

Bach: Christ lag in Todesbanden

Schubert: Mass in G

Albinoni: Oboe Concerto in D minor



The Choir of Somerville College, Oxford
Musicians of the Dreaming Spires

9 March 2012, 7:45pm
St. Michael at the North Gate, Oxford

Tickets: £12/£5 (students) on the door



Somerville Music Society

Lunchtime Recital Series, 9 March 2012



Benjamin Bloor, organ

Josef Gabriel Rheinberger (1839-1901)

Organ Sonata No. 8 in E minor

Op. 132

- I. Introduction and Fugue
- II. Intermezzo
- III. Scherzoso
- IV. Passacaglia

Easthope Martin (1882-1925)

Evensong

Somerville College Chapel Organ

Harrison & Harrison (Durham), 1937

Specification

Great		Swell	
Contra Dulciana	16	Violin Diapason	8
Open Diapason	8	Lieblich Gedeckt	8
Claribel Flute	8	Echo Salicional	8
Rohr Flute	8	Vox Angelica (TC)	8
Octave	4	Harmonic Flute	4
Super Octave	2	Cornocean	8
Pedal			
Sub Bass	16		
Dulciana	16		
Flute	8		

Accessories:

3 pistons to each manual, Gt-Pd piston, balanced crescendo pedal

Benjamin Bloor, organ

Ben Bloor was born in Derby in 1991. He started his musical education with the piano in 1998 closely followed by the organ in 2002, studying with Peter Gould. As a boy Ben sang in the Derby Cathedral Choir and in his final year was Head Chorister. This led to his being chosen as the organ scholar there when his voice broke, playing for many services. As part of this role Ben also accompanied the choir on several tours to places including Italy, Germany and France as well as to St Albans and York Minster. During his time at Derby Ben also played for live national radio for the BBC Radio Three Choral Evensong, indeed he was one of the youngest organists ever to do so. In 2010 Ben achieved his ATCL Piano Diploma which was in addition to the ARCO Organ Diploma he was awarded in 2009, for which he won the Sawyer and Durrant Prize for his performance.

Last year Ben was awarded the organ scholarship at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, where he resided and worked for a year, training the probationer choristers as well as playing regularly for services, many of which were attended by royalty. He is currently reading music as an undergraduate at New College, Oxford, and is also the organ scholar there, under the baton of Edward Higginbottom.

Earlier this year, Ben was a finalist in both the American Guild of Organists' Quimby Competition for Young Organists, held in New Jersey, as well as the inaugural Northern Ireland International Organ Competition in Armagh, and is much in demand as a recitalist up and down this country.

Ben's musical abilities are not limited to the organ world and indeed he was involved in many other musical productions at school; playing the piano for *Grease*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Annie* and *Blood Brothers*. Among his other interests are snooker and chocolate. He hopes to continue studying the organ and eventually make a career out of it. Although he is particularly fond of French romantic organ music, Ben enjoys listening to a wide variety of genres including jazz.

For future local and national concerts, see www.organrecitals.com

Next Recital

The SMS Lunchtime Recital Series continues next term. Performers will include Guy Cutting (tenor), the Oxford Guitar Ensemble, Orly Watson (piano), the Somerville Choir Octet and James Poston (baritone).

SMS Recitals Coordinator: Stefan Schwarz (New College)