

# Berlioz Te Deum

**15% group  
discount for 10 or  
more tickets!**  
(excludes student  
price)

# Saint-Saëns Symphony No. 3

Guildford Cathedral  
Saturday 1st April 2006, 7.30 pm

**Wimbledon Choral Society  
with the New Queen's Hall Orchestra**

Boys choir from Dulwich College,  
Kings College School, Wimbledon  
(Director of Music - Daniel Philips)  
and Tiffin Boys' Choir, Kingston  
(Director of Music - Simon Toyne)

**Conducted by Michael Ashcroft**

**Organ - Norman Harper**

**Tenor - Robin Tritschler**

Tickets: £17.50, £14, £7.50 (students)  
Box Office: 01483 547870 or 020 8605 2444  
or [tickets@wimbledon-choral.org.uk](mailto:tickets@wimbledon-choral.org.uk)

**By kind permission of the Dean and Chapter**

Parking available at the Cathedral

## **Berlioz - Te Deum Saint-Saëns - Symphony No.3**

At the world premiere of the Berlioz Te Deum on April 30, 1855, Berlioz enjoyed one of the great triumphs of his career. The huge church of St. Eustache in Paris was packed and, according to reports, the audience was overwhelmed. That same night Berlioz wrote to his friend, the composer Franz Liszt:

***"...the Te Deum was performed today with the most magnificent precision. It was colossal. My God, if only you had been there. I assure you that it is a tremendous work, the final movement surpasses all the enormities of which I am guilty up to now."***

A century-and-a-half later Berlioz's Te Deum stands as one of the ultimate ceremonial pieces of all time, and it is still an event whenever the work is performed today. This shouldn't be surprising; after all, the forces he called for in the score are positively immense: two large adult choruses, a third chorus of children, a tenor soloist, a large symphony orchestra, and an important solo part for a great pipe organ placed at a long distance from the ensemble. From its distance, the organ engages in a dramatic dialogue with the rest of the ensemble. In addition, Berlioz expected that the work be given in a vast space, such as a great cathedral.

At one time, Saint-Saëns was held to be the finest organist in the world, a judgment with which he would not have disagreed! Given Camille Saint-Saëns' mastery of the organ, it should hardly be surprising that one of his best-loved orchestral pieces is his Symphony No. 3 in C Minor, known as the 'Organ Symphony'. The combination of Guildford Cathedral's superb instrument, played by Norman Harper, and the excellent New Queen's Hall Orchestra will reveal the excitement and majesty of this popular work.

**This concert is clearly one not to be missed!**

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **Saturday 10th June 2006, 7.30pm**

Music on a Summer Evening  
including works by Brahms & Elgar  
St John's Church, Waterloo SE1

#### **Monday 12th June 2006, 7.30pm**

Quiz Evening with special guest  
quizmaster William G Stewart  
Drake House, St George's Road, SW19

[www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk](http://www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk)