

# RICHARD MCVEIGH

## An Organ Spectacular

Saturday 9th September 2023

2:30pm



100

1923 – 2023

A registered charity in England and Wales  
(Registered charity number 1173343)



The Old Southendian  
Organ Society (OSOS)



## Richard McVeigh

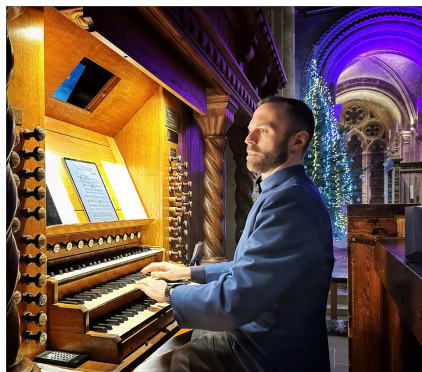
[www.youtube.com/beautyinsound](http://www.youtube.com/beautyinsound)

After spending a decade working at some of England's busiest cathedrals and churches, followed by a stint in the City of London away from music, Richard now manages his own music business called BEAUTY IN SOUND as well as being Assistant Organist at both Arundel Cathedral and Romsey Abbey. Richard is also father to two gorgeous children – Hugo and Charlotte.



Richard started his musical life as a chorister at Chesterfield Parish Church before reading music at Hull University, during which time he was Assistant Organist at Beverley Minster and received organ lessons from John Scott-Whitely. Following university, he held organ scholarships at Chester Cathedral and York Minster before becoming Assistant Organist at Winchester Cathedral in 2008.

Being an accompanist and a recitalist, he has played with several professional choirs and orchestras such as the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Britten Sinfonia. A particular highlight however was playing the organ for the band Jethro Tull in Winchester Cathedral!



BEAUTY IN SOUND is an online offering, primarily on YouTube where Richard has over 100,000 subscribers. Richard has always had a fascination with sound recording and 'BIS' (as it's become known) has allowed him to use his experience as an organist in conjunction with his passion for recording and trying new things. BIS specialises in sharing organ music and organ-led liturgy online, giving all kinds of organists the opportunity to hear, experience and play organ music in a new and revolutionary way.

Richard offers online concerts, workshops, organ marathons, hymns and much more. He is in the process of recording as many UK Cathedral organs as possible, having recorded 9 so far, with 3 more planned for 2023.

Richard's favourite things in life are his family, music, encouraging and nurturing young organists, his cats, cars and probably spaghetti bolognese with a nice bottle of red.

## **Programme**

Prelude and Fugue in B minor BWV 544  
*Johann Sebastian Bach*

Sonata No. 6 in D minor  
*Felix Mendelssohn*

***Interval (25 minutes)***

*Please join us in the Pavilion and Dining Hall for refreshments.*

This Shining Night  
*Christopher Churcher*

Fantasy in E minor  
*Adam Heron*

Chorale Prelude on Ave Maris Stella  
*Michael Whytock*

Interstellar Suite  
*Hans Zimmer (arr. Richard McVeigh)*

***Many thanks to Richard for sharing such wonderful music this afternoon.  
Thank you also to all who have supported this event and helped to make the  
concert possible. In particular, thank you to the premises team and many others  
at the school for helping with arrangements leading up to this afternoon.***

## About the War Memorial Organ

The organ was gifted to the school in 1923 by the Old Southendians in memory of staff and ex-pupils lost in the Great War. Installed in the Victoria Circus building, it was transferred to the Prittlewell Chase site in 1938 but blown to pieces two years later by a World War Two bomb, having to wait until 1953 before restoration by its builders, Hill Norman & Beard.



Following a fantastic and generous response to the £50K appeal to fund the professional rebuilding of the instrument in 2017/18, the organ was expanded, with new string sounds on the Swell, robust bass tones on the Pedal with both a Trombone and Acoustic Bass added, and extra versatility with a Geigen Principal and Piccolo on the Swell.

This year, the school, Old Southendian Association and Old Southendian Organ Society join together to celebrate 100 years of the organ.

## About the Old Southendian Organ Society

The Old Southendian Organ Society (OSOS) was set up in 2014 to protect and enhance the future of the school's War Memorial Organ. We aim to support the organ pupils at the school by further enhancing the opportunities available to them through the friendly community of past organists of the school. Recent activities have included a number of concerts (showcasing the talents of student, staff, and past members of the school community), a workshop with the school's Organ Club and Roger Sayer in February, and free admission to this year's series of concerts celebrating the organ's centenary.

***Find out more about how you can support the Society, and see our exciting programme of events and videos of the organ at [www.osos.org.uk](http://www.osos.org.uk)***

## Our grateful thanks to the Society's Major Donors and Patrons

Graham Campbell

David Chandler

John Dixon

Eastwood United Reform Church

David Horton

Graham McKean

Peter Nathanielsz

John Norris

The Old Southendian Arts Club

Robin Poole

Richard Thompson

Gerald Usher

*plus 2 anonymous donors*

The Society also acknowledges major donations offered *in memoriam*:

Reginald Foxwell (1903 – 1957)

Brian Wiggins (1943 – 2016)