



HOLY TRINITY
WESTBURY ON TRYM - BRISTOL

DAVID BEDNALL

David Bednall is recognized as one of the leading choral composers of his generation. He studied for a PhD in Composition with Professor John Pickard at the University of Bristol and is published by Choral Music Publishing, OUP, Boosey and Hawkes, Faber and Novello. He is Choral Director at Clifton Cathedral; an Organist of St John The Evangelist, Bath; and Director of Bristol Bach Choir, Bristol Chamber Choir and Chew Valley Choral Society, all alongside an extensive freelance career. He studied with Dr Naji Hakim and David Briggs and was Assistant Organist at Wells Cathedral and Sub Organist at Bristol Cathedral.

David was previously Organ Scholar at The Queen's College, Oxford and then at Gloucester Cathedral, where he also spent periods as Acting Director of Music and Acting Assistant Organist and was closely involved with the Three Choirs Festival. He won prizes in Improvisation and Performance at the examination for Fellow of The Royal College of Organists and has given recitals at La Trinité, Paris, and many English cathedrals. In June 2008, David gave a recital at Notre-Dame de Paris. He has performed all the major works of Messiaen and his debut solo recording and CD of improvisations with Malcolm Archer have received excellent reviews. He has improvised on live radio and in concert. He has also appeared as stunt-organist on BBC TV's *Dr Who*.

David is most prominent as a composer and his works are widely performed and recorded, and regularly broadcast on Radio 3, Radio 4 and Classic FM. The first CD of his choral music, *Hail, gladdening light*, was a *Gramophone* Editor's Choice; the recording of his *Requiem* received similar accolades; and a further recording of his choral music, *Flame Celestial*, received a *Gramophone* Recommendation. Commissions have included *Missa Sancti Pauli* for St Paul's Cathedral and *Welcome All Wonders* for The Queen's College, Oxford. The latter is his largest work to date and the recording on Signum has garnered superb international critical acclaim. His *Stabat Mater* was premiered in New York in 2015, and its recording on Regent with Jennifer Pike (violin) and the Chapel Choir of Benenden School under Edward Whiting was an Editor's Choice in the Awards Edition of *Gramophone* 2016. In addition, David's *Requiem* with Philip Dukes (viola) and St Mary's Calne received many accolades.

Other work includes the 40-part motet *Lux orta est iusto*, a commission from the Finzi Trust to write a *Gloria* and *Nunc dimittis* to accompany Finzi's setting of the *Magnificat* for the Three Choirs Festival 2016, commissions for Westminster Abbey and The Edington Festival, and a BBC commission for James Gilchrist, Philip Dukes and Anna Tilbrook, which



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was premiered in Hull, City of Culture, in July 2017. The Presteigne Festival commissioned *Regina Caeli* for the 2018 Festival, and December 2018 saw the premiere of *Make We Merry for Upper Voices, Brass, and Organ*, commissioned by Benenden; the recording of this has been released on Regent Records. Upcoming projects include commissions for Jesus College, Cambridge and the St Mark Passion.

More information is available at www.davidbednall.com.