA

Conductor : Ian Taylor



Date : Sunday 14th December, 2008

Event : Christmas Carol Concert

Venue : St John the Baptist Church, Cookham Dean SL6 9PD

Performances at 3 pm & 8pm



CANTORUM CHOIR would like to thank:

Our superb rehearsal pianists, **Gillian Salmon**
& **Simon Howat**

The Clergy and Staff of Holy Trinity Church, Cookham
The Stationery Depot, Cookham Parade
And you, our audience, for your continued support.

For information visit

Website: www.cantorumchoir.org.uk

Email: info@cantorumchoir.org.uk

If you are interested in joining Cantorum Choir,
please talk to a member of the choir after tonight's performance
OR

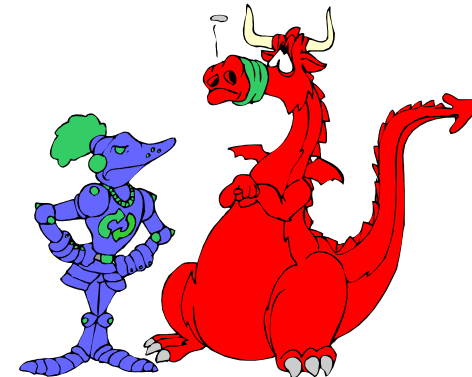
- Contact Bridget on 01628 631942
- Apply online via our website
- Email us with your contact details.



CANTORUM CHOIR

MYTHS & MELODIES

Music for a Summer's Evening



IAN TAYLOR – Conductor

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Cookham

Saturday 14th June 2008 – 7.30 pm

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Julia Bentley – Flute



Julia graduated from Leeds College of Music where she achieved major prizes for woodwind, chamber music and concerto, as well as the prestigious Robert Tebb award for outstanding performance. Since moving back to the area, Julia has worked for Dawkes Music, as well as performing regularly with local orchestras and running a teaching practice from her home in Maidenhead.

In 2004 Julia co-founded the flute duo 'Flutiful' with flautist Victoria Webb. To find out more, please visit www.flutiful.co.uk.

Gillian Salmon – Piano

Gillian's joint love of accompanying and chamber music was nurtured at the Royal College of Music where she studied with Ruth Gerald and Hubert Dawkes. After a postgraduate year at Reading University she taught at Downe House. Whilst there she was able to devote time to performing, including playing at the Wigmore Hall and the Purcell Room. She was Head of Music at Cox Green Comprehensive School for a number of years and now teaches piano at Claires Court Girls' School.

Laurence Frankel – Harpsichord

Laurence studied the oboe and piano at the Leeds College of Music, the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall. He has held principal positions in both the Iceland and West Australian Symphony Orchestras and performed concertos and chamber music in France, Germany, Holland and Austria. Laurence has recently relinquished his post as Woodwind Coordinator for Berkshire Maestros to concentrate on free-lancing as an oboist, accompanist and teacher – as well as writing and arranging music.

The Amabile String Quartet

Madeleine Bentley & Samantha Norman (Violins),
Ting Chiu (Viola), and Lucia Capellaro (Cello)

The quartet was formed while the members were pursuing their post-graduate studies at the Birmingham Conservatoire. They perform regularly for weddings and at corporate events as well as teaching and giving concerts as individuals.

Cantorum Choir is delighted to be able to include John Rutter's instrumental *Suite Antique* in tonight's programme. This piece for flute and string quartet was written for the Cookham Festival of 1979 and was actually first performed here at Holy Trinity Church. In returning the work to its spiritual home, renowned local flautist – and Cantorum member – Julia Bentley is joined by her sister Madeleine (violin) and colleagues from the Birmingham Conservatoire of Music.

Ian Taylor

Biographical Sketch

Ian read Music at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, completing his D. Phil. thesis in August 2004. He has previously held teaching positions at the universities of Exeter and Oxford and been employed as a research assistant for the Royal College of Music, London. He is currently working at New College, Oxford, before taking up a position as Assistant Director of Music at Downe House School in September.

For performance, Ian studied piano with Raymond Fisher and conducting with Peter Stark. He is currently organist at St Edmond Campion Church in Maidenhead and has worked extensively as an accompanist, conductor and musical director with a range of choral, orchestral and musical theatre groups in Maidenhead, Oxford and at the Edinburgh Festival.

Ian's superb debut concert with Cantorum last Christmas was enjoyed by all. This is his second appearance, and we look forward to seeing much more of him, sharing future conducting responsibilities with our long established Musical Director, Sally Stafford.

We hope you will enjoy tonight's concert as much as we have enjoyed preparing it. To find out more about Cantorum Choir and see details of our forthcoming performances, please visit our website at www.cantorumchoir.org.uk.

