

Thames Valley Early Music Forum

POLYCHORAL MASTERPIECES OF THE PORTUGUESE BAROQUE

A Workshop for Voices and Instruments

at Magdalen College School, Oxford

on Saturday 29th January 2005

directed by

Peter Leech

Whereas the polychoral master musicians of baroque Venice are universally acclaimed, considerably less well-known but equally accomplished, were the masters of polyphony working in the courts, chapels and cathedrals of baroque Portugal who produced polychoral works of outstanding beauty, majesty and originality. This workshop will explore three giants of this era, Estevao de Brito, Joao Esteves and Joao Laurencio Rebelo. Rebelo had grown up at Vila Vicosa in the service of Duke John of Braganca. When the Duke arrived triumphantly in Lisbon as King John IV in 1640 Rebelo was at his side, both as a trusted friend and as a principal composer at the new Portuguese court. Enjoy the splendour of the court of John IV and his descendants with a programme which includes Esteves' sublime 8-part Lamentations of Jeremiah.

Currently Musical Director of the Bristol Bach Choir, City of Oxford Choir, Aylesbury Choral Society and Yeovil Chamber Choir, Peter Leech has received wide critical acclaim for his musical direction and scholarship. He has published articles in the Revised New Grove and Early Music (2001) and led numerous inspiring workshops of seventeenth century music, including music by Portuguese, German, French and Eastern European baroque masters. In October 2003 he won First Prize in the Mariele Ventre International Competition for Choral conductors.

Pitch A=440; Instruments called for - strings (violins, violas, cellos and/or treble, tenor viols and viola da gambas), recorders, cornetts, sackbuts, oboes, curtals and/or bassoons.

The day will start with coffee and registration at 10.00 am. and finish about 5 p.m. Lunch will be from about 12.30 until 1.45. Tea and coffee are provided. Pub lunches can be obtained nearby, but many prefer to bring their own food. Magdalen College School is opposite the Jacqueline du Pre Music Room, on the corner of Iffley road and 'The Plain' (roundabout). Parking is available in the school grounds. There is a map available from <http://www.mcsxford.org/>

The cost will be £9 for members of an early Music Forum, £11 for others. For bookings made after 14th February telephone confirmation must be obtained. Please try to book as early as possible to ensure a place. If you require clefs other than treble, octave-treble or bass please indicate this on the form.

If you would like to take part please send the attached form to:

John Graham, The Garden House, Mollington, BANBURY, Oxon OX17 1BD Tel: 01295-750355

I would like to come to the TVEMF workshop on Sunday 29th January 2005

I enclose £ (cheque payable to TVEMF)

Telephone:

Name & address:

Voice and/or Instrument:

I do/do not require a map/receipt (delete as applicable and enclose an SAE if reply needed)

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