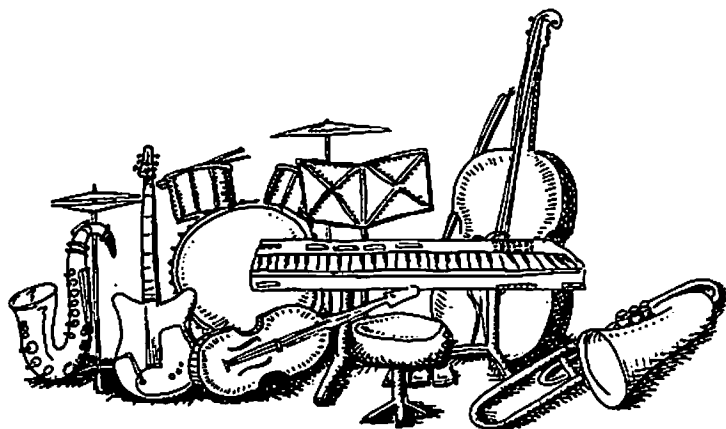




*ELGAR : The DREAM
of GERONTIUS*



Hands Music



Instruments new and second-hand
Guitars from £35 — £1,500
Keyboards — Yamaha, Casio, etc.
Brass and Woodwind Instruments
Violins from £49.95 to £1,000

HIRE AND BUY RENTAL SCHEME

Vast stocks of sheet music
Teaching aids for all instruments

40 High Street, Kingston upon Thames
01-546 9156

Kingston Choral Society
with
The Purcell Orchestra
present

"THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS"

by Sir Edward Elgar (based on the poem by Cardinal Newman)

KINGSTON PARISH CHURCH

Saturday, June 1st, 1991

CONDUCTOR:	Robin Page
MEZZO-SOPRANO:	Annemarie Sand
TENOR:	Richard Braebrook
BASS:	Mark Wildman

Tonight's performance is in two parts. During the interval wine and fruit juice will be served. Tickets for wine should be bought at the door before the concert begins.

BACK SUFFERERS

TUDOR WILLIAMS OFFER THE LARGEST
RANGE OF ORTHOPAEDIC BEDS AND
MATTRESSES IN SURREY

The right bed for you

With over 50 back-care bed options in the showroom for you to try, you are bound to find the ideal bed for your back.

Many beds in the range are custom built, and if two of you cannot agree on which firmness is the most comfortable, split mattresses are available, incorporating two different support ratings.

An Orthopaedic bed for every budget

Prices range from only £200 to £1,200 so that you can be sure to find an orthopaedic bed to suit your pocket as well as your back.

Over 2000 back sufferers helped

Since the opening of Tudor Williams Orthopaedic Bed Centre, over 2000 beds have been sold, many on personal recommendation.

**Tudor
WILLIAMS**

New Malden, Surrey KT3 4BU
Telephone 081-942 2277

* INTEREST FREE CREDIT * FREE DELIVERY * FREE DISPOSAL
(WRITTEN DETAILS ON REQUEST) IN OUR VAN AREA OF YOUR OLD BED



The Dream of Gerontius was composed expressly for the Birmingham Music Festival in 1900. With the completion of the Enigma Variations the previous year Elgar's reputation had been established and he now turned his attention to some verse which had caused an outright sensation in the Midlands. The libretto for the text was taken from a devotional poem also called the Dream of Gerontius which had been written by Cardinal Newman and which concerned Catholic death and immortality.

The early history of Elgar's involvement with the Dream of Gerontius was also linked with the story of General Gordon of Khartoum. This legendary figure, through his courageous patriotism and Anglo-Catholic inspiration, became a respected hero of the Victorian public. He received a copy of the poem from an admirer just before his departure for the Sudan in 1884 to rescue isolated Egyptian garrisons from native rebels. He was killed during the ten-month siege of Khartoum but before it was over, the copy of the poem was returned to England. In it, he had underlined verses of special appeal which became known as the Gordon markings.

Cardinal Newman's original poem comprised seven sections; a prologue which showed the dying dreamer surrounded by a priest and assistants and six movements which traced the soul's progress from Judgement to Purgatory.

In Elgar's oratorio the text of the prologue largely formed the basis of Part I. Meanwhile he compressed the other six sections into the second, longer half of the composition. This effectively sharpens the dramatic contrast between the two states of life and death.

