

ROSSINI

NEIL FERRIS
CONDUCTOR

WIMBLEDON
CHORAL SOCIETY

PETITE MESSE SOLENNELLE



SUNDAY 20TH MARCH 2016



5PM



CADOGAN HALL

5 SLOANE TERRACE
LONDON SW1X 9DQ

TICKETS:

£25, £20, £15, £10 (STUDENTS)

BOX OFFICE:

020 7730 4500

www.cadoganhall.com

www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk

SOPRANO: CLAIRE SEATON

MEZZO-SOPRANO: ANNA HARVEY

TENOR: BEN THAPA

BASS: MATTHEW SPRANGE

PIANO: MICHAEL HIGGINS

PIANO: NICOLA ROSE

HARMONIUM: RICHARD PEARCE

ROSSINI

Join Wimbledon Choral Society for a vibrant performance of Rossini's much-loved *Petite Messe Solennelle*, with its hints of opera writing intertwined with beautifully crafted solo arias.

Written in 1863, the *Petite Messe Solennelle* was described by the composer himself as “the last of my *péchés de vieillesse*” (sins of old age). The work is neither small (performances last about 80 minutes) nor solemn, nor particularly liturgical and the witty composer was at odds to know whether to refer to it as “*la musique sacrée*” (blest music) or merely as “*la sacrée musique*” (some blessed music)!

Scored for two pianos and a harmonium, it has become a core member of the choral repertoire and is popular amongst choirs and audience alike. This small three keyboard version is the one most often performed, although Rossini re-scored it four years later for full orchestra for fear that someone else might accomplish the task if he did not. Sadly he died before hearing it in its full orchestral version.

Widely considered to be one of the finest amateur choruses in London with a thriving membership of over 150 singers, Wimbledon Choral Society recently completed a highly successful centenary season. We are delighted to be back at Cadogan Hall to perform this glorious work.

FUTURE DATES

SATURDAY 11TH JUNE, 2016

'IKONS': MUSIC FROM OR INFLUENCED BY EASTERN EUROPE

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WATERLOO SE1 8TY

The content of this final concert of the 2015-16 season draws on the choral repertoire of Arvo Pärt, Henryk Górecki and Rachmaninov. In addition there will be works by two British composers – Charles Wood and John Tavener.

As a bonus, we also welcome cellist Léonie Adams to this event.

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