# Tuesdays@1 9<sup>th</sup> August - Gary Desmond *(Deputy Organist, Bath Abbey)*

# **Programme**

G.F. Handel Overture to the Occasional Oratorio

(1685-1759) Adagio-Allegro Adagio espressivo March

Malcom Archer Suite

(b. 1952) Chorale Prière Scherzo Pastorale Adagio Toccata

L. Vierne Carillon de Westminster

(1870-1937)

**Gary Desmond** first studied the organ with Clifford Harker at Bristol Cathedral and then spent four years at the Royal Academy of Music with Douglas Hawkridge (organ) and Roy Jesson (piano). After graduation, he became a pupil of Susi Jeans and has since studied with David Sanger and David Briggs. For many years, Gary was Organist and Director of Music at the City Parish Church of St Stephen, Bristol, where he arranged a busy annual music programme, and also Director of Music at Bristol Grammar Junior School. Whilst at St Stephen's, he directed the choir in broadcasts on BBC Television and Radio and was also conductor of the St Stephen's Singers and the Westbury Singers.

On three occasions he has been elected President of the Bristol and District Organists' Association and also served several terms as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Incorporated Association of Organists. He is frequently invited to be the accompanist and organist for local choirs and choral societies; he has also acted as organist for BBC Radio Bristol and has performed as soloist with a number of local orchestras. Gary has given many recitals in the Bristol area, including the Colston Hall; other venues have included St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral and many other cathedrals and churches in the UK. He has also given recitals in Germany, the USA and, since 2002, he has played regularly in the recital series at Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris. Gary is now a freelance recitalist, accompanist and teacher and is Deputy Organist of Bath Abbey. This he combines with the post of Director of Music at the city centre church of St Mary, Bathwick.

Future **Tuesdays@1** organ recital series – (May – October) 16 August - Sam Austin, 23 August - Ben Sheen, 30 August - Hayden Payne, 6 September – Emma Gibbons, 13 September – Stephen Power, 20 September – Paul Walton, 27 September – Huw Williams

## Evening Organ Concerts 6.30pm. Tickets £7.50 (unreserved)

from the Bath Box Office www.bathboxoffice.org.uk Tel: 01225 463362

At our *Summer Evenings* Organ concerts, you can enjoy some of the most inspiring organ works ever written. The concerts will last about an hour with a short interval (drinks bar available) when you will get to meet the organist. There will be a screen which enables the audience to watch the player controlling over 4,500 pipes, on 4 keyboards whilst using their feet!

#### A Tale of Two Cities - Friday 7th October - Stephen Farr

This evening's programme, a Tale of Two Cities, explores some of the extraordinary heritage of organ music to emerge from London and Paris. It features works by Judith Bingham 'Vanished London Churches' and French music by Couperin, Böely and Langlais's dramatic Trois Paraphrases Gregoriennes. Stephen Farr has an impressive reputation as one of the leading organ recitalists of his generation, with an extensive discography to his credit; recent and pending releases have included J S Bach's Clavierübung 3, Orgelbüchlein, and Chorale Partitas (part of a projected recording of the complete organ works), the complete organ works of James Macmillan, a new commission by Francis Grier, music from the 17<sup>th</sup> century English repertoire, works by Judith Bingham, and the complete organ works of Kenneth Leighton (described as a 'towering triumph' by The Guardian).

### **Concert** - A Prayer for Peace in Ukraine – Friday, 19th August at 7.30pm

Dutch choir, Cantorij, based in Leiden, combine with Welsh choir, Cantemus in a concert which will feature heartfelt music written through the centuries during times of fighting and war. Featuring A prayer for peace by Mykola Lysenko and John Rutter, other music includes Mendelssohn 'Verleih uns Frieden', Gjeilo beautiful 'Ubi caritas', Parry's I was glad and Howells' O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. In their anniversary years the music of Tomkins 'When David heard' and Vaughan Williams' Te Deum are performed. Langlais' beautiful Chant du paix' will be played on the famous Klais organ. Directed by Huw Williams and Hans Brons, and accompanied on the organ by Willeke Smits, this will be a memorable and uplifting concert with drinks available post concert. Tickets from www.bathboxoffice.org.uk £15 and £10 (with 16s and under half price). Tel: 01225 463362.

# **Organ Rebuild**

We are very proud of our world famous Klais organ which was built by Philipp Klais in 1997 under the guidance of Peter King, former Director of Music at Bath Abbey, and organ consultant Nicolas Kynaston. Organs need a bit of 'TLC' — and in January 2023 there will be a major overhaul of the organ. Philipp Klais and his team from Bonn will mastermind a comprehensive rebuild, cleaning and restoring the pipework. The electronics and the action will be overhauled and replaced and there will be a few small tonal alternations. This exciting project will cost £250,000. *If you'd like to donate to support the work of this project*, you can either send a cheque made payable to Bath Abbey, to Bath Abbey Offices, 9 Kingston Buildings, Bath BA1 1LT or pay by BACS using the following details:

Natwest Plc Bath Abbey PCC Sort Code: 56-00-34

Account Number: 00232971

Ref: Organ Rebuild

To find out further information, contact <a href="mailto:hwilliams@bathabbey.org">hwilliams@bathabbey.org</a>. Thank you.