

Gabriel FAURÉ *Requiem*
Cantique de Jean Racine
William BYRD *Mass for Four Voices*

Organ works

Saturday 9th June 2018

7.30pm

All Saints' Parish Church

Market Place

Kingston, KT1 1JP

(entrance via Market Place)

Baritone Timothy Edlin

Organ Stephen Disley

Thames Philharmonic Choir

Conductor John Bate

*Free entry to the afternoon rehearsal from 2.30pm

TICKETS (including programme): £20, £16, £5 (restricted view behind Choir);

under 18s and full-time students: £18, £14.50. 10% reduction on 8 or more full-price tickets

Disabled friendly:- accompanying carers admitted free (notify box office for wheelchair access)

Box Office: 07522 524081 Online reservations: www.thamesphilchoir.org.uk

Gabriel Fauré: *Requiem, Cantique de Jean Racine*

‘A combination of gently understated Gallic drama and heart-achingly beautiful melody,’ is how conductor John Bate describes Fauré’s *Requiem*. A French music critic wrote: Fauré ‘works in quiet colours’... his work is ‘like a well-bred discourse.’ The comments apply equally to both works in the programme. Fauré (1845-1924) said he wrote the *Requiem* ‘for pleasure’ and because he was bored with the standard funeral music of the time, although the piece is touched by grief following the death of his parents. He was only 19 when he wrote *Cantique de Jean Racine*, a setting of a French version, by the 17th-century playwright Racine, of an old Latin hymn.

William Byrd: *Mass for Four Voices*

The melodious setting for four choir parts is a fine and unusually expressive example of Tudor Renaissance music. William Byrd (1540–1623) risked imprisonment for writing it specifically for illegal services held in Catholic households under the strictly Protestant regime of Elizabeth I. It is a mark of Byrd’s brilliance that he won the Queen’s admiration - and protection.

Thames Philharmonic Choir is an amateur mixed choir based in SW London, with some 90 members, students to seniors. We work towards three major performances a year in well-known London concert venues, and are one of the few London choirs to sing cathedral choral services on a regular basis. Artistic director John Bate is a former cathedral chorister, conservatoire scholar and Director of Music Performance at Kingston University. Rehearsals are held weekly, on Tuesdays.

New Members are Welcome! If you enjoy singing, joining the Choir is a great opportunity to develop your voice and understanding of music, to make new friends and to experience the thrill of performing great choral works to a high standard. Free membership for full-time students. For more information, contact Sue Ready, 07729 349713, membership@thamesphilchoir.org.uk

Support the Choir. Support from Sponsors and Friends helps to fund performances at top concert venues with professional soloists and orchestra. Sponsorship is an effective means of target marketing for businesses while simultaneously supporting the arts and the local community. Contact: Susan Mason on 020 8788 9390 or 07713 793193, sponsorship@thamesphilchoir.org.uk For an annual subscription of £25, **Friends** have access to discounted concert tickets and advance information. Contact: Linda Kirby 07946 533374, tpcfriends@thamesphilchoir.org.uk

**For full information, and insight into the life and work of the Choir,
follow us on www.thamesphilchoir.org.uk**

