



St Catherine's
BRAMLEY

ORGAN RECITAL
given by
FRANCESCA MASSEY

Friday 20th January, 2023
4.15pm

Prep School Hall



St Catherine's will always be hugely indebted and grateful to Mrs Evelyn Greaves who contacted the School in early 2015 with the offer of her most generous donation of her beloved three-manual Vincent Woodstock organ. It was the late Dr Jennifer Bate OBE, a great friend of the School after whom our Organ Scholarship and Organ Academy are named, who introduced Mrs Greaves to St Catherine's. We were honoured that Dr Bate and Mrs Greaves gave the Inaugural Recital on this beautiful instrument in October of that year. Since its installation, the Prep School Hall has been redecorated to match the organ's style and provide it with a fitting home into the future. It will without doubt inspire generations of young organists, as both Dr Bate and Mrs Greaves hoped.



The organ is regularly used for teaching as well as for assemblies and concerts, including our annual Keyboard Section Concert. It is much loved by the School's many young organists, and a source of inspiration, awe and wonder to girls of all ages across the whole School. It is also one of the principal instruments used by the annual Jennifer Bate Organ Academy, and features each year in the Concerto Masterclass, which was taught by the great Dr Bate herself.



Francesca Massey has recently embarked upon a freelance portfolio career as a performer and teacher, having worked as a cathedral musician for 20 years. Born in Birmingham in 1982, Francesca was educated at Cambridge University and the Royal Northern College of Music (on a prestigious ABRSM Scholarship), holding Organ Scholarships at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge and Manchester Cathedral. She later became Assistant Organist at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, Assistant Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral, Sub-Organist at Durham Cathedral and Director of Music at Rochester Cathedral.





At the age of 19, Francesca gained all of the top prizes in the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists' diploma and was subsequently awarded the WT Best Memorial Scholarship and Silver Medal of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, and the Musicians Benevolent Fund's Ian Fleming Award. Her teachers included Kevin Bowyer, Jeremy Filsell, David Goode and Andrew Fletcher.

Francesca performs regularly as a recitalist throughout the UK and abroad. She has three critically-acclaimed solo recordings to her name (Bravura!, The Forgotten Gem, and The complete works of Maurice Duruflé). A fourth CD, recorded on the organ at St. Edmundsbury Cathedral, will be released in 2023. Francesca has performed widely as an accompanist (in which capacity she works regularly with the BBC Singers), as well as recording a number of CDs with various choirs; Gramophone Magazine describing her as a 'hugely gifted accompanist.' Francesca has also worked extensively as a choral conductor, music teacher, continuo player, pianist and singer.

More information and details of future performances can be found at www.francesca-massey.org.





Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, BuxWV 223

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Prélude sur l'introït de l'Épiphanie

Jehan Alain (1911-1940)

Deux Danses à Agni Yavishta

Guy Bovet (1942-)

Suite pour Souvigny III (Saint Mayeul et Saint Odilon)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Canonic Variations on 'Von Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her' BWV 769

Gaston Litaize (1909-1991)

Reges Tharsis

Thomas Hewitt Jones (1984-)

Carnival

