

RINGMER PARISH CHURCH, SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2002

# ESTERHÁZY CHAMBER CHOIR

DIRECTOR AND ORGANIST  
NICHOLAS HOUGHTON

*Music for a summer's evening*

*In Aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship*

---

## THE CHOIR

| SOPRANOS          | ALTOS           | TENORS           | BASSES           |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| BECKY CLIFFORD    | MARIA BIRCH     | ROBERT CARPENTER | JOHN ASTBURY     |
| ROSALIND FULLER   | CLAIRE CARBERRY | BEN STYLES       | BRIAN DERBYSHIRE |
| DENISE JONES      | MERYLL GOODWIN  | RICHARD WARE     | CHRIS DIXON      |
| LUCY MORGAN-JONES | ROBIN HOUGHTON  |                  | DEREK FROUD      |
| DIANA UPRICHARD   | SARAH JARVIS    |                  | DAVID GOODWIN    |
|                   | JOYCE PHILLIPS  |                  | JOHN HAYLLAR     |
|                   | KAREN ZEFF      |                  |                  |

REHEARSAL PIANIST: SARAH JARVIS

ACCOMPANIED ITEMS CONDUCTED BY  
DEREK FROUD

Visit our web-site ~ [www.esterhazy.org.uk](http://www.esterhazy.org.uk)

## PROGRAMME

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| BYRD     | MASS FOR 4 VOICES~ Kyrie and Gloria       |
| DURUFLE  | MOTET~ Tantum Ergo                        |
| BYRD     | MASS FOR 4 VOICES~ Credo                  |
| DURUFLE  | MOTET~ Tu es petrus                       |
| BYRD     | MASS FOR 4 VOICES~ Sanctus and Benedictus |
| MESSIAEN | MOTET~ O sacrum convivium                 |
| BYRD     | MASS FOR 4 VOICES~ Agnus dei              |

The foregoing will be run as a sequence: please reserve your applause until the end.

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| BACH   | ORGAN SOLO~ Fantasia in G major                 |
|        | <b>INTERVAL~</b> Wine and soft drinks available |
| HANDEL | ANTHEM~ Zadok the Priest                        |
| FINZI  | SONG~ Clear and Gentle Stream                   |
|        | SONG~ My Spirit sang all day                    |
| ELGAR  | ROMANCE~ My love dwelt in a northern land       |
| PARRY  | ANTHEM~ I was glad                              |
| TRAD   | FOLK SONG~ Early one morning                    |
| MORLEY | MADRIGAL~ April is in my mistress' face         |
|        | MADRIGAL~ Since my tears lamenting              |
|        | MADRIGAL~ Now is the month of Maying            |
| WALLER | BLUES~ Lookin' good but feelin' bad             |

## PROGRAMME NOTES

The **Esterhazy Chamber Choir's** Summer Concert is typically full of music to echo around the cloisters on a balmy summer evening, ringing with luscious tunes both sacred and secular, with a predominance of English composers. This year is no exception.

The first half features **William Byrd** who, for the first part of his career, served at the court of Elizabeth I. Byrd's Roman Catholicism was making his life difficult; his *Mass for 4 voices* is one of 3 masses written in the 1590's whilst under the protection of Catholic nobleman Sir John Petre. The masses were bravely published when anti-Catholic feeling was running high - just 40 years earlier, 17 Protestant martyrs had died in Lewes. The final *Dona Nobis Pacem* includes poignant dissonances, which could be seen as representative of the suffering of what had by then become the Catholic minority. Musically, these three masses follow the older melodic values of John Taverner, rather than aping the continental style of Palestrina, Lassus and Victoria, which was more common at the time.

The movements of this mass are interspersed with two motets by **Maurice Duruflé**, a 20<sup>th</sup> century take on Gregorian themes providing strangely contrasting harmonic material, and *O Sacrum Convivium*, a motet by **Olivier Messiaen**. Like Byrd and Duruflé, Messiaen was a devout Catholic, and this, combined with his love of nature and deep belief in the power of human love inspired some of the most moving, influential and idiosyncratic music of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The second half begins with the inestimable **Mr Handel** and his gloriously climactic *Zadok the Priest*, our acknowledgment of the year of Her Majesty's golden jubilee.

There then follows a collection of English songs, some traditional and some from the last century; amongst them the soaring and dipping melodies of **Gerald Finzi**, Victorian sentimentality from **Edward Elgar**, reminiscences of English Cathedral music in **Hubert Parry's** *I was glad*, and an up-beat ending from **Mr F Waller**.

We hope you will enjoy the evening as much as we will!

Karen Zeff

## THE ESTERHÁZY CHAMBER CHOIR

The Lewes-based Esterházy Chamber Choir was founded in 1993 and is currently directed by **Nicholas Houghton**, an early music specialist and Director of Music at Hurstpierpoint College.

The choir aims to perform at a professional standard whilst remaining firmly rooted in the fine English tradition of amateur music making. Performances with period instruments have become a feature of their concerts. The choir welcomes approaches for audition from experienced singers. Contact **Sarah Bridgland** for details: 01903 761446

### THE FRIENDS OF ESTERHÁZY

#### BENEFACTORS

MR S FFAULKES  
MR & MRS H FOORD

MR D FROUD  
DR J HESTER

#### PATRONS

MR M EVANS  
MR C B D'A FEARN  
MR & MRS P GILLHAM  
MRS P JOHNSTONE

MR & MRS M LIPTON  
MR D MILLINGTON  
DR M A NORMAN  
MR D J PLATT OBE

#### PROF A WOOD

CREEDGROVE LTD

THE WHITE STAR INN

#### ASSOCIATES

MR D BOTIBOL  
MR A BRUCE  
DR M E BUDLEIGH  
K & J COLEY  
MR H CORNWELL

MRS M FREEMAN  
MR N HOLLINGTON  
MSD M PEAT  
MRS A ROBINSON  
REV D W A STRIDE

MR R L VIGARS

To become a Friend, contact **Robin Houghton**: 01273 472489

### FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

**SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER** ~ 7.30PM, Lewes Town Hall

St Cecilia's Day Concert ~ Britten and Haydn

**TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** ~ 6.45PM, All Saints, Hove

Chichester Cathedral Appeal ~ Carols with Brass

**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER** ~ 7.30PM, St Bartholomews, Brighton

Christmas Music with Brass

**SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER** ~ 3.30PM, St John's sub-Castro, Lewes

Family Christmas Concert

Visit our web-site ~ [www.esterhazy.org.uk](http://www.esterhazy.org.uk)