

Thames Valley Early Music Forum

Lechner and Lassus

A day for singers and instrumentalists directed by **Peter Syrus**
Saturday 6th July 2019, 10.00 for 10:30 until 5.00 pm
United Reformed Church, Ickenham UB10 8BE

This workshop is another opportunity to expand your musical experience under the expert guidance of Peter Syrus. Voices are welcomed in all ranges, and players of the following: cornetts, sackbuts, curtals, recorders (alto downwards), and strings (viol or violin family). Pitch for the day will be A=440.

Leonhard Lechner (c.1553-1606) is claimed in the *New Grove* as ‘the leading German composer of choral music in the later 16th century’. Few will have had the opportunity to put this to the test. In this workshop pride of place goes to him, but we start with Lassus, as indeed Lechner did when he fashioned a six-voice Mass from the older composer’s motet *Domine, Dominus noster*. This concise but most attractive Mass (more interesting than Lassus’ own reworking of the material, but you can decide...) will provide a scaffold for the day. Punctuating its movements will be excursions such as *In me transierunt*, from Lechner’s first and remarkably assured published collection of 1575. That text had already been set by Lassus, appearing in print some thirteen years earlier. Although it was the Lassus version that would famously be singled out for its rhetoric and power to persuade in the early seventeenth century, Peter predicts that you’ll find both settings profoundly moving. A rather briefer visit leads us to the Lutheran chorale in Lechner’s treatment of *Gelobet seist du*. And then there are his forays into polychoral music. A fine example of a two-choir motet concludes the 1575 collection, but we’ll opt instead for a psalm setting which he wrote for a wedding nearly thirty years later. In *Laudate Dominum, quoniam bonus est*, the fifteen parts are deployed gloriously and jubilantly in three choirs: ‘Praise ye the Lord’ indeed.

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 the 1st July. 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 david@tvemf.org with a copy to treasurer@tvemf.org. Alternatively post the completed form, with a cheque payable to TVEMF to David Fletcher 62 Hughenden Avenue, High Wycombe HP13 5SJ (01494 532195). If you give an email address you will receive an acknowledgement by email. If you are unable to attend, please let the organiser know as soon as possible so your place can be offered to someone else. Late cancellations other than for illness after 1st July may forfeit the course fee if they cannot be replaced from the waiting list.

Registered charity no. 900284

TVEMF Lechner & Lassus workshop 6th July 2019

PLEASE USE CAPITALS

Name:

Voice/instrument:

Address:

I enclose a cheque payable to 'TVEMF' for £
or I have paid £ by electronic transfer

Telephone number:

e-mail address: