



NORTH WEST EARLY MUSIC FORUM
charity registration number 508218: www.nwemf.org.uk

‘Exaudi nos’ – the masses and motets of Jacob Obrecht
(1457/8 – 1505) – a workshop for singers (all ranges,
but tenors especially welcome!) with Peter Syrus

Saturday 11 June 2022

St Mary’s Parish Church, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire CH7 5NN

The sixteenth century is well represented in workshops run by the Early Music Forums, and most grant medieval music the occasional outing. By contrast, the fifteenth century is shamefully neglected, despite figures such as Dunstaple, Du Fay or Ockeghem, and the extraordinary wealth of composers at the close of the century generally termed Franco-Flemish or Netherlandish. If Josquin was (and is) regarded as the greatest of them, several, including Obrecht, run him a close second. Had Obrecht not succumbed to the plague some sixteen years prior to Josquin’s death, who knows what the final verdict might have been...?

We shall sample Obrecht’s settings of the Mass Ordinary, both early (Petrus Apostolus) and mature (Salve diva parens). His motets embrace a huge stylistic variety, from the disarming simplicity of ‘Parce Domine’ to the dazzling virtuosity of ‘Factor orbis’ (nothing less than a comprehensive sermon in song). Important contexts for such items were the Salve services prevalent in the Low Countries, so a six-voice ‘Salve Regina’ is self-selecting. Johannes Tinctoris, writing in the 1480s, ranked Obrecht among the masters ‘whose compositions, distributed throughout the whole world, fill God’s churches, the palaces of kings, and the houses of private individuals, with the utmost sweetness’. Tinctoris knew a thing or two; now it’s over to you.

We are delighted to return to this beautiful venue, situated in the centre of the village opposite the White Horse Inn. Refreshments will be available in the church prior to the workshop and mid-afternoon (providing your own mug helpful). It is recommended that you bring your own lunch, although the pub is open from 12.00, and snacks can be bought at the village shop, open until 13.00. Parking is behind the church by the tower: please do not use the village hall car park.

TIMETABLE	10.00	arrival and registration
	10.30	first session
	12.45	lunch break
	14.00	workshop resumes (there will be a short break)
	17.00	conclusion

FEES:

NWEMF (or other EMF) members: £20 Non-members*: £25 Full-time students: FREE
a £5 surcharge is applicable to bookings made after the closing date

* membership of NWEMF costs only £10 per year. Join now by contacting the Membership Secretary Bob Foster (fosterrobert@ymail-com), and pay the members’ rate for this and future workshops.

Preferably e-mail the information requested below to Peter Syrus (petersyrus4@gmail.com) with a copy to the Treasurer Martin Steward (martin.steward@me.com) and pay N W E M F (note the spaces) by BACS using sort code 09-01-56, account number 79658106, with your surname as the reference.

Alternatively complete the reply slip below and send it with a cheque (payable to N W E M F) to: Peter Syrus, 18 Brooklands Avenue, Withington, Manchester M20 1JE.

Closing date: please book by **28 May**. Unless you are notified otherwise you may assume that the workshop will run.

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NAME TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

Number of participants voice

Remittance
(sent **OR** enclosed) £ [Forum member(s) Non-member(s)]

OR I am a student/ we are students in Full-time education