

Saturday 15 March 2008, 7.30pm
Guildford Cathedral

Wimbledon Choral Society
and Farnham Youth Choir

Durufié
Requiem

with the **New Queen's Hall Orchestra**

Soprano - **Tara Overend**

Mezzo-Soprano - **Sarah-Jane Lewis**

Baritone - **Håkan Vramsmo**

Conductor - **Michael Ashcroft**

Rutter
Mass of the Children

Fauré
Cantique de Jean Racine



Photo: Tim Gooding

Tickets: £15, £12.50 **Special student rate:** £7.50

Box Office: 01483 547870 (Guildford Cathedral) or 020 8605 2444
or tickets@wimbledon-choral.org.uk

By kind permission of the Dean and Chapter



Wimbledon Choral Society

Wimbledon Choral Society is delighted to be returning to the majestic Guildford Cathedral, this time combining forces with one of the UK's leading upper voice choirs, the Farnham Youth Choir, who have won various national and international competitions and have made several recordings.

The *Mass of the Children* received its première in Carnegie Hall, New York, in February 2003, and the first UK performance followed a month later in Guildford Cathedral, the composer conducting on both occasions. Just over 5 years later Wimbledon Choral Society is singing with the original UK children's choir, the Farnham Youth Choir, who are given a central part to play. Rutter's skilful writing in this large-scale work for soloists, choirs and orchestra and his sensitive interweaving of the various Latin and English texts has resulted in one of his finest and most moving works.

The plainsong in the Duruflé *Requiem* unifies the work and breathes into it the timelessness and meditative spirituality that are its essence. The piece has enormous emotional impact and yet the feeling of tranquillity and spiritual optimism is maintained.

The text of the *Cantique de Jean Racine* is a French translation, by the 17th century French dramatist Jean Racine, of a medieval Latin hymn. When Gabriel Fauré set the translation to music, he gave it that title, rather than the title of the original hymn. It was Fauré's first significant composition, written when he was still at music college, and it immediately captured the affection of the listening public, as it still does today.

This wonderful programme of music is guaranteed to lift the heart and mind.

There is ample parking at the Cathedral, which is just off the A3 and well-signed. All seats are unreserved and the £15 tickets are towards the front of the nave providing the best sound and vision.

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 22nd March 2008

Handel - *Messiah* with the Croydon Citadel Salvation Army Band
Fairfield Halls, Croydon

Saturday 7th June 2008

Vivaldi - *Gloria*, Rachmaninoff - *Vespers*
St Paul's Church, Southfields

Monday 9th June 2008

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