

NANTWICH and DISTRICT
CHORAL SOCIETY

AUTUMN CONCERT

*Central Methodist Church,
Nantwich*

Saturday, 12th November

7.30 p.m.

1977

*A German Requiem -
Brahms*

*Five Mystical Songs -
Vaughan Williams*

SOLOISTS:

JEAN SAMUEL (Soprano)

CHRISTOPHER UNDERWOOD (Baritone)

CONDUCTOR:

MICHAEL BRIDGER

Admission by Programme

ADULT 75p.

STUDENT/OAP 40p.

Five Mystical Songs - Vaughan Williams

The words of these songs are taken from the writings of George Herbert (1593-1633). First performed in 1911, these settings by Vaughan Williams show all the characteristics of his early style, especially in the folk-song-like quality of the harmony and the strong melodic line. H. C. Colles has said that the work is mystical "not with the mystery of complexity which leads to confusion, but with the deepest kind which is compatible with simplicity".

1. EASTER: Rise, heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise without delay.....
2. I GOT ME FLOWERS to strew thy way; I got me boughs off many a tree; but Thou wast up by break of day, and brought'st Thy sweets along with Thee.....
3. LOVE BADE ME WELCOME: yet my soul drew back, guilty of dust and sin.....
4. THE CALL: Come my Way, my Truth, my Life; such a Way, as gives us breath.....
5. ANTIPHON: Let all the world in every corner sing: my God and King.....

INTERVAL

A German Requiem - Brahms

Written over the long period 1857-1868, this is Brahms' only large scale choral work. All the words are chosen from the Bible, for which Brahms apparently had a high regard even though his own religious belief was far from secure. Though the text is mainly concerned with the theme of human frailty and mourning, Brahms' settings nevertheless strike moods ranging from desolate bitterness to exultation.

1. CHORUS: Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.....
2. CHORUS: Behold, all flesh is as the grass, and the glory of man is as the flower of the field.....Now therefore be patient, O my brethren, unto the coming of the Lord..... And the ransomed of the Lord shall return again.....
3. BARITONE SOLO and CHORUS: Lord, let me know mine end, and the number of my days.....Now, Lord, what then do I hope for? My hope is in Thee.....
4. CHORUS: How lovely are Thy dwellings fair, O Lord of hosts.....

5. SOPRANO SOLO and CHORUS: Ye now have sorrow: but I will again behold you, and your heart shall rejoice.....
6. BARITONE SOLO and CHORUS: For we have no abiding city, but yet we seek that to come. Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.....Worthy art Thou, Lord, of praise and glory, honour and power.....
7. CHORUS: Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth.....



Next Concert:

Music for Christmas

SATURDAY, 17th DECEMBER

7.30 p.m.

also in Central Methodist Church