

The EFMS Choral Programme

The Early Music Choirs programme was established in 2016 in response to demand from singers for opportunities to sing Early Music on a regular basis. Requests from choristers whose choirs don't sing Renaissance and Baroque music, and others looking to join a choir that specialised in music of these periods suggested that there was a vacuum to fill.

Working through a monthly workshop rehearsal, with different groups and areas of focus in morning and afternoon sessions, the programme has attracted singers from far and wide. The **EMFS Choir** for singers with some choral experience and basic sight-reading skills meets after lunch and the **EMFS Advanced Choir**, for singers with wide choral experience and the reading and musicianship skills to work at a faster rate, meets in the morning. A check list is available on the website www.emfscotland.org.uk to assist people in deciding which group might be most appropriate for them.

Singers may sign-up for the entire term of rehearsals or just take part in individual sessions. Those in the Advanced Choir may opt to sign up for the afternoon also so that they can enjoy the music that the EMFS Choir is working on.

The pattern of three meetings per term enables music to be mastered and questions of style, performance practice and context for music by, among others, Palestrina, Tallis, Byrd, Monteverdi, Purcell, and even Mozart to be considered. Preparing music without the pressure of an impending performance continues to be a refreshing and rewarding experience allowing great flexibility in music selection and preparation for all concerned.

Spring 2020 Programme

EMFS Choir

A French Requiem Charpentier's Messe des morts à 4 voix

Mark Antoine Charpentier occupied a prominent position at the court of Louis XIV - composing for the theatre and for the Royal Chapel. His Requiem for four-part choir is a sombre work replete with all the sumptuous harmonies we expect from the finest of French Baroque music.

EMFS Advanced Choir

Requiem in F minor - Heinrich Biber

Nowadays, best-known as a composer for the violin, in his day Heinrich Biber was equally celebrated as a church composer. His Requiem is a large scale work, dark-hued and at times dramatic, which deserves to be much better known.

Dates for Spring 2020

Saturday 18 January

Saturday 15 February

Saturday 14 March

Schedule:

Morning: Advanced Choir
10.00 - 11.15 Session 1
11.15 - 11.30 Tea/coffee break
11.30 - 13.00 Session 2

Afternoon: EMFS Choir
13.45 - 15.00 Session 1
15.00 - 15.15 Tea/coffee break
15.15 - 16.30 Session 2

Venue:

St Michael and All Saints Church
28 Brougham Street, Tollcross,
Edinburgh, EH3 9JH
<http://www.stmichaelandallsaints.org>

Fees:

The fee for a single half-day session is
£12 for EMFS members
£15 for non-members, and
£5 for students and those on low incomes.

A reduced full-day rate of £20 / £25 / £8 will apply to any Advanced Choir singers who would like to stay on to join the EMFS Choir in the afternoon.

Refreshment:

Mid-morning and mid-afternoon refreshments will be provided. If you are attending both sessions, please bring a packed lunch which you may eat in the church or you may wish to explore one of the many cafes in the area.

Payment:

We prefer not to handle cash, therefore, if possible, pay in advance by online bank transfer, or by cheque on the day. Please make cheques payable to EMFS. In any event please email Sue Owen sue@emfscotland.org.uk to confirm your intention to attend.

Bank transfer payment details are:

Bank: The Co-operative Bank
A/C: EMFS (Early Music Forum of Scotland)
A/C no: 65690662
Sort code: 08-92-99
(ref EMFS choir workshop).

If you are paying by bank transfer, please email Sue Owen sue@emfscotland.org.uk and cc Kate treasurer@emfscotland.org.uk to let them know that you have paid.

Scores:

PDF copies of the music will be sent to you by email after you have signed up. We are hoping to keep costs down by inviting choir members to print their own music, but we are happy to print music for you if you need us to. Please email Sue Owen sue@emfscotland.org.uk in advance if you will need printed copies on the day.

How to join the Early Music Forum of Scotland

It is easy to join the EMFS online at www.emfscotland.org.uk

The annual membership fee is £13.00. Members have access to our membership list and receive regular email updates with information on current and future early music workshops and events for instrumentalists and singers.

Membership also entitles you to a discount on EMFS workshop fees.

For membership enquiries or to join our free mailing list please email: membership@emfscotland.org.uk

To tell us about a concert or event, or for any other choir enquiry please email: sue@emfscotland.org.uk

Further information about anything on this leaflet is available from:

www.emfscotland.org.uk

or

sue@emfscotland.org.uk



Early Music Forum of Scotland
Since 1992
www.emfscotland.org.uk

THE EARLY MUSIC FORUM OF SCOTLAND



EMFS Choirs Spring 2020

A French Requiem
Charpentier's Messe
des morts à 4 voix

Requiem in F minor
Heinrich Biber