The opening reveals the solitude of the dying hero Gerontius. The name means literally, Old Man. He begins in faith with words from the Good Friday liturgy and moves towards horror and despair at the final prospect of death. Although he is comforted by the prayers of the catholic assistants, his life is ultimately dismissed by the priest with words from the burial service. In the other-worldly setting of Part II the hero is accompanied by a guiding angel through the company of Demons and Angelicals towards Judgement. The Angel of Agony repeats the seeming finality of the priest's farewell as the soul of Gerontius goes before God and descends to Purgatory. But this time it is different because in accordance with traditional Catholic theology it is only a temporary state of preparation before the soul ascends to Heaven. In this way the hero's loneliness finds an answer.

TWICKENHAM CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENT Renaissance Works including the Tallis 40-part Motet...Sat. July 6, St. Mary's College Chapel, Strawberry hill, 7.30pm.....Full details: 081 941 1055

In line with this development the central expression of Part I is for soloists while the emphasis of Part II is more choral. The solo writing of the work largely comprises a long-lined recitative built on recurring musical motifs. This is dominated by the tenor solo which reflects the role of Gerontius' body and soul.

At appropriate points this solo line is punctuated by contributions from the chorus and semi-chorus which appear as varying groups of people that Gerontius meets on his way.

The whole work is characterised by a remarkable variety of tone and texture which is well in keeping with matters of life and death. This can be illustrated by a close analysis of the second half. The chorus for Demons exalts in the mockery of the soul's beliefs and in flaunting musical conventions. The chromatic opening practically destroys all tonal identity. Moreover in the furious fantastical fugue the usual thematic development is replaced by loud shouts on fourths and fifths. These creatures are conceived as basically vulgar and incapable of commanding form. By contrast the extended chorus of the Angelicals presents a series of graduated climaxes in "Praise to the Holiest" which produces an appeal on a grand scale. After this the slow sequence of Judgement begins in the orchestra and grows louder. An instant's pause is followed by an earth-shattering chord as the soul shouts "Take me away". The piece then ends on soft choral majesty as the chorus "Praise to the Holiest" is re-echoed from the souls in Purgatory while Gerontius descends to join them.

The premiere in Birmingham under Hans Richter was deemed to be a failure because of a bad performance. This was partly due to the music's advanced idiom and also to inadequate rehearsal. However the inherent qualities of the work were still recognised. A German conductor, Julius Butts, translated the text and performed it in Dusseldorf the next year with such success that it was selected for the Rhine Festival in 1902. A year later it was also performed in Chicago. Such appeal was to reach unprecedented heights during the first decade of the new century.

- LAWRENCE COOKE-

K I N G S T O N C H O R A L S O C I E T Y

OUR NEXT CONCERT is on Sat. July 13, Kingston Parish Church at 7.30pm.

HANDEL: Chandos Anthem "O Come Let Us Sing To The Lord"
CHERUBINI: Requiem

Tickets from members or Hands Music Centre, Hatchards or Alto Music Centre, Kingston.

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY

JUNE, 1991

T H E D R E A M

P A R T I

PRELUDE

TENOR SOLO (Soul of Gerontius) "Jesu, Maria, I am near to death"

CHORUS (Assistants) "Kyrie Eleison"

TENOR SOLO (Gerontius) "Rouse thee, my fainting soul"

CHORUS (Assistants) "Be merciful, be gracious; spare him, Lord"

TENOR SOLO (Gerontius) "Sanctus fortis, Sanctus Deus"

TENOR SOLO (Gerontius) "I can no more"

CHORUS (Assistants) "Rescue him, O Lord, in this his evil hour"

TENOR SOLO (Gerontius) "Novissima hora est"

BASS SOLO (The Priest) "Proficiscere anima Christiana"

CHORUS (Assistants) "Go, in the name of Angels and Archangels"

I N T E R V A L

P A R T I I

INTRODUCTION

TENOR SOLO (Soul of Gerontius) "I went to sleep; and now I am refreshed"

MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO (Angel) "My work is done, My task is o'er"

DIALOGUE, MEZZO-SOPRANO AND TENOR (Angel and Soul) "All hail, My child and brother, hail!"

