

Soundbites

Christopher Benham

I am pleased to give details of this month's Concerts. We invite you to join us regularly to enjoy the current musical programme in the lovely setting of All Saints' Church. As usual, we are most grateful to our sponsors, Waitrose, for their very generous support.

Wednesday 6th June

Christine Petch - *Contralto*
Christopher Benham - *Piano*

Elgar's 'Sea Pictures' Op.37 is a key feature in Christine's recital. This cycle of five songs by various poets was premiered in October 1899 by the legendary Clara Butt. Christine has designed a programme that also includes music composed by a number of Elgar's contemporaries.

Saturday 9th June 12:00-21:00

Music Marathon

Brian Bromley, former Director of Music of All Saints', has once again masterminded a day of music making. This is an informal event with short recitals taking place throughout the day given by the musicians and friends of All saints. The day will end with a short concert by the choir at 8:00 pm.

Feel free to join us at any time to support the musicians – some of whom are taking to the spotlight for the first time. Refreshments will be available throughout the event.

Wednesday 13th June

Mine Dogatan Dack - *Piano*
Michael Frith – *Organ*

Mozart's Piano Concertos usually require at last a small body of strings for their performance - but no longer! Organist Michael Frith, former Director of Music at All Saints', will accompany his pianist colleague Mine, from Middlesex University, in a programme that includes Concertos K 413 in F, and K 466 in D minor.

Organ transcriptions of orchestral works have been popular since the great Victorian organ builders created instruments that imitated the

colours and power of the orchestra. However, using an organ to replace the orchestra in piano concertos has, to my knowledge, never been tried before. A first for Soundbites!

Wednesday 20th June

Martin Penny - *Organ*
Praeludium in G - D Buxtehude
Vesper Voluntaries Op. 14 - E. Elgar
Suite Médiévale Op.56 - J Langlais

Two other important composers share anniversaries with Elgar in 2007. Buxtehude (1637-1707) and Langlais (1907-1991) both prolific composers of organ music are also celebrated in this recital. Elgar's set of eleven Vesper Voluntaries were composed in quick succession immediately after his marriage to Alice in 1889.

Wednesday 27th June

Richard Hale School Jazz Band

Ahead of July's visit to Salzburg, the Richard Hale School Jazz Band will entertain us with a variety of jazz standards and arrangements. This is their first visit to Sound bites and under the expert direction of Les Rayner we can expect a polished and engaging performance.

Wednesday 4th July

Penelope Roskell – *Piano*

Penelope Roskell is Professor of Piano at Trinity College of Music in London and a guest professor at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, where she gives regular masterclasses. She has performed in major concert halls throughout the UK, Europe and America. This will be her second visit to Sound bites and she has chosen to include music by Chopin and Janacek in her programme.

I do hope you will be able to join us regularly to enjoy fine music, tasty food and a warm welcome.

More information can be found at our website:
<http://mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/allsaintshertford>