



10am - 5pm Saturday 19th September 2015
St Faith & St Laurence Church
Croftdown Rd, Harborne, Birmingham B17 8RD

Giaches de Wert 1535-96



A workshop for singers

Tutor: Will Dawes

Works to include

Ascendente Jesu in naviculam and *Vox in Rama*

Giaches de Wert

De Wert was born in Flanders; as a boy he was brought to southern Italy where he was a chorister in the chapel of Maria di Cardona, Marchesa of Padulla.

He served at several minor courts before being appointed *maestro di capella* at the newly built chapel of S. Barbara at Mantua in 1565. He stayed in the service of the Gonzaga family for the rest of his life, but was also a frequent visitor at the court of d'Este in Ferrara.

Best known for his madrigals – of which 16 volumes were published, and some of which we will be working on – he was described by Palestrina as a ‘virtuoso raro’; he was an important forerunner of Monteverdi’s chromatic and dissonant style. His great skill in word-painting - developed in his madrigal writing - deeply permeates his sacred music, and he set many gospel passages with great musical imagination. *Ascendente Jesu in naviculam* – a motet for the sixth Sunday after Pentecost describing Jesus’s calming of the storm on the lake of Galilee – is a prime example of this. *Vox in Rama* is a 5-part communion motet for the Feast of the Holy Innocents, published in 1581.

Will Dawes

Will Dawes is the Conductor of Bath Choral Society, Conductor of the Orlando Chamber Choir, Director of Ensemble 45, Chorusmaster for Ludus Baroque, Director of Music at the church of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford, Director of Frideswide Voices, and a member of Stile Antico.

Will’s musical career started as a chorister at St George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle, and as a member of the Berkshire Young Musicians Trust. He studied music at the University of Edinburgh and then Choral Conducting and Voice at the Royal Academy of Music under the direction of Patrick Russill, Paul Brough and David Lowe. There, he frequently conducted in the opera department and took part in masterclasses with conductors such as David Hill, Timo Nuorane and Stephen Layton. On graduating, he was awarded the Thomas Armstrong Prize for Choral Direction.

Aside from his career as a conductor, Will is active as a consort singer and is a member of the internationally acclaimed and multiple-Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble Stile Antico. He is a former Lay Clerk of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and has also appeared as part of the BBC Singers, Collegium Vocale Gent and Polyphony.

Timetable for the day (approximate timings)

10:00	Registration and refreshments
10:30 - 13:00	Workshop (including a short break)
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch (please bring your own)
14:00 - 15:30	Afternoon session
15.30 - 16:00	Tea
16:00 - 17:00	Final workshop session

Directions to St Faith & St Laurence's church

The church is situated on the junction of Court Oak Road and Croftdown Road in Harborne. There is a small car park at the church (access from Croftdown Rd), and further on-street parking on Croftdown Rd itself.

Booking

Please complete the enclosed booking form and send it **at least 2 weeks before the event to enable us to obtain sufficient scores** with your cheque payable to "MEMF" -
to Jonathan Spencer 32 Birley Grove Halesowen B63 1EP

Please let Jonathan know if you are unable to attend having booked.

E-mail jonathan-spencer@blueyonder.co.uk; Tel 0121 602 6058.

On the day of the workshop please call Jonathan on 07784 657563.

FEES

MEMF members £18

Non-members £20

Students free

Forthcoming MEMF workshops

Saturday 3rd October 2015

A workshop for **Baroque Strings**

Tutor - **Kate Fawcett**

Venue - Dorridge village hall

Saturday 14th November 2015

Andrea Gabrieli - a workshop for voices and instruments

Tutor – Philip Thorby

Venue – Solihull School

Sunday 15th November 2015

Master classes for pre-formed groups

Tutor – Philip Thorby

Venue – Solihull School

Saturday 5th December 2015

Choruses from *Messiah*

An informal workshop for voices & instruments

Tutor – Steve Davis

Venue – Dale St Methodist Church, Leamington Spa

Saturday 16th January 2016

A workshop with Robert Hollingworth

Details TBC

Venue – Lutley Community centre, Halesowen

Saturday 13th February 2016

Choral works from 18th Century Rome

A workshop for voices & continuo

Tutor – Peter Leech

Venue – St Andrew's Church Hall, Barnt Green

Saturday 12th March 2016

De Rore and Jaquet de Mantua

A workshop for voices

Tutor – Stephen Rice

Venue – TBC

MEMF members receive regular mailings which include listings and reviews of early music events throughout the Midlands. Members are also entitled to reduced workshop fees.

Further information can be obtained from Mike Ashley, 256 Station Rd, Knowle, Solihull, B93 0ES

E-mail mashley@aol.com, phone 01564 778631

MEMF is affiliated to *Making Music* - supporting and championing voluntary music

www.memf.org.uk