CHORUS (Demons) "Lowborn clods of brute earth

MEZZO-SOPRANO (Angel) "It is the restless panting of their being"

CHORUS (Demons) "The mind bold and independent"

DIALOGUE, TENOR AND MEZZO-SOPRANO (Soul and Angel) "I see not those false spirits"

CHORUS (Angelicals) "Praise to the Holiest in the height"

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY

JUNE, 1991

O F G E R O N T I U S

P A R T I I (Cont)

TENOR SOLO (Soul) "The sound is like the rushing of the wind"

CHORUS (Angelicals) "Glory to him"

MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO (Angel) "They sing of thy approaching agony"

TENOR SOLO (Soul) "But hark! a grand mysterious harmony"

MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO (Angel) "And now the threshold as we traverse it"

CHORUS (Tutti) "Praise to the Holiest in the height"

DIALOGUE MEZZO-SOPRANO AND TENOR (Angel and Soul) "Thy judgement now is near"

BASS SOLO (Angel of Agony) "Jesu! by that shuddering dread which fell on Thee"

CHORUS (Voices on Earth) "Be merciful, be gracious, spare him, Lord"

MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO (Angel) "Praise to His Name"

TENOR SOLO (Soul) "Take me away"

CHORUS (Souls in Purgatory) "Lord Thou has been our refuge"

MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO (Angel) "Softly and gently dearly ransomed soul"

CHORUS (Souls) "Lord, Thou hast been our refuge"

CHORUS (Angelicals) "Praise to the Holiest"



Pick of the Bunch Ltd
Flowers for all occasions

KINGSTON: 140-142 RICHMOND ROAD · TEL 081-549 9000 · 081-546 3592 · FAX 081-547 2236
NEW MALDEN: 177 HIGH STREET · TEL 081-942 6272
HAM COMMON: UPPER HAM ROAD · TEL 081-948 3666
TEDDINGTON: 200 KINGSTON ROAD · TEL 081-943 3883

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY

JUNE, 1991

ANNEMARIE SAND was born in Denmark and completed her music and vocal studies at the Royal Academy of Music. Her operatic roles include Mother Goose (The Rake's Progress), Nancy (Albert Herring), Charlotte (Werther), Octavian (Der Rosenkavalier), Hansel (Hansel and Gretel), and The Mother (Amahl and the Night Visitors). She made her debut with the English National Opera in 1987 as Page (Salome) and has since sung Composer (Ariadne auf Naxos) with the Welsh National Opera, Linetta (Oranges) with the English National Opera as well as continuing a busy concert career.

RICHARD BRAEBROOK is currently in his ninth season with the English National Opera at the London Coliseum. Born in Huddersfield, he studied at that city's School of Music and later at the Royal College of Music where he gained his A.R.C.M. with Honours. He has sung with the BBC Singers and also as principal tenor in the old Doyly Carte Opera Company. It was with this group that he travelled throughout Britain, Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand. His career has also taken him to the USSR for performances in Kiev, Moscow and Leningrad. He is a founder member of the Kensington Gore Singers and has sung for the Queen Mother. The Dream of Gerontius is part of an extensive repertoire. He sang it most recently at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. As a pianist and conductor he has been Musical Director of the Feltham Choral Society. He has also sung recently in cabaret on the P & O cruise liner, Canberra.

MARK WILDMAN is also from Huddersfield. He makes a welcome return to Kingston Choral Society having last sung with us for the Brahms German Requiem two years ago. In 1963 he won a Choral Scholarship to the King's School, Gloucester and became a chorister at Gloucester Cathedral, studying under Dr. Herbert Sumsion. In 1972 he gained a place at the Royal Academy of Music where he studied under the guidance of Henry Cummings and Rex Stephens. He won many of the major prizes including the coveted Westmorland Scholarship and at the conclusion of his studies was awarded the Recital Diploma. In 1976, while still a student at the Royal Academy, he won a Choral Scholarship at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle where he sang for three years. In 1980 Mark was a prize winner in the Great Grimsby International Competition for Singers. Two years later the Greater London Arts Association selected him as "Young Musician '82". Mark has travelled throughout Europe, Britain and the United States performing a repertoire ranging from the works of Purcell, Boyce and Arne to those of Roger Steptoe, Phillip White, Arthur Wills, Nigel Clarke and Giles Swayne of whose works he has given first performances. Mark combines a busy performing career with his duties as a Professor of Singing at the Royal Academy of Music where he was elected an Associate in 1986.

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY

JUNE, 1991

ROBIN PAGE was born at Ipswich in 1954 and was educated at Magdalen College School, Oxford and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. He studied conducting as a postgraduate at the Royal Academy of Music, London. In 1980 he made his South Bank debut. He is now principal conductor of the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, the Purcell Orchestra and also the conductor and musical director of both Kingston Choral Society and the West Sussex Philharmonic Choir.

THE PURCELL ORCHESTRA was founded in 1982 from a nucleus of the best professional musicians graduating from the music colleges in London. It made its South Bank debut in 1986 and performs regularly with Kingston Choral Society and similar groups.

