

# Thames Valley Early Music Forum

## Gesualdo study day for voices and viols with Gerald Place

Burnham Grammar School  
Hogfair Lane, Burnham, Buckinghamshire SL1 7HG  
Saturday 2nd July 2011 from 10am to 5.15pm

This workshop is an opportunity to be coached on Gesualdo madrigals in small groups with all performers joining at the end of the day to tackle one of the Tenebrae motets. Music will be supplied before the event, but a good standard of reading is essential, together with confidence to sing/play one to a part. Pitch will be A=415.

Gerald Place is director of the Gesualdo Consort and records for ASV and Naxos. He has made several BBC broadcasts about the composer and collaborated with Werner Herzog on his Gesualdo film "Death for Five Voices" which won the Italia Prize. Gerald says:

*Let's go less for the weird and more for the wonderful in Gesualdo's music. If we go with the language and emotion then the music will fall naturally into place, so have no fear. (For purist players there are contemporary references to Gesualdo being played on the viols, and in any case his approach to music-making seems to have been eminently practical!)*

The day will start with coffee at 10am followed by playing and singing at 10.30. The plan is for everyone to work together for the first session for both moral support and a collective introduction to interpretation. Then there will be two sessions working one-to-a-part. The day will end with everyone coming together for one of the larger-scale Tenebrae Responsories. This will have to be organised well in advance so it is ESSENTIAL that you Gerald know if you are not likely to arrive at the beginning or cannot stay all day, or find that you cannot come at all. Please do not back out at the last minute.

Burnham Grammar School (near Slough) is less than two miles from junction 7 on the M4 and under a mile from Burnham station on the Paddington to Reading line. Please park in the tennis court area and enter through the back door nearby. Coffee and tea will be provided. There is a small Co-op within walking distance and a Tesco Express. The nearest pubs (about 5 of them) are in Burnham Village High street about 2 minutes walk from the school. Just cross Hogfair Lane and walk down the road opposite the school (Lincoln Hatch Lane) and you will be there. There is also a variety of restaurants, cafes etc plus another Tesco Express in the High Street. However it is probably better to bring your own lunch as there is not really time to eat at the pub and be back in an hour. Please note that the school has a no smoking rule and dogs are not allowed on the premises.

The cost will be £12 for members of TVEMF and other forums and £14 for non-members if booked by 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE. Late bookings cost £14 and £16 respectively and if you want to make a late booking you need to e-mail or phone first on 0780 141 9336 [sgeraldplace@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sgeraldplace@hotmail.co.uk) to check that you can be fitted in. Don't just turn up on the day! Please return the form to: Gerald Place, 23 Oakdene Mews, Ash Road, Sutton, Surrey SM3 9LE enclosing a SAE (self-adhesive if possible) if you would like an acknowledgement. Maps are available on [www.streetmap.co.uk](http://www.streetmap.co.uk) if you enter the postcode, and on the TVEMF web site.

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I would like to come to the Gesualdo study day on 2nd July 2011 and enclose £  
(Cheque payable to TVEMF)

Name and address:

telephone number:

e-mail:

Voice/viol: