



News Release from the Royal School of Church Music

RSCM MILLENNIUM YOUTH CHOIR TO SING IN CANTERBURY.

One of the UK's top youth choirs will be singing in Canterbury during the Royal School of Church Music's (RSCM) *International Summer School and Conference*. The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir (MYC) will be giving a concert on Friday 15th August at 8.15pm in St Peter's Methodist Church in the city, and will include the first performance of a specially commissioned piece *Lauda* by Philip Wilby, and *Tremunt Videntes Angeli* by James MacMillan.

The concert on Friday is just one engagement in a hectic schedule that week for the choir whose summer course is based in Canterbury, and as well as the two contemporary pieces, will include a wide range of choral music including Purcell and the Flemish composer Jan Pieterzoon Sweelinck. The choir of 40 singers is made up of students between 16 and 23 years of age, and are drawn from church choirs all over the UK. That day they arrive back from a brief visit to Belgium and Holland, where their engagements include a concert, singing at a church mass in Antwerp, and a recording of **Choral Evensong** for future transmission on BBC Radio Three.

"The summer course is always a busy time for the choir, and we are looking forward to singing in Canterbury and in Europe during the week," says David Ogden, the choir's director. "We will be working with two of the country's leading composers, and this will be a stimulating challenge for the singers who are well-used to singing contemporary church music," he said. The MYC is familiar with the work of Philip Wilby having already recorded his *Wondrous Cross* last year for their CD *Out of the Stillness*, and for BBC TV's *Songs of Praise* which was shown in July. The MYC's final engagement in Canterbury will be to sing at the Conference's Eucharist on Sunday morning 17th August.

Tickets (£6) for the MYC concert on Friday 15th August at 8.15pm in St Peter's Methodist Church, St Peter St, Canterbury can be purchased on the door, or from Canterbury Bookings telephone 01227 378100.

Ends

31 July 2008

Notes for Editors

The RSCM Millennium Youth Choir was founded in 1999 at the suggestion of Dr George Carey, the then Archbishop of Canterbury. It offers special opportunities to young singers aged 16 – 23 to sing the widest and most exciting range of sacred music to the highest standards. Residential courses of approximately 4–6 days are held during school and university holidays, and include individual musical and vocal tuition, services and public concerts. Entry to the choir is by audition. More information about the RSCM Millennium Youth Choir can be found at www.rscm.com/myc.

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an educational charity and promotes the best use of music in worship, church life, and the wider community. The RSCM also publishes music and training resources, and organises courses, short workshops and activities. With over 8,500 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries it is an international network, supported by over 750 volunteers and small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

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