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY's origins can be traced to 1948 when the Mayor of Surbiton asked local church choirs to combine for a performance of Handel's Messiah. From this grew the Surbiton Oratorio Society and in turn the Kingston Choral Society when in 1985 it was felt that our growing links with the Royal Borough warranted the change of name.

Like all choirs, there is always a place for new members. We rehearse each Thursday at Hollyfield School, Surbiton, at 8pm. For details ask any of the choir tonight or telephone our Membership Secretary, Therese Ayres, on 081 979 2698.

BATHTIME

Not just another
bath showroom

- but everything you'll
ever want in your
bathroom



Retailers of all makes of sanitaryware including

- ☐ Armitage Shanks, Ideal Standard, Twyford's Original Bathrooms, Springs & Balterley. 10 suites on display.
- ☐ The widest range of bathroom accessories in the South.
- ☐ Cane and wicker in volume.
- ☐ Loo seats galore. Wooden seats a speciality. Dozens to choose from.
- ☐ Showers and shower equipment. Many different makes and styles of cubicles and bath screens on display.
- ☐ Free parking.

37 The Centre (Near Beales), Walton-On-Thames, Surrey.

TELEPHONE: WALTON (0932) 225566

Bentalls

— *is* —

a beautiful store and
a unique shopping experience

— *is* —

the latest fashions, accessories
menswear and childrenswear

— *is* —

superb home furnishings

— *is* —

enjoying coffee, lunch or tea
with good friends

— *is* —

exclusive shopping advantages
with the Bentalls Chargecard

Bentalls

— *is* —

KINGSTON UPON THAMES

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY

JUNE, 1991

P A T R O N

The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames.

P R E S I D E N T

W James Daly, KCHS, FICE.

V I C E P R E S I D E N T S

Mrs. A W Dymond, Mrs. H M Harrison, R J E Lunn, Mr and Mrs A G Ryde, R Tracey JP MP

M U S I C A L D I R E C T O R

Robin Page, MA Hons (Cantab), LRAM

C H A I R M A N

Rod Pearson

H O N O R A R Y M E M B E R S

J P Coleman, Mrs A Johnson, Miss D Lofts, Mrs N Mursell.

A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

The Society is grant aided by the ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES.....Society members again wish to record their gratitude to MARY FULLER for her work as rehearsal pianist.....The cover for this programme was designed and drawn by MAURICE MOERI of DESIGN SERVICES (081 643 3595).....We would like to thank PICK OF THE BUNCH for their generous supply of flowers for this concert.....We gratefully acknowledge the continuing support from BARCLAYS BANK PLC., 6 Clarence St., Kingston. 081 549 5733.

FIRST CLASS SERVICE FOR CLASSICS FROM A FIRST CLASS MUSIC SHOP

PRINTED MUSIC EXPERTS

Large modern shop with printed music wall to wall. 2,000 of the most requested items always in stock. Constantly changing "browse" stock. Rapid service for non-stock items - typically 7-10 days. Mail Order Dept has moved to new premises to cope with heavy demand.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

We stock all leading makes. Rental scheme with option to purchase. Extensive experience of school requirements. Sensible advice for parents if needed. Comprehensive accessories. Repairs. Records/Cassettes/Compact Discs. Yamaha Keyboards stocked and demonstrated.

Access. Visa. American Express. Diners Cards.
Large cheap car parks, free on Saturdays.

NEW DECOR!
Enlarged
Keyboard area

BRITTEN'S MUSIC Ltd

3 Station Approach, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6NG. Tel: Byfleet 51165 (24hrs) and 51614
Open Monday-Saturday 9-5.30 (Saturday close 4.30)

Mail Order Dept now at: 3 Claremont Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6DY
Tel. Byfleet 54898 (24 hrs) Mon-Fri 9-5.30

A Fine Performance



Visit our new showrooms
 Select from a fine range of pianos
 Interest free credit
 Part Exchange
 Full after sales service
 Piano rental
 Short term hire
 Tuning
 Repairs
 Sheet music
 Removals

SAVE 10% On the full price of all pianos, goods or services, offered by Sheargold Pianos Ltd. Telephone for full details

Sheargold
 PIANOS LTD

The Specialist Piano Company
 Est. 1870

PORTSMOUTH ROAD, COBHAM
 Cobham (0932) 66577
 Maidenham (0628) 771400
 53, KING STREET, MAIDENHEAD



**ELGAR: The DREAM
 of GERONTIUS**

