



CORELLI CONCERTS

Newsletter

Winter, 2009

Welcome to the first Corelli Concerts Newsletter. The coming season promises to be a busy time for the Corelli Orchestra and we hope that you will find something of interest and come and hear us!

CHELTENHAM CONCERT SERIES

We are delighted to announce another series of concerts in Cheltenham for 2009/10. As usual this season, the Corelli Orchestra will be giving four concerts in Cheltenham, two at the Pittville Pump Room, and two at other venues in the town.

The annual **Candlelit Messiah** takes place at Christ Church, Cheltenham, on **December 21st**. Last year's performance with the Glevum Consort was a great success, and, judging from the audience feedback, a real eye-opener. 'Intimate', 'perfectly balanced', 'everything so clear' were just some of the comments received afterwards. So, this year we are repeating the performance. Many people think that Messiah is over-done. But we honestly think that - if you need any convincing - this version will bring Handel's music to life again and reveal what a magnificent work Messiah is. The combination of a small, professional chorus, 'step-out' soloists, and the baroque instruments of the Corellis enable the music to sparkle in a way that you will never get with a large chorus in a big building. Come and hear for yourself!

In the new year, on **January 26**, we return to the Pitville Pump Room with an attractive programme of suites and concertos by **Bach & Friends**. Apart from Bach's suite no. 3, we will be playing music by Telemann, Vivaldi, Stölzel, Böhm and Zelenka. Full details can be found on the Corelli website.

More Bach is in store on **Good Friday April 2nd**. The Corellis further their association with the Glevum Consort in a performance of the St John Passion. This will be a unique event as it will be the first outing of a new edition of the work by Warwick Cole. The performance will follow Bach's last version of the work which is significantly different from the versions commonly performed today.

Finally, we return to the Pump Room on **April 27** with a programme of Purcell and Vivaldi. 'Come ye Sons of Art' and the Gloria feature along with Purcell's Trumpet Sonata, an oboe concerto by Vivaldi and other instrumental music.

Please see overleaf for at-a-glance details of the Cheltenham Concert Series



OTHER NEWS

RECORDING OF MUSIC BY WILLIAM HAYES

Regulars at our Pump Room series will have already heard music by the Gloucester-born composer, William Hayes (pictured right). A couple of years ago we were joined by Evelyn Tubb for the *Ode to Echo*, and Warwick Cole played the Harpsichord concerto in March of this year. Next February, the Corellis will be recording a CD of his music - almost all of which is unrecorded.



William Hayes

Hayes has been described as 'amongst the finest English composers of his generation', but because most of his music has remained in manuscript, little has been performed until recent times. After his early education as a chorister at Gloucester, he rose to become Professor of Music at Oxford, and his portrait shows him in his doctoral robes c.1749.

The programme will include two cantatas sung by Evelyn Tubb, concerti grossi, the harpsichord concerto and a very fine trio sonata. The recording, generously supported by the GEMMA Classical Music Trust, will be available in May 2009 and Corelli mailing list members will be offered a discount.

OTHER CONCERTS

We are pleased to announce that we will be taking some of our Cheltenham concerts to St George's **Bristol (January 27 and April 28)** in the New Year, and will be starting a series of baroque orchestral concerts in **Warwick** (starting with Messiah on **December 22nd**).

The Corellis have also been invited back to the **St David's Festival** in May, Pembrokeshire, to join the Cathedral Choir under their Director, Alexander Mason. Two concerts at the Gloucester **Three Choirs Festival** are booked: on August 8th we will be giving a concert of music by Hayes, Handel and Arne (in his tercentenary year); and on August 13th with the Festival Youth Choir in a performance of Bach's Magnificat.

We are delighted also to be accompanying the Gloucester Choral Society again in two concerts in the cathedral - on December 5th (Messiah); and on March 20th (St Matthew Passion).

Finally, we will be running two educational workshops for A level students on January 26 and 27 specifically aimed at those doing the Edexcel and OCR syllabuses. As with all our activities, full details are available on our website.

Cheltenham Concerts at a glance ...

Monday December 21 at 7.30pm

Candlelit Messiah
Christ Church, Cheltenham
Glevum consort & Corelli Orchestra

Good Friday, 2 April

Bach St John Passion
Holy Apostles Church, Cheltenham
Glevum consort & Corelli Orchestra

Tuesday 26 January at 7.30pm

Bach & Friends:
Suites and Concertos from the Bach Circle
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Tuesday 27 April at 7.30pm

Vivaldi and Purcell
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

For ticket details please refer to our website
www.corelliconcerts.co.uk