

Nantwich Choral Society



SAINT - SAËNS

MESSE OPUS 4

KODÁLY

MISSA BREVIS

Saturday 18th November
- 1989 -



The Parish Church of St. Mary, Nantwich
at 7.30 p.m.

NANTWICH CHORAL SOCIETY

Catrin Ley, soprano
Marjorie Seddon, contralto
James Watson, tenor
Kieron McNiff, bass

William Munks, organ

conducted by
Stephen Buckman



Zoltán Kodály (1882 - 1967) MISSA BREVIS

1. INTROITUS
2. KYRIE
3. GLORIA
4. CREDO
5. SANCTUS
6. BENEDICTUS
7. AGNUS
8. ITE, MISSA EST

This mass was originally composed in 1942 for organ solo, but during the Russian siege of Nazi-occupied Budapest in 1944 Kodály adapted the work by adding vocal parts. At that time, he and his wife were hiding in the cellar of a convent to avoid Nazi persecution. Kodály dedicated the Missa Brevis TO MY DEAREST WIFE AND CONSORT ON OUR 35th. ANNIVERSARY after its first performance on February 11th. 1945.

The 6 movements of the Ordinary of the Mass are framed by an Introit for organ alone and a closing ITE, MISSA EST for organ and chorus in which Kodály emphasises the final plea for peace.

Colin Bromelow

INTERVAL

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835 - 1921) MESSE opus 4

1. KYRIE
2. GLORIA
3. CREDO
4. SANCTUS
5. O SALUTARIS
6. AGNUS DEI

Although best remembered nowadays as the composer of the witty CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS as a piece in which he parodied the musical style of his rivals, Saint-Saëns' style was usually much more academic and formal. The Messe opus 4 was written in 1855 while Saint-Saëns was organist at the Church of St. Merry in Paris. This early work reflects the interest prevalent around the middle of the 19th. Century in all things Gothic which in the field of choral music produced a revival of polyphony and plainsong.

Colin Bromelow

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER 1989
G.F. Handel: Messiah
at 7.00 p.m. in the Parish Church of St. Mary at Nantwich

SATURDAY 23rd DECEMBER 1989
Carols for Choir and Audience
at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Church of St. Mary at Nantwich