

Thames Valley Early Music Forum

The Byrd-Tomkins Relationship

A workshop for singers directed by Stephen Jones

United Reformed Church, Swakeleys Road, Ickenham UB10 8BE

Saturday 30th January 2016 (10.00am for 10.30am start till 5.00pm)

Stephen Jones's career encompasses both keyboard and voice. As a singer he specialised in Renaissance and Baroque repertoire. He worked for BBC Schools Radio as a scriptwriter, presenter and pianist. In 1987 he founded the City Chamber Choir and in 1994 became Musical Director of Hertfordshire's Aeolian Singers, and he remains conductor of both choirs. He has been accompanist and assistant conductor of Goldsmiths Choral Union since 1978. He has taught organisations including the British Federation of Young Choirs and the BBC Singers Education Department, and is now a singing teacher at two schools in St Albans and moderator and singing teacher for Hertfordshire Music Service.

William Byrd is the towering genius of the Renaissance, master of many genres and virtually single handed created a school of virtuosic keyboard music and invented the verse anthem. Although a passionate Roman Catholic he was feted by the Protestant court of Elizabeth the First for whom he wrote the "Great Service". **Thomas Tomkins** is described as 'the last Elizabethan' and was a contemporary of Thomas Morley and Orlando Gibbons. He was a pupil of Byrd, describing him as 'my ancient and much revered master'. With his mastery of an equally wide range of styles, Tomkins was Byrd's natural successor and able to emulate in his Third Service the complexities of scoring, counterpoint and melodic invention which are the glory of the Byrd "Great Service". Our workshop day will examine this Tomkins rarely heard masterpiece along with anthems and motets by the two composers which illustrate how Tomkins drew inspiration from Byrd. The music studied will be selected from:-

Tomkins Third Service *Te Deum and Jubilate* a 10 and *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis* a 8, Byrd *O God, the proud are risen* a 6, Tomkins *O God, the proud are risen* a 8, Byrd *Domine secundum multitudinem* a 5, Tomkins *Domine, tu eruisti* a 5.

The day will begin with coffee and registration at 10.00am for a 10.30am start and will run until 5.00pm. There are pubs serving lunches at Ickenham and a good café. Ickenham URC is in Swakeleys Road, on the corner of Eleanor Grove. The church is half a mile from Ickenham station (Metropolitan and Piccadilly) and about three quarters of a mile from West Ruislip (Chiltern and Central). The Oxford buses stop at Hillingdon Circus about a mile away. For drivers there is parking in the streets by the church.

The fee for the day is £12 for Early Music Forum members and £14 for non-members, cheques payable to TVEMF. Please send the slip below as soon as possible and no later please than 18th January to:

Michael Bloom, 36 Withington Court, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3QB (01235 536563), email: michaelfbloom@yahoo.co.uk. You should assume your application has been accepted unless you hear to the contrary. An acknowledgement can be sent by email if requested or by post if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

Registered charity no. 900284

TVEMF, Ickenham United Reformed Church, 30th January 2016

Name:

Voice:

I enclose a cheque (made payable to TVEMF) for £

Address:

Telephone:

Email: