

An Evening

Music

St Augustine's Church Thorpe Bay





The Old Southendian Organ Society is a registered charity in England and Wales (registered charity number 1173343)

Programme

Joe Zammit Piano Sonata in B flat (K. 333), Allegro – Mozart

> <u>Victoria Symes</u> Silent Noon – Vaughan Williams

<u>Gerald Usher</u> La Cinquantaine – Gabriel Marie

<u>Emily Lusty</u> Song without Words – Mendelssohn

<u>Victoria Symes</u> Shenandoah – arr. Jay Althouse

<u>Thomas Stanford</u> Flute Concerto in D, 3rd movement – Mozart

Warren Symes Bolero de Concert – Louis Lefébure-Wély

Interval (20 minutes)

Many thanks to St Augustine's and the Rev. Canon Jonathan Collis for hosting us this evening and providing the refreshments during the interval.

Special thanks to our guest performers, the Southend High School for Girls' Novem Consort, and their director Rebecca Ryan.

More information on the society, the organ, and the professional rebuild of the organ at Southend High School for Boys now in progress may also be found on our website: **www.osos.org.uk**

<u>Warren Symes</u> Praeludium – Kellner

<u>Thomas Stanford</u> Recorder Toccatina, 1st movement – Berkeley Tambourin – Gossec

Southend High School for Girls: Novem Consort She Walks in Beauty – Tara Collins Set Me as a Seal – René Clausen

J<u>oe Zammit</u> 'Prière à Notre Dame' from Suite Gothique – Boëllman

Rebecca Ryan Partita no 2: Allemande and Gigue – J. S. Bach

Southend High School for Girls: Novem Consort The Long Day Closes – Arthur Sullivan

About The Old Southendian Organ Society

The Old Southendian Organ Society (OSOS) was set up to protect and enhance the future of the War Memorial Organ at Southend High School for Boys (SHSB). We aim to assist the School, alongside the Old Southendian Association, in supporting pupils with their organ endeavours, and further enhance the opportunities available to them through the friendly community of past organists of the School and Old Boys. Recent activities have included a number of concerts like this evening, trips organised for the School's Organ Club, and since June 2017, a major project to professionally rebuild the organ, which aims to secure its future well into its second century! We are hugely grateful to all of our supporters who make this all possible.

The Southend High School for Boys 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.

Since 1998, when that firm closed for business, until this year, the care of the instrument, and responsibility for tuning and servicing it has fallen to students and staff of the school, led by Gerald Usher (then music staff). In 2002 pupils Jonathan Roberts and Greg Tucker persuaded the school to acquire two redundant church organs, bringing a vast store of pipes and spare parts - and an incentive to use

them! Up until 2016, successive teams of senior pupils and Gerald have added five ranks of pipes, providing many extra tone colours and a substantial increase in power, not least with the addition of the Great Trumpet.

Organ Appeal and major work to the SHSB organ in 2017

At the start of 2017, with the serious failure of the blower, OSOS began to consider the possibility of recommending major professional work. In March, the urgent work to the blower began, and from June a comprehensive project to rebuild and further expand the organ professionally, complete with more reliable modern mechanisms and features, commenced. We are delighted that this is all in the hands of skilled professionals: The Village Workshop organ builders of Finchingfield and The Duplex Pipe Organ and Blower Company of Farnham. This exciting project is due to conclude ahead of the New Year.

We would be delighted if you would be interested in joining with many others in showing your support by donating to the appeal. There are a number of ways in which you can do this on a one-off or subscription basis. Our many existing members and donors have already contributed greatly towards our £50K target and we are delighted that you are here supporting us tonight through enjoying an exciting programme! If you would like to find out how you can continue to support us, please see some options below, look on our website, or ask for an organ appeal form. Thank you for your generosity!

Become a member of OSOS - show your support to OSOS for just $\pounds 10$ a year, and we'll issue you with a membership card and offer concessionary rates to our events. If you're over 65, we are now pleased to offer <u>life membership</u> for a one-off donation of $\pounds 100$.

Sponsor a Pipe in the rebuilt

organ from £20 - we'll give you a choice of pipe (a specific note and rank) and send you a certificate. Choose a pipe at a price to suit:

- £20 for pipes up to 2ft long
- £40 for pipes of 4ft and smaller
- £80 for pipes up to 8ft long
- £160 for pipes up to 16ft
- £100 for one of the Trumpet pipes or one of only 35 casework pipes!

Some work in progress...

Send us a single donation or set up a regular donation - cheques made payable to <u>Old Southendian Organ Society</u>, please. Further payment methods available at www.osos.org.uk : Credit/Debit Card, PayPal, and Direct Debit.