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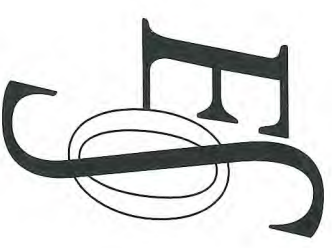
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# EASTBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Leader: Lisa Wignore



celebrates its twentieth season in

## Chichester Cathedral

with the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter

# Elgar's Dream of Gerontius

7.30pm Saturday 1 May 1999

Eastbourne Symphony Chorus

Eastbourne College Choral Society

University College Chichester Chamber Choir

Graham Jones Conductor

Neil Jenkins Gerontius

Sarah Connolly Angel

Martin Elliott Priest and Angel of Agony

Sponsored by Sumfield and Day (Eastbourne) and Eastbourne Borough Council



## Dates for your Diary

MID SUMMER CHORAL CONCERT  
IN AID OF SAVE THE CHILDREN  
Thursday 3 June 1999, 7.30pm

Eastbourne College Chapel (Information: 01323 452339)

An annual concert sung by Eastbourne College's Chapel Choir and Chamber Choir  
The programme reflects the year's sacred music offered weekly in Chapel and  
includes readings and secular music

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YOUNG SOLOISTS COMPETITION WINNER'S CONCERT  
Sunday 6 June 1999, 8pm

Congress Theatre, Eastbourne (Ticket Office: 01323 412000)

Ticket prices: £7, £6, £5 (children and students half-price)

Piano: Jill Morton, Postgraduate, Guildhall School of Music and Drama  
Thieving Magpie, Rossini; Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Rachmaninov  
Symphony No 9 (New World), Dvorak

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AUTUMN CONCERT

Saturday 16 October 1999, 7.30pm

De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill (Ticket Office: 01424 787949)

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MARI MARKUS GOMORI CHILDREN'S CONCERT

Sunday 21 November 1999, 3pm

Congress Theatre, Eastbourne (Ticket Office: 01323 412000)

Programme to include The Snowman by Howard Blake

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FINAL ROUND, YOUNG SOLOISTS COMPETITION

Sunday 13 February 2000, 3pm

Big School, Eastbourne College (Information: 01323 724763)

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CHORAL CONCERT

Sunday 19 March 2000, 8pm, Congress Theatre

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YOUNG SOLOISTS COMPETITION WINNER'S CONCERT

Saturday 3 June 2000, 7.30pm, Congress Theatre

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MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES CONCERT

Sunday 15 October 2000, 8pm, Congress Theatre

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CHILDREN'S CONCERT

Sunday 26 November 2000, 3pm, Congress Theatre (provisional)

## EASTBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Patrons: His Grace the Duke of Devonshire and Professor John York

The Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra extends a very warm welcome to all at this twentieth anniversary concert.

The ESO was founded in 1979 and, with quality players from Eastbourne and the surrounding area, performs a number of concerts a year, including a Music from the Movies concert (with film clips), a children's concert, an ESO Young Soloists Competition Winner's Concert, and a choral concert. We are delighted this year, by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, to be in Chichester Cathedral; this new venue gives us the opportunity to perform a choral work in a more appropriate setting and is a fitting way to celebrate our twentieth season.

The orchestra, registered as a charity in 1987, receives an annual grant from Eastbourne Borough Council in recognition of its contribution to the life of the community. For this concert, the orchestra is also indebted to Sunfield and Day Printers for their generous sponsorship.

Lisa Wigmore is the Leader of the ESO and is also a member of the adjudication panel for our annual competition. She started to play the violin when she was seven and at 13 she was awarded a Junior Exhibition to the Royal College of Music and continued her studies there under Jack Steadman in the Senior Department, where she gained her ARCM and GRSM. Since leaving the RCM she has studied under Tina Gruenberg. She is a well-known violin teacher in Sussex and many of her pupils have been successful in gaining entry to the National Children's Orchestra and some of the major music colleges.

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Recording this performance is not permitted, nor is the taking of photographs. However, by special request, a professional photographer will discreetly take some photographs during part of the performance. We hope that this will not spoil your enjoyment of the music and trust that you will appreciate our wish to have a record of our twentieth season concert. If you would like a 7x5 photo of a moment in the concert when singers, orchestra and soloists are performing please send a £5 cheque (payable to Bill Norris) to The Studio, 16 Park Road, Selsey, West Sussex PO20 0PR (01243 606969).

There will be one interval of 15 minutes at the end of Part One.

We anticipate that the performance will finish at about 9.30pm.

Toilet facilities are available in the Bishop Bell Rooms.

The words of The Dream of Gerontius written by Cardinal Newman are available with this programme.

The ESO is very grateful to Terence Banks, Shirley Blanche-Martin, Liz Walker and their assistants for their invaluable help in staging this performance.



