

Conductor Benjamin Goodson brings together the 100-strong chorus and a stellar cast of soloists to sing Bach's sublime masterpiece. Recounting the events leading up to the crucifixion of Christ, the St John Passion is dramatic, intimate, profoundly humane and moving. Tenor Nicholas Mulroy, regarded as one of the foremost exponents of the role of Evangelist of his generation is joined by Giles Underwood as Jesus, soprano Elizabeth Cragg, alto Clare Wilkinson and tenor Joshua Ellicott, who also sang tenor arias in last year's BBC Proms performance of this work. The orchestra is a band of some of the finest baroque players in the country, led by renowned violinist Bojan Čičić.

With a cast usually found on London's South Bank this promises to be an exceptional evening of music in Henley and an occasion not to be missed. You are advised to book early as recent concerts have been sold out.

Tickets £18.00 (£5.00 under 18s) contact Ticket Secretary Jan French 01491 572795 or Gorvett & Stone, 28 Duke Street, Henley-on-Thames.

Nicholas Mulroy studied at Clare College Cambridge and Royal Academy of Music. He appears with leading ensembles throughout Europe, including Monteverdi Choir with Sir John Eliot Gardiner and Le Musiciens du Louvre with Marc Minkowski and in concert with Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Dunedin Consort, English Chamber Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic, BBC Proms and Copenhagen Philharmonic. On stage he has worked with Glyndebourne Festival Opera and with Opéra Comique Paris, Théâtre Capitole de Toulouse and at the Opéra de Lille. Recordings include a Gramophone Award-winning Messiah with Dunedin Consort and *St John Passion* with Polyphony under conductor Stephen Layton.

'Tenor Nicholas Mulroy sang the crucial role of the Evangelist, his narration direct yet dramatically motivated, and inflected with many memorable touches, most notably at his anguished delivery of Peter's grieving for his denial of Christ.' **George Hall, *The Guardian* ******

'Nicholas Mulroy is now an Evangelist of choice, dramatic yet never over-involved, engaged reporter rather than partisan witness.' **Fiona Maddocks, *The Observer* ******

'He is "the most sought-after evangelist of his generation". It is a big call, but to hear him sing there is no doubt. He is a cogent story-teller, with a radiant sound that just gets more ravishing as it gets higher. It is hard to imagine anyone singing it better.' **Harriet Cunningham, *The Sydney Morning Herald***