

The Hilliard Ensemble

DAVID JAMES countertenor
ROGERS COVEY-CRUMP tenor
STEVEN HARROLD tenor
GORDON JONES baritone

"The world's foremost vocal quartet, with a sound exquisitely attuned to Renaissance music but increasingly attractive to living composers"

The Daily Telegraph

The Hilliard Ensemble is considered to be one of the world's finest vocal chamber groups, and is probably unrivalled for its formidable reputation in the fields of both early and new music. Its distinctive style and highly developed musicianship engage the listener as much in medieval and renaissance repertoire as in works specially written for the group by living composers.

The ensemble's performing schedule is busy and varied, amounting to some hundred concerts a year. Its substantial following in Europe, particularly in Mediterranean and central European countries, is augmented by frequent visits to Japan, the USA and Canada.

The Hilliard Ensemble's repertoire includes, in addition to their regular a cappella programmes, works with chamber ensembles, large-scale pieces with orchestra and, most recently, a music-theatre work *I went to the house but did not enter* by Heiner Goebbels. This had its première at the 2008 Edinburgh Festival and has since had more than 40 further performances in Europe and the USA.

In recent years The Hilliard Ensemble has been fortunate enough to perform with some great musicians in a wide range of projects. In this short Hilliard series you will be able to hear the results of some of their collaborations, with a specific focus on British music.



Photo: Friedrun Reinhold

www.hilliardensemble.demon.co.uk

The Hilliard Ensemble

Booking Information

Tickets:

6 November, 7.30pm: £24, £22, £16, £12

7 November, 7pm: £24, £22, £16, £12

Book for both of the above concerts and save 25%.

7 November, 10pm: all seats £10

(£5 if bought with a ticket for one or both of The Hilliard Ensemble evening concerts).

How to book:

In person: 7 days a week; 10am – 8.30pm.

Days without an evening concert; 10am – 5pm.

No advanced booking in the half hour prior to a concert.

Telephone: 020 7935 2141.

7 days a week; 10am – 7pm.

Days without an evening concert; 10am – 5pm.

There is a £1.50 administration fee for all telephone bookings which includes the return of your tickets by first class post.

Online: www.wigmore-hall.org.uk.

7 days a week; 24 hours a day. There is a 50p administration fee for online bookings, which includes the return of your tickets by first class post.

Facilities for Disabled People



Please contact House Management,
tel: 020 7258 8210 for full details

Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1U 2BP
Director: John Gilhooly
Registered Charity No. 1024838

The Hilliard Ensemble

And Friends
at
Wigmore Hall

A Feast of British Music
New & Old
6th & 7th November 2009



Friday 6th November 2009

7.30pm

Audivi Vocem

Saturday 7th November 2009

7pm

Best of British

Saturday 7th November 2009

10pm

Il Cor Tristo



Presented by
Hazard Chase

Friday 6th November, 7.30pm

Audivi Vocem The English Renaissance of the Chapel Royal

The Hilliard Ensemble
With Robert Macdonald bass

Programme includes:

Tye Movements from the *Missa Sine Nomine*
Newly reconstructed version by David Skinner

Motets by
Sheppard
Tallis
Tye

And early English monody

The programme for this concert reflects one of **The Hilliard Ensemble's** most recent CDs, *Audivi Vocem*, in which the group is joined by bass **Robert Macdonald** to perform sublime music by three of the great masters of English church music associated with the Chapel Royal.

The part book for the fourth voice in Tye's *Missa Sine Nomine* (*The Peterhouse Mass*) has been lost and in the past various solutions were suggested. In this programme The Hilliard Ensemble use a new reconstruction of that voice part by David Skinner and perform the Mass alongside motets by Tye, Tallis and Sheppard and early English monody, including 3 Hymns by the 11th hermit, Saint Godric of Finchale.

