



News from the Royal School of Church Music

TOP UK YOUTH CHOIR “WITH ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM” TO SING IN CORNWALL

DIARY MARKER: 16th – 22nd AUGUST 2010 INCLUSIVE

One of the UK’s leading youth choirs described as singing with “a lot of energy and enthusiasm” will be holding its summer course in Cornwall during August. The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) MILLENNIUM YOUTH CHOIR, which this year is celebrating the tenth anniversary of its foundation, will be singing at daily services in Truro Cathedral, and giving a concert in St Ives.

From 16th to 22nd August the MYC will be in residence at Truro Cathedral, singing at the daily service of Choral Evensong (except Thursday 19th and Saturday 21st) and at the Eucharist on Sunday 22nd. They will also give a concert in St Ives Parish Church at 7.30pm on Thursday 19th.

The Millennium Youth Choir (MYC) consists of forty singers aged between 16 and 23, who are drawn from parish, cathedral and college choirs all over the UK. It enjoys a high-media profile, and last year made its debut at the BBC Proms in a performance of Handel’s *Messiah*. It broadcasts services of *Choral Evensong* on BBC Radio 3, and also records regularly for BBC TV’s *Songs of Praise*.

Speaking about his work as Director of the choir on a *Songs of Praise* programme broadcast last month, David Ogden said, “They have lots of energy, lots of enthusiasm, and keenness to learn more about different aspects of music. They are energised by church and the music, which is a really fulfilling task.”

During their week in Cornwall they can be heard in Truro and St Ives singing a wide range of choral music, from Monteverdi and Rigatti to Poulenc and Rheinberger, as well as contemporary works from Grayston Ives and James Whitbourn. A full list of music sung by the choir at services in Truro Cathedral can be viewed at www.rscm.com/courses/summer_2010.php

Tickets for the concert in St Ives Parish Church on Thursday 19th August at 7.30pm (£6 in advance) are available from the local box office on 01726 879500 or online at <http://www.crbo.co.uk>, or £7 on the door.

ENDS

29 August 2010

Notes for Editors

For more information go to www.rscm.com/myc

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an international ecumenical charity that educates, supports and enables musicians, composers and clergy in promoting sacred music in churches, schools and the wider community. The RSCM publishes music and training resources (such as its popular *Voice for Life* training scheme for singers of all ages), and organises a wide range of courses, short workshops and activities. With over 8,000 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries it is supported by over 600 volunteers in area committees and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

Photographs of the choir for publication may be downloaded from the RSCM website:

http://www.rscm.com/about_us/pictureGallery.php

We will be pleased to arrange for a reporter / photographer / film crew to visit the choir during the week.

For further media enquiries contact:

Stuart Robinson: RSCM Media Relations Organiser srobinson@rscm.com 01492 556378 / 07831 827701

Heather Bamber: RSCM Marketing & Communications Administrator hbamber@rscm.com 01722 424847

More background:

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir was founded in 1999 at the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, offering young singers from the ages of 16 to 23 years the opportunity to sing in some of the UK's most beautiful sacred buildings. Residential courses are held during school and university holidays, and include individual musical and vocal tuition, as well as participation in services and performance in public concerts.

Last year, the choir travelled to Assisi in a choral pilgrimage with the BBC, and made its debut at the BBC Proms in a performance with other leading youth choirs in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*. They regularly broadcast services for BBC Radio, and take part in recording sessions for BBC TV's *Songs of Praise*.

In recent years the choir has sung in a variety of venues from prisons to some of the UK's most beautiful sacred buildings including St Paul's Cathedral in London, the Cathedrals of St Mary and St Giles in Edinburgh, St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, Salisbury Cathedral and many others. The choir has recorded two CDs, the most recent in 2007 which was recorded and produced by the composer and conductor, John Rutter.

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir is conducted by David Ogden, assisted by the organist Daniel Moulton and the vocal coach Hilary Llystyn Jones.