

THAMES VALLEY EARLY MUSIC FORUM



Tuesday 8th November 2022, 8pm (on Zoom)

John Dunstaple – context and *contenance*

An Illustrated talk by **Rory McCleery**



In this illustrated Zoom lecture, designed to complement his live workshop in Northwood on 26th November, Rory McCleery explores the life, reputation and influence of John Dunstaple, arguably England's most important composer of the early fifteenth century. Details of Dunstaple's life are shrouded in mystery, and his position as chief exponent of the *contenance angloise* ascribed to him by Martin le Franc and Johannes Tinctoris and confirmed by later music theorists may not be entirely accurate, but what is undeniable is the beauty and ingenuity of his music, which would influence a generation of composers both in England and on the Continent.

'McCleery, a countertenor and academic as well as conductor, introduced the items with a lucidity combining boyish geniality with quite startling erudition.' (The Sunday Times)

Rory McCleery is the founder and artistic director of award-winning vocal ensemble The Marian Consort, with whom he performs, broadcasts and records across the UK, Europe, North America and Asia. He and they were recently featured on the flagship BBC 2 series Art That Made Us, performing and discussing Dunstaple's *Veni sancte spiritus*.

In addition to this and his work as a countertenor soloist and consort singer, Rory is much in demand as a guest conductor and workshop leader, and has led workshop sessions, study days and singing courses across the UK, Germany, Spain and the USA. He is a passionate believer in the importance of music education and singing for young people and is Artistic Co-Director of Dunster Festival in West Somerset.

How to book: Please book online: click on this link [BOOK HERE](#), fill in the form, and click "SUBMIT" at the end. No bookings can be accepted after 5pm on 8th November.

Payment details: £5/head*

*If you are able to, and would like to add a donation on top of this to show your support for Rory and other musicians, this would be much appreciated. Half of any surplus monies above Rory's agreed fee will be given to Rory and the other half will be split equally between two charities, Help Musicians Coronavirus Financial Hardship Fund and the Continuo Foundation.

Please pay by Stripe or bank transfer (details in the online booking form).

By cheque (only if Stripe or bank transfer is not possible): payable to Thames Valley Early Music Forum (**NOT** TVEMF), sent to 43 Inchwood, Birch Hill, Bracknell RG12 7ZX. Enquiries about payments to membershipsecretary@tvemf.org please. Other enquiries to michaelfbloom@yahoo.co.uk.

Zoom link will be issued by email the day before the event. If you need to, you can download the free software here: <https://zoom.us/>. Please check that you have the latest update:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrading-Zoom-to-the-latest-version>