

Somerville Music Society

presents

David Crown (conductor)

David Crown has been singing and conducting choirs and orchestras since his teens. He won a Choral Scholarship to King's College, Cambridge and was also a university instrumental award holder on the viola. Immediately after leaving university he embarked on a career as soloist in opera and oratorio winning several competitions. He also built a considerable reputation as singing teacher and now teaches at Oxford and Bristol Universities as well as privately. In more recent years he has left the world of solo singing and returned to his first love of conducting. He is Director of Music at Somerville College, Oxford, and Music Director of the Reading Phoenix Choir, The Oxford Singers and The Wychwood Chorale.

Douglas Knight, ARCO (organ)

Douglas is currently the Senior Organ Scholar at Somerville and studies with Katharine Pardee, in addition to receiving lessons from Daniel Moulit and Ann Elise Smoot. He has performed at St. Lawrence Jewry Lane, St. Giles Cripplegate, Union Chapel and other London churches, and as a member of the St. Giles Junior Organ Conservatoire he has played in masterclasses to Dame Gillian Weir, Hans Fagius, David Goode and Robert Quinney. Douglas is also studying the clarinet with Elizabeth Drew having obtained his DipABRSM last summer under his first teacher Nicholas Shipman, with whom he began receiving lessons ten years ago. He has taken part in the North London Music Festival, winning prizes in woodwind classes, and enjoys playing contemporary repertoire.

Robert Pecksmith, ARCO (organ)

Currently Somerville's Junior Organ Scholar, Robert began his musical life aged 5 when he began learning the piano, achieving Grade 8 Distinction aged 13. Thereupon he also took up the organ under the tutelage of Henry Fairs at the Birmingham Conservatoire, where he remained for five years. During this time he performed regularly and participated in several masterclasses, notably at Lincoln's Inn and at St Chad's Cathedral, as well as accompanying several vocal groups associated with the Birmingham Conservatoire. He also played regularly for his parish Church in Bournville, Birmingham, and upon reaching Oxford he now receives lessons from William Whitehead. Robert also pursued piano studies with Margaret Newman, achieving a DipABRSM aged 16, winning numerous prizes in music competitions, both for his solo playing and as part of a piano trio.



Fauré:
REQUIEM
and other choral works by
Balfour Gardiner, Wood and Leighton
The Choir of Somerville College, Oxford
Conductor: David Crown
Organists: Douglas Knight and Robert Smith

Thursday 7th March 2013, 7:30pm

St. Michael at the North Gate, Oxford

Henry Balfour Gardiner (1877-1950)

Evening Hymn

Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

Bethlehem Down

Bob Chilcott (born 1955)

Nova! nova!

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

O thou, the central orb

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

Solus ad victimam

- Interval (15 min) -

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Requiem in D minor

Op. 48

I. Introït – Kyrie

II. Offertoire

(Soloist: Stephen O'Driscoll, baritone)

III. Sanctus

IV. Pie Jesu

(Soloist: Alexandra Lloyd, soprano)

V. Agnus Dei

VI. Libera me

(Soloist: Christoph Schnedermann, bass)

VII. In Paradisum

The Choir of Somerville College, Oxford

The Choir of Somerville College, Oxford, in its present form, was founded by Francis Knights and Sam Bayliss in 2001. Since 2007 the choir has been conducted by David Crown (Director of Music). He is assisted by Somerville's two organ scholars, Douglas Knight and Robert Pecksmith, and choir manager Stefan Schwarz.

The choir sings in chapel every week in term time and performs in concerts organised by Somerville Music Society.

In recent years the choir has toured Germany and Italy and sung at Worcester, Southwark, Winchester, Blackburn, Wells and St Paul's cathedrals. The choir has also been involved in a number of high-profile concerts and opera productions over the last few years. In 2010 the choir appeared in a memorial concert for Iris Murdoch and gave a performance of Tavener's *Song for Athene* in the presence of the composer. In 2011 Somerville Choir sang Bach's *St John Passion* and recorded its first album *Requiem Æternam* featuring internationally acclaimed soloists Christine Rice (mezzo-soprano), Mark Stone (baritone) and Guy Johnston (cello).

In 2012 the choir collaborated with the Musicians of the Dreaming Spires, an Oxford-based professional chamber orchestra, and sang in a special service at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, to mark the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/somervillechoir

Website: www.somervillechoir.com

YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/somervillechoir

Twitter: www.twitter.com/SomervilleChoir

Soprano

Amelia Hamer, Rebecca Nohl, Joanna Perkins, Kate Piddington, Ruby Riley, Olivia Waring

Alto

Jenni Butler, Eleanor Makower, Laura Schack, Isabel Sinagola, Orly Watson, Glenn Wong

Tenor

Antony Beere, David Bowe, Ian Buchanan, Sasha Ockenden, Andrew Wade, Sam Walker

Bass

Matthew Kerr, Stephen O'Driscoll, Robert Pecksmith (Junior Organ Scholar), Christoph Schnedermann, Stefan Schwarz (Choir Manager), Toby Young