

# Thames Valley Early Music Forum

## Sacred Stoltzer

**Psalm settings and motets by Thomas Stoltzer (c.1480-1526)**

A day for singers and instrumentalists directed by **Peter Syrus**  
at the United Reformed Church, Ickenham, Saturday 30 June 2012

Peter Syrus teaches at the Royal Northern College of Music, is part of the tutorial team for the long-established NWEMF summer school and directs early music workshops and other events. He writes: "Several of my recent days for the Forum have been given to single figures from the earlier sixteenth century, including Costanzo Festa and Heinrich Isaac. In terms of unfamiliarity, Thomas Stoltzer may be the boldest (or most reckless?) choice yet. But he notches up a couple of important 'firsts' in the history books. 'Octo tonorum melodiae' may be the earliest extended cycle of instrumental pieces, a sort of Dowland 'Lachrimae' but nearly a century earlier. More pressing for this workshop are his German-texted Psalm settings, among the first large-scale religious compositions in the vernacular, successfully uniting traditional German features with the late Netherlandish style of Josquin des Prez. We shall perform two, the austere yet compelling 'Herr, wie lang willst du' (Psalm 13), and the spaciouly proportioned and texturally varied 'Herr, neige deine Ohren' (Psalm 86). These will be contrasted with Latin motets, 'Requiem aeternam' and 'Resurrexi' for four voices, 'Christi virgo dilectissima' and 'O admirabile commercium' for five. The melody of the last may just haunt you as you wend your way home; this appears to have been one of the composer's most admired works. By all means commemorate the 'big boys' such as Victoria last year or Giovanni Gabrieli this, but a day's workshop seems the ideal opportunity to put other figures into the frame."

The music will be suitable for singers (all ranges) and for viols (all sizes), recorders (alto downwards), cornetts, sackbuts and dulcians. The pitch will be A = 440.

The day will begin with coffee and registration at 10.00 for a 10.30 start and run till 5.00. Ickenham URC is in Swakeleys Road, on the corner of Eleanor Grove (postcode UB10 8BE), half a mile from Ickenham station (Metropolitan and Piccadilly lines) and about three quarters of a mile from West Ruislip (Chiltern and Central). Drivers can park in the streets by the church. There are pubs and cafes serving lunches close by.

The fee is £12 for Early Music Forum members and £14 for non-members, cheques payable to TVEMF. Please send this form by 6 June to Jeff Gill, 12 Dorset Road, London SW8 1EJ (jeffgill9160@waitrose.com, 020 7735 9002). You should assume that your application has been accepted unless you hear to the contrary.

Registered charity no. 900284

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**TVEMF, Ickenham United Reformed Church, 30 June 2012**

**PLEASE USE CAPITALS**

Name:

Voice/instrument:

Address:

I enclose a cheque payable to 'TVEMF' for £

Telephone number:

e-mail address: