

# Thames Valley Early Music Forum

## Handel Coronation Anthems

A day for singers and baroque orchestra  
directed by Benjamin Nicholas

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Keble College Chapel, Oxford

Handel's first commission on becoming a British citizen in 1727 was to write four anthems for the coronation of King George II and Queen Caroline. These brilliant works have maintained a place at the heart of the British choral tradition – and two of the anthems were sung at the opening of the Holywell Music Room in 1748. The most famous of all, *Zadok the Priest*, has been sung at every coronation since!

Applications are invited from singers, strings (violin family & viols), oboes, bassoons and continuo. To be sure we have them we have already invited the natural trumpets and timpani. (If you play these instruments and would like to be invited for a future workshop, please let me know.) Pitch will be A=415. All music will be provided on the day.

Benjamin Nicholas is Director of Music at Merton College, Oxford and Principal Conductor of The Oxford Bach Choir. He directed the choir of men and boys at Tewkesbury Abbey for twelve years before moving to Merton, where he has established the annual *Passiontide at Merton* festival, installed a new organ and founded the College's Girls' Choir. He has directed Merton College Choir in all the major choral works of Bach. This year he conducts the RPO, CBSO, the London Mozart Players and Florilegium.

The day will begin with coffee and registration at 10.00 for a 10.30 start and run till 5pm, with lunch around 12.30. Bringing your own lunch is recommended. The college is in Keble Road, OX1 3PG. There is no parking at all in the college, but people with heavy instruments can drive in from 9.30 via electronic gates in Museum Road. Use the intercom to call the lodge to let you in and then drive (anti-clockwise) all the way round to the chapel, which you'll see straight ahead of you. Please leave as soon as you have left your instrument to make room for others. There should be plenty of time for you to drive to the Pear Tree Park and Ride and get back on the bus (3 stops and a short walk), or you may find free parking in the Norham Gardens area just north of the University Parks. Singers and people with lighter instruments - please don't take your car into the college at all but go direct to Pear Tree or Water Eaton P&R or the Norham Gardens area parking. The college is also a short bus ride from the station. I recommend Parkopedia for a map of the free parking areas (and the very expensive street parking near the college) and Google Maps for finding the best driving and walking routes to the college.

The fee is £16 for Early Music Forum members and £20 for non-members. (Membership of TVEMF costs £9 so quickly pays for itself.) Please apply by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. You may pay by electronic transfer to TVEMF a/c no. 00691902, s/c 30-94-28 giving your name as the reference, and emailing the details requested on the slip to [secretary@tvemf.org](mailto:secretary@tvemf.org) with a copy to [treasurer@tvemf.org](mailto:treasurer@tvemf.org). Alternatively post the completed form, with a cheque payable to TVEMF, to Victoria Helby, 50 Sheepfold Lane, Amersham HP7 9EJ. If you are unable to attend, please let me know as soon as possible by email or phone (01494 721582) so your place can be offered to someone else. Late cancellations received after 5<sup>th</sup> March, except for illness, may forfeit the course fee if they cannot be replaced from the waiting list.

Registered charity no. 900284

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TVEMF Coronation Anthems 17th March 2019

PLEASE USE CAPITALS

Name:

Voice/instrument:

Address:

E-mail address:

Telephone number:

I enclose a cheque payable to 'TVEMF' for £

**OR** I have paid £

electronic transfer

I can offer/ would like a lift