

# Thames Valley Early Music Forum

## Icons and parodies

A day for singers and instrumentalists

directed by Peter Syrus

United Reformed Church, Ickenham, Saturday 6 July 2013

Josquin des Prez (c.1455 – 1521): 'Benedicta es, coelorum regina'

Francisco Guerrero (1528 – 1599): 'Ave Virgo sanctissima'

George de La Hèle (1547 – 1586): Missa 'Benedicta es coelorum regina' (extracts)

Géry de Ghersem (c.1574 – 1630): Missa 'Ave Virgo sanctissima' (extracts)

Peter Syrus is well known as a director of early music workshops and has helped introduce TVEMF members to some unfamiliar and rewarding repertoire over the last few years. Peter says this about his next Ickenham event: "The workshop starts with two undisputed masterpieces, one of Josquin's most widely copied and influential motets, and Guerrero's 'Ave Virgo', a veritable emblem of the golden age in Spain. Fast forward to the late Renaissance and to two less familiar figures, two of many more inspired by the models for the sumptuous mass settings presented here. George and Géry knew each other at Tournai Cathedral in the years around 1580, although Géry will then have been nowt but a lad (choirboy, to be more specific). The older composer subsequently moved to Madrid, where he became master of Philip II's royal chapel. Around the time of Hèle's death in 1586, Ghersem too settled in Madrid, returning to his native Tournai in 1604. So, there are powerful and interesting links between the composers and the works here, not least in that both masses augment, impressively without question and perhaps even ostentatiously, the canonic fabric of their models. If rich and intricate polyphony is your ticket, the day is a must." The music will be suitable for singers (all ranges) and for cornetts, sackbuts, curtals and recorders (from alto down); pitch A = 440.

The day will begin with coffee at 10.00 for a 10.30 start and run till 5.00. Ickenham URC is in Swakeleys Road, on the corner of Eleanor Grove (postcode UB10 8BE), half a mile from Ickenham station (Metropolitan and Piccadilly lines) and about three quarters of a mile from West Ruislip (Chiltern and Central). Drivers can park in the streets by the church. There are pubs and cafes serving lunches close by.

Please send this form by 24 June to Jeff Gill, 12 Dorset Road, London SW8 1EJ (020 7735 9002, jeffgill9160@waitrose.com). The fee is £12 for Early Music Forum members and £14 for non-members, cheques payable to TVEMF. You should assume that your application has been accepted unless you hear to the contrary. Registered charity no. 900284

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**TVEMF, Ickenham United Reformed Church, 6 July 2013**

Name

Voice/instrument

I enclose a cheque for £

Address, telephone number, e-mail address: