

# WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY



Cadogan Hall  
Sloane Terrace, SW1

Saturday 19th March 2005  
7pm

Conductor  
Michael Ashcroft

with Charivari Agréable

Soprano - Eileen Hulse  
Mezzo-Soprano - Louise Innes  
Tenor - Philip Sheffield

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

Samuel Wesley  
**CONFITEBOR**  
(Psalm 111)

George Frederic Handel  
**MESSIAH**  
(Extracts from parts 2&3)



Tickets: £18, £15, £12.50  
Box Office: 020 7730 4500  
[tickets@wimbledon-choral.org.uk](mailto:tickets@wimbledon-choral.org.uk)

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Written in 1799 in the early part of his career, Samuel Wesley's Confitebor didn't receive its first performance until some 27 years later in 1826, and then had to wait another 146 years for its second. Quite why is not exactly clear but it was known that he wasn't that popular in Victorian society for several reasons and thus his works were effectively shelved. Fortunately the latter part of the 20th century saw those barriers finally torn down and the full richness of this wonderful, joyous vocal symphony can now be heard. In 1984 Francis Routh edited Wesley's manuscript and produced the Redcliffe score thus placing it in the choral repertoire. The following year Wimbledon Choral Society gave this edition its first performance. There is, however, no known current recording, and so if you are interested in hearing one of the most important pieces of music from a composer who has been described as Britain's answer to Mozart, this concert on 19th March is not to be missed.

The choir sang excerpts from Part 1 of The Messiah at their Christmas Carol Concert. Production of a ticket to the Carol Concert will entitle the bearer to a ticket price reduction of £2 per ticket for this concert in Cadogan Hall, which includes excerpts from Parts 2 & 3.

Cadogan Hall is easily accessible, situated just off Sloane Square and Sloane Street, and is a stunning new comfortable concert venue.

The following are examples of the many tributes to the choir's fine quality of sound and professionalism and which were expressed following a performance of Verdi's Requiem:

*"I have to admit that I have never heard a choir, anywhere, sing with such unity of purpose and I yearned to be part of it. The opening was like dark, soft velvet and the 'Libera Me' was spine-tingling, while the discipline of the choir in the dynamic contrasts and word endings was stunning."*

*"What a joy to see the Cathedral packed and to witness such a superb performance. The absence of any coughing from the audience between movements said it all. We were absolutely spellbound from the hypnotic opening to the regular walls of sound that hit us during the many climaxes throughout the piece."*

For press information please contact:  
publicity@wimbledon-choral.org.uk

### Forthcoming Events

#### **Saturday 21st May 2005**

St John's Church  
Waterloo, SE1  
Music on a Summer Evening

#### **Monday 23rd May 2005**

Drake House  
St George's Road, SW19  
Quiz Evening

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