

**WIMBLEDON**  
CHORAL SOCIETY

# Brahms

## Ein deutsches Requiem

### Saint-Säens

## Symphony No.3 'Organ'

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Elizabeth Watts (soprano)  
Jacques Imbrailo (baritone)  
Michael Higgins (organ)  
East London Chorus  
Orchestra Vitae

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**30th March 2015**  
**7.30pm**

Conductor  
**Neil Ferris**

Tickets  
**£40-£10**

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

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# Celebrating One Hundred Years of Singing

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This wonderful concert is the centre-piece of the choir's Centenary Season, and how better to celebrate it than by performing one of the great choral classics coupled with a blockbuster of a symphony in London's premier concert hall?

Wimbledon Choral Society, whose origins stem from a group of Belgian refugees arriving in Wimbledon in October 1914, gave their first concert on 22nd March 1915, and almost exactly one hundred years later the choir will sing the Brahms *Requiem*, with Elizabeth Watts, an Artist in Residence at the Southbank Centre, and Jacques Imbrailo, hailed as 'the hottest young baritone on the block'. Both soloists have performed at the BBC Proms, and appear regularly in all London's top venues as well as throughout Britain, Europe and the USA. This choral piece of universal appeal contains some of the most sublime music ever written, and unlike some conventional settings of the Requiem Mass its message is full of hope and comfort.

The choir, widely considered to be one of the finest amateur choruses in London, is a thriving and dynamic group of some 150 singers, and is no stranger to the Royal Festival Hall; as one audience member put it "*next time Wimbledon Choral Society run a concert within 50 miles of you, go out of your way to go to it and I can promise you, you will come away with a smile on your face having had a wonderful fulfilling evening.*"

Orchestra Vitae, or 'Orchestra of Life', who make their Royal Festival Hall début at this concert, have been making a mark recently with their concert series at St John's, Smith Square. The orchestra comprises some of the most talented students of the London conservatoires and their performances under their Music Director Michael Cobb have received such comments as "*I was overcome with an overwhelming desire to give you all a standing ovation last night. I hope you feel overjoyed with your achievements*".

With the newly refurbished Royal Festival Hall organ the magnificent Saint-Saëns' Organ Symphony will compliment the Brahms perfectly: the evening should prove to be truly memorable and will herald the beginning of another century of singing by the Wimbledon Choral Society.

## **FUTURE DATES:**

### **Friday 1st May 2015**

A vocal masterclass with Ian Partridge, international lyric tenor & President of Wimbledon Choral Society

### **Saturday 6th June 2015**

'A New Dawn' with music by living composers

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

