

Like as the Hart - Voices of Yearning Settings of Psalm 42 by Cardoso & Taverner

An online workshop for singers
with tutor David Allinson
Tuesday 16 March 2021, 7.30–9pm



Psalm 42, with its poetic evocation of longing, has drawn soulful settings from the pen of many composers down the centuries, including Howells, Mendelssohn and Palestrina.

In this workshop we get to know two glorious polyphonic masterpieces, written about a century apart on the fringes of Western Europe, which set words from that psalm.

John Taverner (c.1490-1545) was one of the greatest early Tudor musicians. His sinuously woven *Quemadmodum* survives only as an untexted instrumental piece, but the words of psalm 42 fit so perfectly that we should be in little doubt that the piece was originally conceived for voices.

Our second work comes from Portugal during the period of Spanish rule. *Sitivit anima mea* by **Manuel Cardoso** (1566-1650) was published in 1625 and is perhaps the greatest single utterance by this wonderful composer. Drawing its text from psalms 42 and 55, the counterpoint is noble, abstract yet highly emotive, with its portrayal of the soul rising like a dove on the wing to find its rest.

Both pieces are a joy to sing: characterful, highly expressive melodic lines, with delicious suspensions, especially in the Cardoso. David will briefly draw out points of technical interest, moments of special beauty and vocal challenge, but the bulk of the session will be spent singing (muted) together. It should make for a lovely evening as we look towards spring.

For this workshop we will use the following editions:

Cardoso, *Sitivit anima mea*

https://www.cpd.org/wiki/images/a/af/Cardoso_-_Sitivit_anima_mea_%28Allinson_performing_edn%29_-_June_2020.pdf

Taverner, *Quemadmodum*

<https://www.cpd.org/wiki/images/9/94/Tav-Quem.pdf>

Prior booking is essential: book online with JotForm on the Future Workshops page of www.bmemf.org.uk
Your application will be acknowledged by return. Zoom joining instructions will be sent nearer the time.

There is no charge for this workshop but participants are invited to make voluntary contributions to cover BMEMF's costs, and we shall donate any surplus to the charity Help Musicians UK. Details of how to donate are given on the JotForm.

We'll be recording the session, so if you can't make it on the day, you will be able to watch the recording when we send the link to all who signed up. But NB – for copyright reasons, the recording will only be available to those who have applied via JotForm.

Organiser: Marna Gowan

marna.gowan@btinternet.com