



THE WILLIAM BYRD FESTIVAL

P.O. Box 2783, Portland, Oregon 97208-2783

971-227-8740 www.byrdfestival.org

June 24, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANTORES IN ECCLESIA PRESENTS THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL WILLIAM BYRD FESTIVAL, AUGUST 7-23, IN PORTLAND, OREGON

English organist and conductor Mark Williams will return to Portland this summer to direct the award-winning choir Cantores in Ecclesia in a seventeen-day festival featuring choral masterpieces by the great Renaissance composer William Byrd (1540-1623) and his contemporaries. The complete festival schedule includes an organ recital on the world-class Rosales organ at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, seven liturgical services, three public lectures, and a gala final concert, **VOX PATRIS: Sacred music by Byrd and his predecessors**. The final concert, at 7:30 pm on Sunday, August 23, will feature the magnificent twenty-minute motet *Vox patris caelestis* by William Mundy (c. 1529-1591) and a beautiful and little-known service by Byrd composed in honor of the Virgin Mary. Most of the festival events will take place at St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 1112 SE 41st Ave, with additional events at Holy Rosary Church in NE Portland and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in NW Portland. The full program is attached here and available online at www.byrdfestival.org.

Tickets for the Aug 23 gala final concert are available online at www.brownpapertickets.com, by phone 1.800.838.3006, or at the door. All other events are free admission with a freewill offering.

Who: Cantores in Ecclesia, conducted by Mark Williams. Established thirty years ago, Cantores in Ecclesia provides Gregorian chant and sacred polyphony in liturgical contexts. The choir has sung in concert and for liturgies at home and abroad. The choir has recorded independently and for Oregon Catholic Press. Featured in print media and online with articles in BBC Music Magazine (August 1997), Brainstorm (February 2004), and The Early Music Review (2008), Cantores has established itself as a leader in liturgical and early music performance, winning loyal supporters at home and top honors in international competition. Now in residence at St. Stephen's Church 1112 SE 41st Ave, Portland, Cantores sings for the Solemn Latin Mass every Saturday at 7:30 PM.

When: Friday, August 7-Sunday, August 23; please see attached events list, for full schedule.

Locations: St. Stephen's Church, 1112 S.E. 41st Ave. Portland; Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 NW 19th Ave., Portland; Holy Rosary Church, 37 NE Clackamas St., Portland.

Information: Dean Applegate, 971-227-8740; info@byrdfestival.org; www.byrdfestival.org.

Tickets: At the door or in advance for the August 25th, 7:30PM concert, \$20 general admission, \$15 seniors & students. By phone: 1.800.838.3006, or www.brownpapertickets.com

Cantores in Ecclesia is an independent non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. Please visit our website:
www.cantoresinecclesia.org

#####



Mark Williams is Director of Music, Fellow and College Lecturer at Jesus College Cambridge. After a year as Organ Scholar at Truro Cathedral, he studied at Trinity College Cambridge under Richard Marlow, where he was also the Organ Scholar and held an academic scholarship. In 2000, at the age of 21, he was appointed Assistant Organist of St Paul's Cathedral in London and Director of Music at St Paul's Cathedral School. He relinquished both posts in April of 2006 in order to pursue greater performing opportunities and for three years pursued a varied freelance career. He returned to Cambridge in 2009.

Mark Williams has appeared as organist and harpsichordist nationally and internationally with many of the UK's leading ensembles, including the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia and the Gabrieli Consort and Players. As a conductor he has worked with Britten Sinfonia, the London Mozart Players, Saraband Consort and City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra. He has appeared as organist and conductor annually since 2000 at the International William Byrd Festival in Portland Oregon, and has given solo recitals and led masterclasses in choral training, singing and organ performance in the UK, the USA, Asia and Africa. In March 2013, he led the Choir of Jesus College Cambridge in a pioneering collaboration with the charity *Songbound* working with children in the slums of Mumbai continuing this educational work in Sri Lanka in December 2014. Under his direction, the Choir has released four discs, the last of which entered the UK Classical Charts at No. 1 in February 2015. He is the Chief Guest Conductor of the City of London Choir, a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists, a Freeman of the City of London, and a trustee of Cambridge Early Music, the Oundle Music Trust, the Harlton Organ Trust, the Muze Music Trust in Zambia and *Songbound* in India. He is the Honorary President of the Chamber Choir of Erne Integrated College in Enniskillen.

