CONCERTOS





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YARROW GALLERY OUNDLE

Exhibition

Michael Aubrev Water Colours Clarissa Galliano Pastels **Emily Prior** Oil Paintings

> Open 13 – 20 July 2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.6.30 p.m. - 10.00 p.m.

Wine will be available in the evenings



Whitlock - SONATA

BBC Songs of Praise Theme

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Welcome to Oundle International Organ Week.

Almost exactly three years ago, on an idyllic summer evening in the Headmaster's garden, members of the Organ Steering Committee agreed with Erik Frobenius the placing of a contract for the new Chapel organ. I was present on that occasion and knew that the School was to acquire a truly notable instrument.

It was a magical moment. Prompted by my residual incredulity that a new classical organ was really on its way, came an exciting new idea: the loveliness of the garden, a glance at Oundle's historic skyscape and an awareness of the School's fine facilities and high standards all confirmed in an instant my hunch - what a perfect setting for a new international organ festival!



James Parsons

Oundle International Organ Week - an exciting, glamorous idea to be sure, but one which needed challenging! At a time when new festivals, competitions and arts projects are springing up almost every day, the nature and scale of yet another hazardously expensive venture has clearly to be defined, a valid raison d'être established.

This we have been able to do. My own enthusiasm for the Week, together with that of colleagues and friends, has refused to be suppressed and advice from a distinguished advisory Council and encouragement from important figures in the musical world have pointed to the setting up of a Summer School for young organists.

Is is most appropriate that a School with the tradition of excellence that Oundle has developed, possessing now a classical organ of international significance, should focus upon its potential as a centre for organ studies. No organ festival has before identified so specifically the need for school and college age organists to receive expert tuition on first class mechanical action organs. Our conviction, based on response is that this need has been correctly discerned; taught by Peter Hurford, John Scott, István Ella, Peter Planyavsky and Donald Sutherland, the 41 students selected should enjoy a most stimulating week in lovely surroundings. Do not miss an opportunity to hear some of them play on Saturday's Platform Concert!

To combine such a Summer School with a week of Festival Events seemed an obvious extension of the vision and I am confident that you will find very much to enjoy and appreciate in the concerts.

I would like to record my thanks to the Governors, Headmaster and Bursar of Oundle School for taking my initial 'wild card' pipe dream so very much to heart and for the very considerable support that they have given to this project. I must also express my deep appreciation to the generosity of our sponsors and the tireless support generously given me by colleagues, friends and especially my wife.

Enjoy the Week!

James Parsons