

Guildford Cathedral  
Saturday 24 March 2012, 7pm



**BACH**

# St Matthew Passion

**Thomas Hobbs** - *Evangelist*  
**George von Bergen** - *Jesus*

**Elin Manahan Thomas** - *soprano*  
**Clare Wilkinson** - *mezzo soprano*  
**James Geer** - *tenor*  
**Robert Davies** - *bass*

**Neil Ferris** - *conductor*

with **Florilegium**  
and **Farnham Youth Choir**

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Tickets: £22 (Front Nave)  
£17.50 (Rear Nave & West Gallery) £10 Students  
Box Office: 01483 444789  
[www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk/tickets](http://www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk/tickets)

by kind permission of  
the Dean and Chapter

**WIMBLEDON**  
CHORAL SOCIETY



Bach's St. Matthew Passion is considered to be one of the greatest pieces of choral Easter music, and a live performance is a 'must' for anyone who has not yet experienced it. The calm spaces of Guildford Cathedral are the perfect setting for Bach's waves of heart-rending and exquisitely beautiful music. The version we are presenting is in English, in a "profoundly sensitive new translation" (*Gramophone*) from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Wimbledon Choral Society joins forces with **Florilegium**, one of Britain's most outstanding period instrument ensembles and the international award winning **Farnham Youth Choir**.

The soloists are all outstanding interpreters of Bach, including **Elin Manahan Thomas**, ("ravishing simplicity" – *The Times*). The Evangelist is Guildford-born **Thomas Hobbs** and is noted for his performances of Bach; he also studied with the Society's President, Ian Partridge. Recognised internationally for her performances of Bach, **Clare Wilkinson** has made numerous recordings of his music, including a critically acclaimed St Matthew Passion.

Highlighted by *Opera Now* as one of last season's most promising up and coming talents, **George von Bergen** takes the part of Jesus. **Robert Davies** ("a dark bass baritone of unmistakable authority" – *The Independent on Sunday*) and "The most arresting voice was the powerful tenor of **James Geer**" (*Opera Magazine*) complete this exceptional line-up of soloists.

Guildford Cathedral is easily accessible, being just off the A3. There is plenty of parking around the cathedral and an excellent Refectory for a pre-concert supper.

Please note the slightly earlier than usual start time of 7pm.

## Ticket Information

All tickets are for unreserved seating (apart from Friends of Wimbledon Choral Society); for bookings of 10 or more tickets please contact 020 8605 2266 for special terms.

## Future Dates

**Saturday 9th June 2012, 6pm, Tradition and Creation – A Wonderful World**  
including music by Bob Chilcott, Cecilia McDowall, John Rutter, Ward Swingle and Louis Armstrong.

**Monday 11th June 2012, 7.30pm, Quiz Evening with William G Stewart**  
bring your own wine and soft drinks for a really entertaining evening.