

If you've *Abelard* time with the *Lawes* delays and difficulties, *Constant* battles with a *Holst* of rules and regulations, a *Mundy* morning feeling that lasts (it seems) for *Weelkes*, when you can't *Baird* to hear the phone ringing, when you *Graun* and your tempers *Weill*, when your secretary *Howells* and threatens to join the *Raff*, declaring *Naumann's* ever treated her like this, then it's *Verdi* clear that what *Ioannidis* a *Hahn* to help out. Whether your legal problems are in *Britten* or a *Fauré* into Europe and beyond (*Franz* and the rest are so close now by *Sweelinck* or Tunnel) *Auric* needs is a *Czerny* call to a lawyer. *Knussen* works like it and gone are the *Effinger* blindings. But you must *Haba* good Solicitor, one who can *Handel* your work *Indy* best way possible, skilled in each *Mather* and able to *Telemann* the position clearly and succinctly, and give you full *Satie*-sfaction. One who *Bax* your cause, who will *Bruckner* nonsense from the other side, will *Parry* their every move, until *Vitry* is assured. And for such a firm *Busoni* *Halffter* contact 30 Priestgate, Peterborough to find some who'll *Guedron* with your matter and lift the burden *Orff* your shoulders. *Bliss!* *Widor* experience and expertise we *Finck* (nay we're confident) *Vierne* our excellent national reputation. So people *Tallis*: to be *Franck* why not be one more of those who have cause to say "*Ives* succeeded - thanks to *Gounod* *Greenwoods!*"?

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**Oundle International Festival ~  
a new era**

*Rose in Bloom* is the title of Helle Thorborg's woodcut that graces our front cover. It reminds us of the lush beauty of an English summer in rural Northamptonshire, 'the rose of the shires'; it speaks too of the artist's skill and vision that can draw on the patterns of the natural world and refresh our spirits through their representation. In Oundle's attractive landscape, artists from many countries and diverse fields bring you the varied delights that compose our twelfth festival.

This year's festival, the first promoted by a new limited company, expands the cultural platform. Drama and film introduce an extra new dimension to the programming.

*Murder in the Cathedral* by T S Eliot, in a new production commissioned to herald a new era, will be given by a professional and community cast in the candlelit interior of Oundle Parish Church. A very rare 1952 film of the play, made in collaboration with Eliot himself, will lend another perspective to the dark, savage intrigues leading to the murder of England's great Saint and Martyr Archbishop Thomas Becket.

If Eliot's play cuts a sombre profile, there's verve a-plenty to redress. The passion of black gospel music is also something new for the festival: London Community Gospel Choir presents its salvation message with awesome panache. More delicate ethnic timbres resonate through the 136 strings of Pingxin Xu's Chinese dulcimer, whilst *It's a funny old world* by singer and humorist Stewart Collins should be a real rib-tickler!

So much for innovation. The established and cherished elements of the festival are ever present, well served by classical concerts and recitals of distinction.

We welcome as our young ensemble in residence Quadro Corydon, prize-winning baroque group from the Royal Conservatory of The Hague, playing period instruments. Eighteenth century musical themes are also explored in a special double bill: Norwegian Jon Laukvik performs on both organ and harpsichord, whilst *Farinelli*, recently released Golden Globe winning film, peeps into the

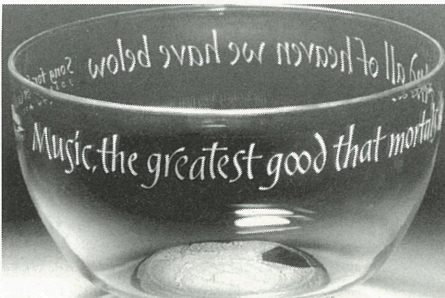
fantasy world of early opera. Fotheringhay church is the quiet country venue for the Schidlof String Quartet's programme of Debussy and Mozart; world-famous trumpeter Crispian Steele-Perkins sounds a fanfare in concert with the crystal tones of the Frobenius organ.

The usual cluster of international celebrity organ recitals promotes an interest in improvisation and transcription, skills which organists have long practised and coveted. Besides the fine organs in Oundle, featured instruments are those in Peterborough Cathedral, St John's College, Cambridge, and Great St Mary's, where the old Father Smith has just been restored. As ever, the lifeblood of the festival week will be over 50 young organists converging from home and abroad on Oundle, a town whose name has in the musical world become almost synonymous with the annual summer school.

Yes, this year's festival is a multi-faceted mixed media collage further spiced with exhibitions and community events. "We murder to dissect" wrote Wordsworth. So if this year's festival lacks any one binding thread, relax, savour all the themes and enjoy the party. Talking of parties, I hope you were amongst the fortunate few to book early for *Miller Magic*; the festival's now traditional *fête champêtre* has been sold out for weeks.

My warmest appreciation to our sponsors, supporting trust funds, public bodies and Friends, all of whom are credited in these pages, and especially to BarclayTrust, a company that has shown particular confidence in our enterprise.

James Parsons



Engraved glass bowl by David Pilkington (see page 36)

**Festival Club**

During the festival the Oundle School Tuckshop in Milton Road becomes the Festival Club, focus of social activity for festival goers, summer school and members of the general public alike. Coffee is served from 10.30 - 11.30am, and lunches from 12.30 - 2pm. Afternoon tea is from 4 - 5pm. The licensed bar is open at lunchtime and in the evenings before and after concerts; opening times are given each day in the programme.

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Friday 12 July Murder in the Cathedral Oundle Parish Church, 8pm followed by the film at 10pm	5
Saturday 13 July London Community Gospel Choir Oundle School Chapel, 7.30pm	7
Sunday 14 July Crispian Steele-Perkins and Hans Hellsten Oundle School Chapel, 5pm	9
Murder in the Cathedral Oundle Parish Church, 8pm	5
Monday 15 July Murder in the Cathedral Oundle Parish Church, 8pm	5
Quadro Corydon Stoke Doyle Church, 9pm	11
Tuesday 16 July Kevin Bowyer Peterborough Cathedral, 1.10pm	13
Schidlof String Quartet Fotheringhay Church, 7.30pm	15
Wednesday 17 July Jon Laukvik The Jesus Church, 7.30pm	17
Farinelli Oundle School Great Hall 9.30pm	17
Thursday 18 July Quadro Corydon Oundle Parish Church, 1.10pm	19
Christopher Herrick St John's College Chapel, Cambridge, 8pm	21
Murder in the Cathedral Oundle Parish Church, 8pm	5
Friday 19 July Martin Baker and Ann Elise Smoot The University Church, Cambridge, 1.30pm	23
Pingxin Xu Oundle Parish Church, 7.30pm	25
Stewart Collins Stahl Theatre, 10pm	25
Saturday 20 July François Espinasse Oundle School Chapel, 11.30am	27
BBC Big Band Oundle School Playing Fields, 8.30pm	29
Sunday 21 July Festival Eucharist Fotheringhay Church, 10.30am	31
Students' Platform Concert Oundle School Chapel, 3.30pm	31
Murder in the Cathedral Oundle Parish Church, 8pm	5
Summer School Details of students, awards etc	32/33

**Souvenir Programme**

Editor: Patricia Ryan  
Programme notes: John Humphries, the artists and composers  
Design: Simon Dolby at The Design Factory  
Front cover: *Rose in Bloom* woodcut by Helle Thorborg