



HENLEY CHORAL
Society

SAT 18TH JUNE 2016 / 7.30PM

20TH CENTURY FRENCH COMPOSERS

DURUFLÉ REQUIEM
FAURÉ
VIERNE

FEATURING

Will Dawes, baritone

Judy Brown, mezzo-soprano

Richard Moore, organist

Tom Edwards, conductor



Christ Church Centre, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 1AG

Tickets £16.00 (under 18s £5.00)

Ticket Secretary Jan French **01491 572795**

Corvett & Stone, 28 Duke Street, Henley-on-Thames

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**“Guest conductor Tom Edwards
is joined by former conductor
Will Dawes for a soothing
Midsummer’s concert”**

20TH CENTURY FRENCH COMPOSERS

This year Henley Choral Society's Summer concert will be a homage to the French 20th Century composers Duruflé, Vierne and Fauré. At the helm will be the guest Musical Director, Tom Edwards, who, to the delight of the choir, will be joined by former Musical Director, Will Dawes, as a soloist.

The centrepiece of the performance will be the sacred music of Duruflé, consisting of the large scale Requiem and his Quatre Motets. Duruflé's Requiem is based on Gregorian themes and this intimate performance will use the organ-only score to deliver the peaceful reverence of this haunting French masterpiece. The choir will be joined by the highly acclaimed Judy Brown, mezzo-soprano, and of course Will Dawes, baritone. The Four Motets are warm, gentle and reflective and will see the choir singing a cappella, emphasizing the purity of this genre.

Louis Vierne originally wrote Messe Solennelle for two organs which was typical of such works in the early 1900s. However in this more intimate setting, extracts from the work will be accompanied by a single instrument in the capable hands of organist Richard Moore.

A night of 20th Century French composers wouldn't be complete without Fauré, and will feature his smaller work, Cantique de Jean Racine. Aged nineteen Fauré set Racine's text to music and his beautiful setting of these words sets the tone for his Requiem.

French wine will be served during the interval on what we hope will be a glorious Midsummer's evening, so do join us for a night of soothing meditative music at The Christ Church Centre, Henley-on-Thames.



Tom Edwards is currently Organist and Director of Music at St Barnabas Church, Oxford and will be joining Henley Choral Society as a guest conductor. He originally studied at The Guildhall School Of Music and Drama and graduated with a PhD in Music from the University of Edinburgh having been Director of Music and Head of Academic Music at Lucton School, Herefordshire.

Henley Choral Society is delighted to welcome back their former conductor (2006-2013), **Will Dawes**, as Baritone. Will is currently the Conductor of Bath Choral Society and Director of Music at the church of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford. In addition, Will is active as a consort singer and performs globally as a member of the internationally acclaimed and multiple-Grammy nominated vocal ensemble, Stile Antico.



Judy Brown is a Scottish mezzo-soprano based in London, currently at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She received her early musical training as a chorister at St Mary's Music School and read music at the University of Edinburgh. An experienced recitalist, ensemble and oratorio singer she recently gave a solo recital in St Martin-in-the-Fields and regularly performs with Ludus Baroque.

Richard Moore began his training as an organist in the Portsmouth Diocese with Rosemary Field, before spending a year as Organ Scholar at Southwell Minster. He went on to read Music at St John's College, Oxford and was active as an accompanist, featuring on commercial recordings. He currently studies organ with David Graham at the Royal College of Music where he is a continuo player in the Historical Department with recent tours to France and Italy.



Henley Choral Society is a friendly, lively, non-auditioned choir of all ages. We aim to sing together to the highest standard, work with young professional talent, deliver an exciting and varied programme of concerts to our local community and encourage the next generation of singers through the Henley Youth Choir.



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