

Versatile and gifted musician Antony Hopkins has achieved success in many musical fields. He has composed incidental music for films, radio and the theatre as well as operas, chamber music and choral music. He is probably best known today as a lecturer and writer about music. 'Talking about Music' has been a popular radio programme for more than 30 years.



James Parsons, organist and assistant director of music at Oundle School, combines academic life with an extensive recital schedule. A former organ scholar at Exeter College, Oxford, he studied with David Lumsden and Ralph Downes. Founder-Director of Oundle International Organ Festival, James Parsons has made several recordings on the School's famed Frobenius organ.



Corelli Strings, named after the great 17th century violinist and composer, Arcangelo Corelli, specialises in the rich and varied repertoire composed or arranged for strings. Its reputation frequently attracts distinguished musicians to perform with it. Leader is Lyn Fletcher.

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(General Editor: **David Titterington**)

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## Johannes Geffert – Organ

Peterborough Cathedral 1.00pm

**Sonata in A minor No. 3**

August Ritter 1811-1885

Ritter was recognised as one of the 19th century's most versatile organists. His fame included interpretation and he was regarded as the first organist for a century to refine the old art of improvisation. Ritter is also given credit for inventing the radiating pedal board, still in use today. His third Sonata is written in one continuous movement, in the manner of the Reubke Sonata.

**Six Studies for pedal piano**

Schumann 1810-1856

This music was the direct outcome of an intense study Schumann had been making of Bach's music, particularly the 'forty-eight'. The work was devoted to the strict contrapuntal device known as canon. Since the pedal piano is now only used in private, these pieces have become the exclusive property of organists.

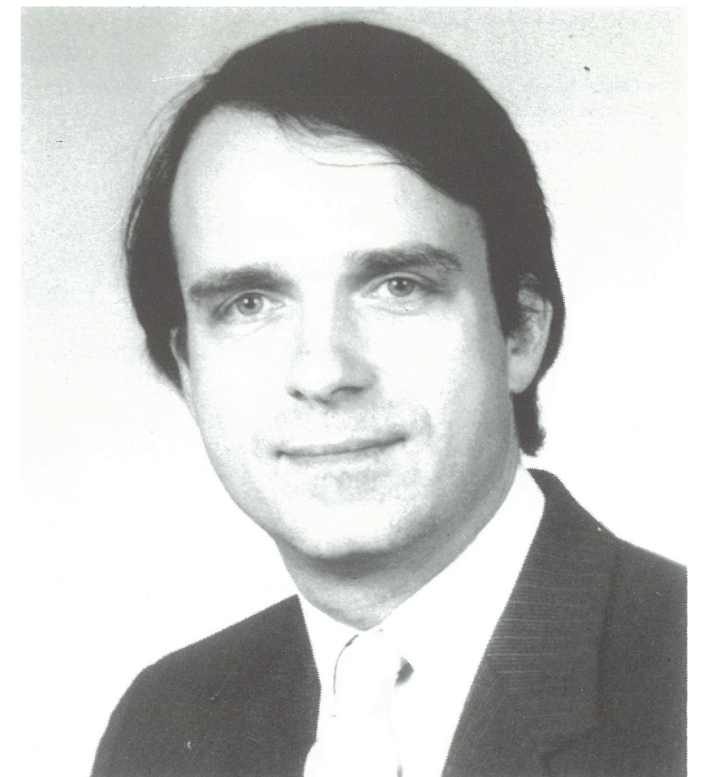
**Mephisto Waltz**

Liszt 1811-1886

trans. Johannes Geffert

This work is based on the dramatic poem 'Faust' by Lenau. The section which inspired this composition is the popular folk legend of the demon/devil musician to whose music all must dance. In this explicit depiction Mephistopheles and Faust join in a village wedding celebration. Mephistopheles takes up a fiddle and a series of catchy, amorous waltzes ensue, sweeping the dancers into an orgiastic state. Faust dances his partner through the door, the devilish music pursuing them as far as the forest. There, away from the music, the couple 'find each other' with only the nightingales for accompaniment.

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Johannes Geffert is organist of the Kreuzkirche in Bonn where he has consolidated the reputation of the traditional International Organ Weeks. He is also organist at the Beethovenhalle in Bonn and

teaches at the Robert Schumann Institute in Düsseldorf. Johannes Geffert's early studies were with his father; later he studied in England with Nicolas Kynaston. He is active as a harpsichordist, composer and recording artist.

## Corelli Strings

Oundle School Chapel 7.30pm

**Eine Kleine Nacht Musik K525**

Mozart 1756-1791

*Allegro; Romance; Minuet & Trio; Rondo*

This popular Serenade was composed in the summer of 1787 while Mozart was working on Don Giovanni. The four short movements are among his simplest and loveliest.

**Adagio in G minor for organ and strings**

Tomaso Albinoni 1671-1750

In 18th century Venice, Albinoni was best known for his operas. Material by Albinoni forms the basis of this haunting slow movement which is largely the work of Remo Giazotto.

**Sextet for Strings**

Bohuslav Martinů 1890-1959

*Lento poco moderato; Andante; Allegretto Scherzando; Allegretto poco moderato*

Martinů left his native Bohemia in 1923, living in Paris for 17 years before settling in the USA in 1941. His music is influenced by the classical concerto grosso, certain Czech folk elements and an essentially French liking for clarity and precision.

INTERVAL

**Tonight's Twilight Recital**

David Mattinson, bass-baritone Yarrow Art Gallery, 9.55pm  
See pages 22 and 23 for programme details.

**Concerto in G minor**

Francis Poulenc 1899-1963

This concerto for organ, strings and timpani makes a compelling introduction to the music of Poulenc. Cast in the form of a single movement fantasia with seven thematically related sections, it is almost Baroque in conception. The opening recalls Bach's G minor Fantasia. A surrealist succession of moods – ebullient, chaste, feverish, sensuous and gay – and some wonderful melodies follow. In the closing bars an air of invincible peace is established as a haunting viola solo floats above the organ's soft, impressionistic chords.

**Holberg Suite**

Edvard Grieg 1843-1907

*Präludium; Sarabande; Gavotte; Air; Rigaudon*

Written in 1884 to celebrate the bi-centenary of the Norwegian-Danish author Ludvig Holberg, the suite evokes the spirit of the 17th century. The work abounds in magnificent string effects and is full of melting Norwegian melodies.

**Rumanian Dances**

Béla Bartók 1881-1945

*Stick Dance; Braul; Stamping Dance; Dance from Buczum; Rumanian 'Polka'; Quick Dance*

These are small-scale but invigorating miniatures based on native folk tunes. While the folk melodies are almost unchanged, Bartók's individual harmonic treatment and rich, unconventional orchestration are always evident.

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