

Charpentier

Messe de minuit

Workshop for voices and instruments

directed by Andrew Griffiths

Saturday 25 November 2017

Upland Primary School, Bexleyheath

Charpentier's Christmas *Messe de minuit* is probably his best-known work, but it is no less beguiling and attractive for that. Written in the 1690s, probably for the Jesuit church of St Louis in Paris where Charpentier was *maître de musique*, it is based on ten popular carols or 'noëls', disarmingly simple and dance-like in character, which furnish nearly all the melodic material for the mass. Charpentier's great achievement is to marry these light-hearted, unpretentious melodies with his customary lush harmonic style, replete with ninth chords and glorious double suspensions, without any sense of tension, making for a mass that is both accessible and seductive in equal measure

The mass calls for 4 voix, flûtes et violons, and accordingly we welcome all singers, and players of stringed instruments of any family, plus flutes and recorders, and continuo (keyboard and plucked). Alongside the midnight mass, we will explore other small works appropriate to the Christmas season.

PDFs of the scores will be emailed in advance for singers to print their own copy. Instrumental parts will be available on the day.

Pitch is A=440.

Fee: £14.00 for members of SEMF and other Fora, £20.00 for non-members and £10.00 for under 25s. Applications by 6 November (£2.00 surcharge for late bookings).

Organiser: David Shaw (treasurer@semf.org.uk)
Tel: 01227 769843; Mob: 07811 875269 (emergencies only).



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Andrew Griffiths enjoys a varied career as a conductor of choral music and opera, vocal coach, continuo player, and consort singer.

He has conducted productions at The Royal Opera (where he trained as a Jette Parker Young Artist), Welsh National Opera, Opera North and has worked at Glyndebourne, ENO, Scottish Opera, Chicago Opera Theatre and with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

He regularly conducts the BBC Singers, with whom he has broadcast widely on Radio 3, and has appeared as a guest conductor with New London Chamber Choir, the BBC Symphony Chorus, and Hong Kong's Tallis Vocalis. Particularly experienced in Baroque repertoire, he has recently conducted Handel's *Orlando* for WNO, *Messiah* and *La Resurrezione* for Early Opera Company at Wigmore Hall, and the 1589 Florentine *Intermedi* at Dartington. As well as singing as a founder member of renowned vocal ensemble Stile Antico, Andrew enjoys appearing as Evangelist in Bach's Passions (including at BREMF), and regularly coaches the singers at The Royal Opera and National Opera Studio.

Venue: Upland Primary School, Church Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA7 4DG. There is car parking on site. Railway station half a mile.

Timetable: Coffee at 10.30 am. Music begins at 11.00 and finishes at 5.00 pm with breaks for lunch and tea.

Southern Early Music Forum is one of 9 regional groups encouraging the enjoyment of early music. Our members include singers, instrumentalists, and researchers, beginners and experts, amateurs and professionals. We organise 8–10 workshops and other events each year in our region. Members can also use the network to arrange their own *ad hoc* music making. Further information at www.semf.org.uk.

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SEMF workshop for voices and instruments, Upland Primary School, Bexleyheath, 25 November 2017

Please return this form as soon as possible (and before 6 November) to:
David Shaw (SEMF), 61 Broad Oak Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7PN.

I belong toEarly Music Forum/please send me information about joining SEMF

I enclose a cheque made payable to "Southern Early Music Forum" for £.....

Name: Phone:

Email: OR I enclose a SAE (delete as applicable)

Address:

Voice (SATB etc) Please indicate comfortable range (S1 S2 etc.)

I would be happy to sing a solo line: Yes / No (please circle) Sight-reading: good/fair/adequate (delete as applicable)

Instrument(s) Sight reading: good/fair

.....(continue overleaf if necessary)