## GRAHAM JONES, ESO MUSICAL DIRECTOR, EASTBOURNE COLLEGE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Brought up in Holt, Norfolk, Graham Jones was educated at Gresham's School and Durham University where he was an organ scholar. He was still at school when he first conducted an orchestra and gained further experience at university in workshops with Sir David Willcocks and Roger Norrington. In 1976 he joined the Music Department at Eastbourne College and was appointed Director of Music in 1991, during which time he was also responsible for the Eastbourne Tudor Singers (1978-1988) and co-founded the Eastbourne Sinfonia (1979), now the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra. As Musical Director of the ESO from its inception he has been responsible for many of the Orchestra's initiatives including the now nationally recognised annual Young Soloists Award Competition for which he is chairman of the adjudicating panel. Over the past twenty years he has conducted most of the ESO's concerts which, though his own particular interest lies in the romantic field, have included the standard orchestral repertoire as well as some works commissioned especially for the ESO. He has worked with many of the country's leading soloists including Simon Deller, Anthony Marwood, Keith Paddy, Martin Roscoe and John York, one of the orchestra's patrons, as well as, for example, the Barbican Piano Trio.

He is particularly keen on local people making music of a high standard which is at the same time accessible to the whole community and it is for this reason that the ESO has a wide variety of concerts. The biennial Music from the Movies concert (with film clips) has enabled him to work with a variety of musicians and comperes including Anna Wing (Eastenders), Brian Murphy, Adam Faith and Hubert Gregg. Johnny Morris narrated one of the orchestra's first children's concerts and, more recently, Denis Quilley was the narrator in the Mari Markus Gomori series of concerts for children, which have also featured percussionist Alasdair Molloy. Such concerts for a younger audience reflect his desire also to encourage the young to make music. He enjoys listening to musicians at all levels, especially when adjudicating competitions.

Graham has conducted most of the ESO's annual choral concerts which, as well as Come Sing Messiahs, have included Beethoven's 9, Borodin's Polovtsian Dances, Haydn's Creation, Orff's Carmina Burana, Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony, and Requiems by Brahms, Duruflé and Mozart. He has performed the Verdi Requiem twice and this is his second performance of Elgar's Gerontius.

## NEIL JENKINS, GERONTIUS



Neil Jenkins's recent engagements have included a Prom with Mathias Barnert and the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Britten's War Requiem for Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, The Creation with Berlin Sinfonie, Finzi's Intimations of Immortality and Bach's St Matthew Passion at the Royal Festival Hall. Stage appearances have included Shuisky in the new WNO Boris Godunov and Arnalita in the acclaimed WNO production of Monteverdi's *L'Inconcazione di Poppea*, soon to be seen on TV.

He has sung a wide variety of operatic roles in Great Britain appearing regularly with English National Opera, Scottish Opera, Welsh National Opera and the English Music Theatre. He was also principal tenor with Kent Opera for 20 years. As well as appearing at Glyndebourne in several Mozart operas and in various other roles, he has visited the Israel, Florence, Wexford and Madrid Opera Festivals in addition to guest appearances with Netherlands Opera and Geneva Opera. At the 1976 Aldeburgh Festival he created the role of Johnny Inkslinger in Britten's American Musical Paul Bunyan under the supervision of the composer himself.

Neil has sung oratorio and recitals in the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, Iceland, Scandinavia, Finland, Singapore and Saudi Arabia as well as throughout Europe. In England he is well known at the leading festivals. At the Brighton, Bath, Edinburgh and Three Choirs Festivals he is known as an interpreter of the baroque composers Bach and Handel as well as the twentieth century English composers Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Finzi, Tippett and Britten.

His recordings include oratorio and opera under the baton of, among others, Leonard Bernstein, Benjamin Britten, Sir Neville Marriner, Sir Charles Mackerras, Andrew Davis, Bernard Haitink, Roger Norrington, John Eliot Gardiner, Richard Hickox and Barry Wordsworth. He also appears regularly with such twentieth century ensembles as the London Sinfonietta, the Ensemble Modern and the Ensemble InterContemporain where he has worked with, among others, Pierre Boulez.

Other recordings include roles in Peter Maxwell Davies' Resurrection with the composer conducting the BBC Philharmonic, Britten's Peter Grimes with Bernard Haitink and the Royal Opera House Covent Garden and Vaughan Williams' Hugh the Drover with the Croydon Singers and Orchestra. He has recorded Britten's Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings with the Oriol Ensemble of Berlin and two solo recital discs for the Supraphon label.

This new English-language edition of the St Matthew Passion, dedicated to the Bach Choir, was recently published by Novello as a successor to their famous Elgar/Atkins edition of 1911. The St John Passion will appear as a companion edition later, followed by the Christmas Oratorio. Other new editions by Neil include Sing Solo Sacred published by OUP and two editions of Christmas songs and carols published by Kevin Mayhew.

The ESO is delighted to work again with Neil, who sang Gerontius with us in 1994.