

Thames Valley Early Music Forum

Christmas Workshop Hans Leo Hassler

A workshop for singers and instrumentalists
with Michael Procter

Sunday 4th December 2011

at the Drake Hall, Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, Bucks HP6 5AH
10am for 10.30 until 5pm

This year's Christmas (or more strictly Advent) workshop is for voices and appropriate instruments such as cornetts, sackbuts, curtals, recorders, viols, plucked and keyboard continuo (from unfigured bass only). Pitch will be A = 440. Hans Leo Hassler became friends with Giovanni Gabrieli when he studied alongside him under Andrea, Giovanni's uncle, in Venice. The two even wrote a wedding motet together for a wealthy merchant, Georg Gruber in Nürnberg, and when both composers died in 1612 Gruber published a huge retrospective collection of their music. In this workshop anticipating what will inevitably be more a Gabrieli than a Hassler quatercentenary in 2012, we shall explore some of Hassler's larger-scale polychoral music, for 10, 12, 16 and even 18 voices, including Christmas pieces.

Michael Procter is well-known as editor and publisher, as director of the male-voice ensemble Hofkapelle, and as leader of many well-established courses including the International Academy of Sacred Music in Venice and of course the annual TVEMF Kilburn weekends.

The day will start with coffee at 10.00 am and finish at about 5 pm. It will be followed by the TVEMF AGM. Lunch is likely to be from about 12.30 until 1.45 and, as usual at our Christmas event, will be communal. **You are asked to bring a contribution** - to the first course if your surname starts with A to N and to the second if it starts with O to Z. Please put perishable contributions in the fridge when you arrive, and leave anything that would be better kept cool in your car (if you came in one), assuming that the weather is cold. Everything else goes on the tables in the hall - first course to the left and second at the far end. Bread, butter and a glass of wine or juice will be provided. Please be prepared to volunteer on the catering front at some time during the day, as there will be lots to do (though the Centre has an excellent dishwasher).

Amersham Community Centre is only a few minutes walk from Amersham station. Turn right out of the station and follow the road round past the Health Centre and the library. The Community Centre is on the right almost immediately after the pedestrian crossing, and the hall is in the building on the right at the back of the car park, almost opposite the entrance. There is space on the form to offer or ask for a lift. Parking is free at the Community Centre and in the library car park. If you search www.streetmap.co.uk for the post code HP6 5AH you will see the Centre just underneath the arrow.

The cost will be £12 for Early Music Forum members, £14 for others. This is likely to be a popular event so please book early to be sure of a place. You can assume you have been accepted unless you hear to the contrary shortly after the closing date. **If you have booked and can't come, please let me know at once because otherwise you will not only lose your booking fee but you will very likely deprive someone on the waiting list of a place.** The attached form should be sent by November 20th to: Victoria Helby, 50 Sheepfold Lane, Amersham HP7 9EJ. If you need to contact me please use email if possible secretary@tvemf.org but you can phone me on 01494 721582 except between 4pm and 7pm on weekdays.

I would like to come to the Christmas workshop and enclose a cheque (payable to TVEMF) for £

Name:
Address:

Telephone:
e-mail:

Voice/instrument(s):

I can offer/would like a lift from