

southern early music forum

Quam pulchra es! Motets from the Song of Songs

Choral Day in Challock, Kent, tutored by David Allinson Saturday 21 February 2009 – 10.00 am to 5.00 pm

Perhaps the most 'secular' book in the Old Testament, the *Canticum canticorum* is an extended love poem which has traditionally been interpreted as an allegory of God's love, either for the Israelites or for the Christian soul. Filled with vivid evocations of longing and passion, the text has always appealed to church composers, giving them license to compose sacred music of uncommon sensuality.

Join us in Challock in late February, as the first signs of spring make their tentative appearance, for a day of ravishing Renaissance polyphony. The precise repertoire is subject to change, according to numbers coming forward, but we hope to sing some, or all, of these:

Palestrina	<i>Sicut lilium a5</i>	SATTB
Palestrina	<i>Surgam et circuibo a5</i>	SATTB
Victoria	<i>Trahe me post te a6</i>	SAATTB
Guerrero	<i>Trahe me post te a5</i>	SSATB
Guerrero	<i>Ave Virgo sanctissima a5</i>	SSATB
Clemens	<i>Ego flos campi a7</i>	SSATTBB

Please sign up early - men especially - so that we can plan to tackle the more ambitious pieces.

Venue: The workshop will take place in the Village (Memorial) Hall, Challock, near Ashford. Challock is on the A252 between Charing (A20) and Chilham (A28). At Challock, go down Church Lane and take the first left (just past the Chequers Pub) into Blind Lane; the Memorial Hall is on the right. There is plenty of car-parking space at the Hall.

Lunch: There are two pubs in the village which serve lunch, or you can bring your own lunch to eat in the Hall – as last year we will ask someone from one of the pubs to come and take orders at the start of the day. The cost of coffee and tea is included in the fee for the day.

Tutor: This is **David Allinson's** *seventh* visit to Challock, tribute enough to the popularity of these events. David is an experienced workshop leader, and has directed numerous workshops in England and abroad. A freelance performer, scholar and teacher, he specialises in the history and performance of Renaissance choral music. David studied music at St Peter's College, Oxford and University College, Durham; he completed a PhD (on the devotional and intellectual context of early Tudor church music) at Exeter University in 1998. He worked on the revised *Grove Dictionary of Music* and then became assistant editor of several music periodicals. Now freelance and based in London, he sings, conducts and teaches singing. David has lectured in music at many Oxford colleges; he currently teaches at the University of Bristol. He directs several choirs, including Hampstead Chamber Choir, and is founding director of the early music ensemble, Cantores.

Timetable: 10.00 Arrival and Coffee 10.30 Session 1 11.45 Break 12.00 Session 2
13.00 Lunch 14.15 Session 3 15.30 Tea 15.45 Session 4 (end by 17.00)

Fee: SEMF or other forum members: £9-00 Others: £11-00

Contact: *Richard Whitehouse, 31 Woodlands Avenue, Redhill, Surrey RH1 6EX Tel: 01737 765725*
e-mail: richard.j.whitehouse@btopenworld.com

SEMF on the World-Wide Web: www.semf.org.uk

You can assume the event will take place unless you hear otherwise, but please send a stamped addressed envelope if you want positive confirmation.

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NAME

ADDRESS

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TELEPHONE E-mail

I would like to come to the SEMF Day at Challock on **Saturday 21 February 2009** and I enclose payment of £ (cheques payable to **Southern Early Music Forum**)

Voice (give range if possible).....

Please return the form together with payment **no later than Saturday 14 February** to:

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e-mail: richard.j.whitehouse@btopenworld.com