Canterbury Cathedral Organ Scholarship

Applications for the year 2001-2002 should be sent in January 2001 to:

David Flood, 6 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE tel: 01227 865242, fax 01227 865222

Full details are available at any time. For a suitable candidate, there is opportunity for work at the King's School, Canterbury



WINCHESTER COLLEGE ASSISTANT ORGANIST 2001 - 2002

The post is particularly suitable for a gap-year student or a recent graduate. Salary £3300 plus board and lodging.

For further information contact Christopher Tolley, Director of Chapel Music, Winchester College Music School, Culver Road, Winchester SO23 9JF (Tel 01962-860299 Fax 01962-621123). An appointment is normally made early in the New Year.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER

CATHEDRAL ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP 2001-2002

Would you like to spend a year before university playing the 95 stops of our two new cathedral organs?

Accompanying and helping to train the Cathedral Choir?

Living free in one of England's most beautiful and ancient Cathedral environments?

Receiving a £900 grant towards organ lessons, a termly allowance and a further grant of £500 for music & books?

If so, write for details to Paul Hale, 4 Vicars' Court, Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0HP (or give him a ring first on 01636 812228). Please apply before February 12th.

TRURO CATHEDRAL ORGAN SCHOLAR and CHORAL SCHOLARS



Organ Scholar required for one year from September 2001. The persons appointed will have the opportunity to accompany choral services each week, to enjoy one of the country's finest organs, and to gain valuable experience in all areas of Cathedral musical life.

Accommodation provided, plus £2,000 per year.

Choral Scholarships are also awarded annually. The Full Choir sings six services each week.

Further details from:

Andrew Nethsingha, 14 St Mary's Street, Truro, Cornwall TR1 2AF

Closing date for applications: 6 January 2001

Rochester Cathedral Organ Scholarship

September 2001 - 2002

Details available from
Roger Sayer
c/o The Cathedral Office
Garth House
Rochester
ME1 1SX

The Nicholas Danby Scholarship

To be awarded by the Trustees biennially to an organ student of outstanding promise for postgraduate conservatoire study outside their home tradition. The scholarship is therefore open to students from music colleges in the UK for study elsewhere in Europe, and to conservatoire students from other European countries who would like the opportunity to study in the UK. The Trust also aims to help scholarship holders in their first steps towards establishing concert careers.

Applications for next award by 31 May 2001 please Enquiries and donations to: The Nicholas Danby Trust,



72 Wandsworth Common Westside, LONDON SW18 2ED Tel/Fax: 020 8874 2757

Charity Reg No. 1069434

thursday 20th july

celebrity organ recital martin baker

7.30pm king's college chapel, cambridge



Arvo Pärt

Phantasia über den Choral 'Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott'

Max Reger (1873-1916)

Reger's seven great Chorale Fantasias were all composed between 1898 and 1900. They take the form of continuous chorale variations. If the technique owes something to the chorale preludes and partitas of Bach, the spirit - the grand romantic sweep, the rich sonority and texture, the vivid response to the poetic images of the text - is very much of Reger's own time. Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, is a dramatic evocation of the eternal City of God as a shining beacon, a solid rock secure against the wiles of the Prince of Darkness. Reger wrote the whole work in just three days, and then played it through on the piano with his former organ teacher, who later recalled his emotion: 'These were sounds of an indomitable power, of a lofty majesty, such as no human being had conceived since the days of Bach'.

In music of relentless contrapuntal energy, the four verses of the chorale are presented in turn with, as an addition, a colossal chordal harmonisation punctuating the first two verses in seven thunderous phrases, like massive supporting pillars. The first verse is set in a lively trio texture, leading off with an energetic pedal solo; the quieter second verse is played as a solo in the tenor voice. The third begins in a tempestuous frenzy but gradually calms down. The fourth is extended into a vigorous contrapuntal fabric, with a brief moment of calm before the final climax.

Pari Intervallo

Arvo Part (b.1935)

Composed in memory of a deceased friend, this serene meditation from 1976 is written in Pärt's simplest and most austere style; the alto and bass of a four-part texture play a slow chant-like melody in parallel motion, always a third apart (the 'equal interval' of the title), while soprano and tenor supply the hypnotic, unchanging harmonic background, restricted to the notes of the tonic triad (E flat minor). The composer has described Pari Intervallo as a kind of chorale prelude, whose motto could be the words from Romans 14.8: 'Whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's'.

Fantasia and Fugue on 'Ad nos, ad salutarem undam' (1850) Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

'The most extraordinary organ piece that has ever been written' in the words of Liszt's friend Saint-Saëns. This monumental work opened up new horizons in organ composition through its revolutionary use of virtuoso piano techniques and its sheer grandeur of conception. The theme is a chorale-like melody from Act 1 of Meyerbeer's opera Le Prophète – a short tune of just twenty seven notes, which provides all the material for thirty minutes of music! The work falls into three main sections, encompassing a wide spectrum of



moods and colours, ranging from pages of breathtaking virtuosity to passages of the utmost delicacy. There is a central adagio in Liszt's favourite 'mystical' key of F sharp major, and it is here that the whole chorale is clearly heard for the first time. Enlivened by some jaunty dotted rhythms, it also provides the subject for the fugue that begins the final section, building up to a glorious final apotheosis in C major.

Le Prophète tells a colourful tale of love and revolution in 16th century Holland. The Latin exhortation Ad nos... ('Come to us, to the waters of salvation') is sung by three mysterious Anabaptists who incite the peasants to assert their right to liberty. For Liszt this theme was significant, not just for its stirring music but also for its social and political implications. For Liszt himself there was a deep personal significance in the spiritual side of the invitation to the 'waters of salvation'; in later life he was to take minor orders in the Roman Catholic Church. Ad nos can be interpreted as a personal manifesto for the future of humanity: its arresting opening as a passionate call to arms, its adagio as a journey into the quiet depths of the soul, and its radiant conclusion as a vision of a new and better world.

Improvisation

Martin Baker

Martin Baker

Martin Baker has recently been appointed Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral, after a twenty-one month period as Acting Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey. His interest in organ improvisation has attracted much critical acclaim, in particular when he improvised a voluntary live on a BBC choral evensong broadcast in 1995, the first organist to do so. In 1997 he was the winner of the Tournemire prize for improvisation at the St Alban's International Organ Festival, only the second British organist to achieve this honour. He is at ease improvising in many different styles, and still receives requests for transcriptions of an improvisation he played immediately before the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales. Martin is especially interested in developing languages for improvisation which are not derived from the style of Pierre Cochereau.

Also in great demand as a soloist, Martin Baker frequently tours in the UK, Europe and the United States.

Co-promotion with

Cambridge Summer Music Festival