Whitehall Choir

London Baroque Sinfonia



HANDEL Jephtha

Friday 15 November 2013, 7pm

St John's Smith Square

London, SW1P 3HA

Conductor PAUL SPICER

Verity Wingate (soprano)

Anna Harvey (mezzo soprano)

Simon Ponsford (countertenor)

Nicholas Scott (tenor)

Richard Walshe (baritone)

Tickets £22.50, £18, £15, £10, from the St John's Smith Square box office, 020 7222 1061, www.sjss.org.uk. Also available through the Choir. Further booking and Smith Square Café and Restaurant details overleaf.

The Whitehall Choir, conducted by Paul Spicer, is now in its 70th season. One of London's leading amateur choirs, it has a varied repertoire, including challenging unaccompanied pieces as well as larger choral works. The Choir performs regularly at major central London concert venues, often alongside professional orchestras and soloists. Rehearsals are held during term time on Tuesday evenings in St Stephen's Church, Rochester Row, and new voices are always welcome. This year, the Choir held a Young Composer Competition, attracting 29 entries from the UK and abroad; judged by Paul Spicer and fellow composers Robert Saxton and Judith Weir, the winner will be announced in December. As part of the prize, the winning piece will be performed at the Choir's spring concert on Friday, 4 April 2014 and then recorded in May, along with other highlights from that concert, on the Choir's third CD. Further information about the Choir, including concerts, recordings and how to join, is available at whitehallchoir.org.uk. Whitehall Choir is a registered charity, no: 280478.

Other Whitehall Choir concerts and events this season

- Monday, 9 December, Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons,
 Christmas Carol Evening with BBC Radio 4 broadcaster Jenni Murray
 St Mary's, Great Milton, Oxfordshire
 For details contact manoir.com/web/olem/calendar_of_events.jsp
- Tuesday, 10 December, 7.30 pm, London Christmas Concert St Stephen's, Rochester Row, London SW1P 1LE
- Friday 4 April 2014, Passiontide to Ascension Day Concert St Alban the Martyr, 8 Brooke Street, London EC1N 7RD
- Friday, 4 July 2014, 7.30 pm, Elgar, Stanford, Kodály, Brahms, Rheinberger Holy Trinity Sloane Street, London SW1X 9BZ

Paul Spicer began his musical training as a chorister at New College, Oxford. He studied with Herbert Howells and Richard Popplewell (organ) at the Royal College of Music in London, winning the Walford Davies Organ Prize in his final year. This is Paul's 14th season with the Whitehall Choir. He also conducts the Birmingham Bach Choir and the chamber choir at Birmingham Conservatoire, where he teaches choral conducting, as he does at Oxford and Durham Universities. In 1984 he founded the Finzi Singers, with whom he made 15 CDs for Chandos. Paul is in great demand, too, as a recording producer and as a composer. His biography and study of works of Sir George Dyson will be published in July 2014; September 2014 sees the world première at Birmingham Symphony Hall of his latest opus, a choral symphony with the poet Euan Tait commemorating the centenary of the First World War. Paul Spicer is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, an Honorary Research Fellow of Birmingham University, an Honorary Fellow of Birmingham Conservatoire, a Trustee of the Finzi Trust, Vice-President of the Herbert Howells Society, and Advisor to the Sir George Dyson Trust. Most recently, he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship at University College, Durham. Visit paulspicer.com for more information.

St John's Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA. Tickets: online: sjss.org.uk; telephone: 020 7222 1061; by post: please enclose SAE. Mastercard and Visa accepted. Booking fees: by phone £2 per transaction (£1.50 to Friends of St John's); online £1.50 per transaction. Advance booking: the Box Office is open for advance bookings from 10am to 5pm weekdays. The Smith Square Café and Restaurant in the Crypt is open from 5.30pm (telephone: 020 7222 2779). St John's Smith Square, London SW1. St John's Smith Square Charitable Trust, registered charity no: 1045390. Registered in England. Company no: 3028678.