

LASSUS · RUTTER · ROOTHAM · TAVENER · HANSELL · BYRD · FLANDERS & SWANN & OTHERS



7.30 pm Saturday  
20 June 2015  
All Saints' Church  
Weston Green  
Esher, Surrey KT10 8JL

Tickets *£15 in advance,*  
*£17 at the door.*  
Call 020 3137 0376 or  
020 8399 2714, email  
[vox@ripienochoir.org.uk](mailto:vox@ripienochoir.org.uk)  
– or book online at  
[www.ripienochoir.org.uk](http://www.ripienochoir.org.uk)

The Ripieno Choir  
Catherine Coulter-Young  
*flute*  
conducted by  
David Hansell

**JUNE 20**

*the*  
**RIPIENO**  
*choir*

*Music, the gift of the supreme God, draws men, draws gods; Music makes savage souls gentle and uplifts sad minds. Music moves the very trees and wild beasts, affording solace to all.*

The words of *Musica Dei donum* set the scene for this year's Summer Concert as we perform two settings of them: one by Orlandus Lassus and another, unusually scored, by John Rutter, whose seventieth birthday we celebrate with this programme.

Lassus's sacred music is characterised by a flawless contrapuntal technique and feeling for sonority, and above all by a concern for the declamation of the words in a rhetorical manner with sharply contrasted musical figures. In contrast, John Rutter's *Musica Dei donum* is a lush and haunting piece with an accompanying solo flute. Our flautist for the evening is the multi-award winning Catherine Coulter-Young.

We continue our salute to John Rutter with his witty and tuneful *Five Childhood Lyrics*, and pay tribute to the recently deceased John Tavener with his iconic settings of William Blake's equally iconic poems *The Lamb* and *The Tyger*. Tavener's setting of *The Tyger* is written for a 14-part choir, and captures Blake's image of the tiger's "fearful symmetry" by moving from a quiet and simple beginning to a passage of great complexity before subsiding to a gentle end which incorporates a quotation from *The Lamb*.

This is conductor David Hansell's twentieth summer with Ripieno and for the rest of the programme he has chosen some favourite pieces from the last twenty years (some of which may surprise you), including possibly the finest English part song: a short piece written to mark his sixtieth birthday (of which Ripieno gave the first public performance); and a song by Flanders & Swann.

## 20 JUNE

*The concert starts at 7.30 and ends at approximately 9.30. Buy your tickets in advance to save money and to be certain of getting your seats – call the box office on 020 3137 0376 or 020 8399 2714, or email [vox@ripienochoir.org.uk](mailto:vox@ripienochoir.org.uk), or book online at [www.ripienochoir.org.uk](http://www.ripienochoir.org.uk).*

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