Programme

Part I

English Madrigals

Sing we and Chant It *Thomas Morley*
Adieu, Sweet Amaryllis *John Wilbye*
Sweet Suffolk Owl *Thomas Vautor*
Hark, All Ye Lovely Saints *Thomas Weelkes*

Part Songs in the English Tradition

Diaphenia *C.V. Stanford*
The Hills *John Ireland*

Suite Antique *John Rutter*

- 1) Prelude
- 2) Chanson
- 3) Waltz
- 4) Rondo

Flute: Julia Bentley

Harpichord: Laurence Frankel

Amabile String Quartet:

Madeleine Bentley, Samantha Norman,
Ting Chiu and Lucia Capellaro

Songs and Sonnets from Shakespeare *George Shearing*

- 1) Live with me and be my love
- 2) When daffodils begin to peer
- 3) It was a lover and his lass
- 4) Spring
- 5) Who is Silvia?
- 6) Fie on sinful fantasy
- 7) Hey, ho, the wind and the rain

Interval

Part II

My Bonny Lass She Smelleth *P.D.Q. Bach*

The Reluctant Dragon *John Rutter*

Narrator: Eleanor Griffiths
Girl: Amy Dennison
Dragon: Malcolm Stork
St. George: David Hazeldine
Master of Ceremonies: Paul Seddon

Keyboards: Gillian Salmon and Laurence Frankel

Amabile String Quartet

Madeleine Bentley, Samantha Norman,
Ting Chiu and Lucia Capellaro

CONDUCTOR'S NOTES



At the heart of the programme is John Rutter's setting of *The Reluctant Dragon*. This multi-movement work for choir and soloists, which was originally written as 'An Entertainment' for The King's Singers, tells the story of an elderly dragon, content to see out his retirement pursuing his love of poetry. His peace is shattered, however, when his cave is discovered by the local villagers, and St. George is called for. Fortunately, St. George, also now in his dotage, is as reluctant to engage in battle as the dragon. With reputations to uphold, they agree to a mock fight in which the dragon appears to be mortally wounded

and after which a celebratory banquet is held. Confusion reigns temporarily as the dragon himself turns up to celebrate – and to read some of his own poetry – but St. George persuades the villagers that the dragon is harmless, and, as the old saying goes, they all live happily ever after. As in all three of Rutter's Musical Fables, this piece displays a remarkable diversity of stylistic influences and offers certain members of the choir the chance to shine as soloists.

The first part of this concert features a selection of works from the 'golden age' of the English madrigal (c.1580–1620), including pieces by Thomas Morley, Thomas Weelkes and John Wilbye. It also brings the madrigal tradition right up to date in the form of George Shearing's **Songs and Sonnets from Shakespeare**. This seven-movement work combines an obviously English heritage with clear influences from the world of jazz piano in its settings of texts from various Shakespeare plays. At its first performance, given in St. Charles, Illinois on 9 July 1999, the work was conducted by John Rutter and accompanied by the composer. For this performance, the piano part will be taken by Gillian Salmon, who accompanies the choir throughout the concert.

The new and the old also mix in P.D.Q. Bach's spoof setting **My Bonny Lass She Smelleth**, written by the (entirely fictitious) twenty-first son of J.S. Bach, and published and translated by his colleague Jonathan 'Boozy' Hawkes. This piece should prove entertaining for audience and performers alike!

CANTORUM CHOIR



Cantorum Choir is a lively, committed choir of approximately 40 mixed voices. We are based in Cookham, Berkshire, and draw our membership from a wide sector of the Thames Valley. Founded twenty five years ago, the choir has built up a reputation as one of the leading chamber choirs in the area, mixing high standards with a warm and friendly social life. We have undertaken several European tours and appeared a number of times on television and in films, notably in the first of the *Inspector Morse* adaptations. Currently, we give four or five concerts per year, at least one of them orchestral.

Sopranos

Bridget Bentley, Amy Dennison,
Rachel Holmes, Sandy Johnstone,
Eve MacDonald, Kirsty McLean
Eleanor Rastall, Valerie Snapes

Tenors

Craig Knowles, Philip Martineau,
Peter Roe, Malcolm Stork

Altos

Jill Burton, Penny Bysse,
Jami Castell, Sarah Evans,
Anne Glover, Eleanor Griffiths,
Richard Sedding, Chiu Sung,
Lorna Sykes

Basses

Derek Beaven, John Buck,
Sean Bui, Peter Griffiths,
David Hazeldine, Paul Seddon

Inspiring Voices ~ Giving Pleasure
Cookham's Chamber Choir