'An extremely impressive work, heralding the new, compact and more declamatory style with consummate skill. An outstanding release'
Gramophone on *Audivi Vocem*



Robert Macdonald

Robert Macdonald's singing career has become well-established both as a consort singer and a soloist. He performs regularly with most of the UK's major period ensembles, including The Tallis Scholars, The Sixteen and the Gabrieli Consort, and is a founder member of The Cardinal's Musick. As a soloist, his repertoire encompasses most of the core oratorio repertory and several operatic roles. *Audivi Vocem* is just the latest of

several projects for which Robert has joined The Hilliard Ensemble, both in recording and on the concert platform.

The Hilliard Ensemble

Saturday 7th November, 7pm

Best of British Joining forces

The Hilliard Ensemble
With The Arditti Quartet

Programme:

Casken Sharp Thorne
Harvey String Quartet No. 2
Bainbridge New work (world première)*
Clarke Untitled No. 4 (UK première)
Guy Un Coup de Dés

Over the past two years **The Hilliard Ensemble** and the **Arditti Quartet** have given a number of concerts together. This is their first joint London performance and the programme will include James Clarke's *Untitled* No.4 (UK première) and the world première of a new work by Simon Bainbridge. In addition the Hilliards will sing works written for them by two of their favourite composers: John Casken and Barry Guy and the Ardittis will perform a quartet composed for them by Jonathan Harvey: one of today's foremost British composers.



The Arditti Quartet

Irvine Arditti violin
Ashot Sarkissjan violin
Ralf Ehlers viola
Lucas Fels cello

The Arditti Quartet enjoys a worldwide reputation for their spirited and technically refined interpretations of contemporary and earlier 20th century music. Several hundred string quartets and other chamber works have

been written for the ensemble since its foundation by first violinist Irvine Arditti in 1974. These works have left a permanent mark on 20th century repertoire and have given the Arditti Quartet a firm place in music history. World premières of quartets by composers such as Birtwistle, Cage, Carter, Dillon, Ferneyhough, Gubaidulina, Harvey, Hosokawa, Kagel, Kurtág, Lachenmann, Ligeti, Nancarrow, Reynolds, Rihm, Scelsi, Stockhausen and Xenakis show the wide range of music in the Arditti Quartet's repertoire.

* The commissioning of this work is supported by the PRS Foundation for New Music.

Saturday 7th November, 10pm

Il Cor Tristo The Italian Connection

The Hilliard Ensemble
With Monika Mauch soprano

Programme includes:

Marsh *Il Cor Tristo*
Gesualdo Madrigals from the fifth and sixth books

Roger Marsh's *Il Cor Tristo*, a fiery setting of texts from Dante's *Inferno*, was written for **The Hilliard Ensemble** in 2008. Here it receives its first London performance in a programme in which its three sections frame equally dramatic pieces from Gesualdo's fifth and sixth books of madrigals.



Monika Mauch

German soprano Monika Mauch studied with Richard Wistreich at the Institute for Early Music of the Hochschule Trossingen and subsequently with Jill Feldman in Paris.

Monika specialises in early music, working with groups such as Ensemble Daedalus of Geneva, The Hilliard Ensemble, Capella Ducale of Cologne, The Ensemble Européen William Byrd in Paris,

Les Cornets Noirs in Basel, The Orchestra L'Arpa Festante of Munich, L'Orfeo baroque orchestra of Linz and with Double Band under the direction of René Jacobs.

She is presently preparing a new series of lutesong programmes and recordings with Nigel North.

Working with today's composers

In recent years The Hilliard Ensemble has frequently performed with other musicians in a wide range of projects. In addition to their programmes for 5 or 6 voices the Hilliards have been involved in several pieces with orchestra, such as Arvo Part's *Litany* and Stephen Hartke's *3rd Symphony*. They have also collaborated with various chamber ensembles - last October they gave the first performance of John Casken's *The Dream of the Rood* which was written for them and Ensemble 10/10.

This year's new projects include a piece by Steffen Schleiemacher with the WDR Orchestra and commissioned works for The Hilliard Ensemble and the Arditti Quartet, by Wolfgang Rihm and Simon Bainbridge. The latter will receive its world première at Wigmore Hall during this short series.

The Hilliard Ensemble and Friends
are presented at Wigmore Hall by
Hazard Chase Limited