In addition to writing and arranging music for television and radio, Mark Williams has performed on a number of film soundtracks and has acted as music consultant for television programmes including the popular crime drama, *Endeavour*. He appears on CD with the Choir of Jesus College Cambridge, the Choir of Trinity College Cambridge and Richard Marlow, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Cambridge Singers and John Rutter, the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, the City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra, Retrospect Ensemble, The King's Consort, The Sixteen, Arcangelo and Cantores in Ecclesia.

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL WILLIAM BYRD FESTIVAL

Schedule of Events

SPONSORED BY CANTORES IN ECCLESIA

www.byrdfestival.org

7-23 AUGUST 2015

- Friday, 7 August, 7:30 PM PONTIFICAL REQUIEM MASS in memory of David Trendell (1962 Missal), at St. Stephen's Church, The Most Reverend Basil Meeking, *Celebrant*. Cantores in Ecclesia will sing Victoria's setting of the Requiem Mass from his *Officium Defunctorum*, 1605.
- Saturday, 8 August, 11:00 am PUBLIC LECTURE, *In the footsteps of Thomas Tallis* given by Kerry McCarthy, at St. Stephen's Church.
- Sunday, 9 August, 8:00 pm COMPLINE, sung by Cantores in Ecclesia, Blake Applegate, *Conductor*, at St. Stephen's Church.
- Friday, 14 August, 7:30 PM PONTIFICAL HIGH MASS (1962 Missal) for the Vigil of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at Holy Rosary Church, The Most Reverend Basil Meeking, *Celebrant*.
- Saturday, 15 August, 11:00 AM PUBLIC LECTURE, *Reconstructing Tallis* given by Jeremy Summerly, at St. Stephen's Church.
- Saturday, 15 August, 7:30 PM * SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS (1970 Missal) for the Vigil of the Twentieth Sunday of the Year, at St. Stephen's Church. The Most Reverend Basil Meeking, *Celebrant*.
- Sunday, 16 August, 11:00 AM SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS (1970 Missal) for the Twentieth Sunday of the Year, at Holy Rosary Church. The Most Reverend Basil Meeking, *Celebrant*.
- Sunday, 16 August, 4:15 PM ORGAN RECITAL: **ENTENTE CORDIALE Organ Music from England and France across the centuries** given by Mark Williams, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.
- Sunday, 16 August, 5:00 PM CHORAL EVENSONG for the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity, sung by Cantores in Ecclesia, Jeremy Summerly, *Conductor*, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.
- Saturday, 22 August, 11:00 AM PUBLIC LECTURE, *What is a Lady Mass?* given by William Mahrt, at St. Stephen's Church.
- Saturday, 22 August, 7:30 PM * SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS (1970 Missal) for the Vigil of the Twenty-First Sunday of the Year, at St. Stephen's Church. The Most Reverend Basil Meeking, *Celebrant*.
- Sunday, 23 August, 7:00 PM PRE-CONCERT LECTURE by Dr. William Mahrt, at St. Stephen's Church.
- Sunday, 23 August, 7:30 PM FINAL CONCERT: **VOX PATRIS: Sacred music by Byrd and his predecessors** music by Byrd, Tallis, Taverner and Mundy, performed by Cantores in Ecclesia, Mark Williams, *Conductor*, at St. Stephen's Church

* Dr. William Mahrt will give a pre-Mass lecture at 7:00 PM

FESTIVAL LOCATIONS

St. Stephen's Church, SE 41st Avenue & Salmon Street
Holy Rosary Church, NE 3rd Avenue & Clackamas Street
Trinity Cathedral, NW 19th Avenue & Everett Street

ADVANCE TICKET SALES

for the August 23 concert

\$20 general admission, \$15 seniors & students 1.800.838.3006 - or - www.brownpapertickets.com