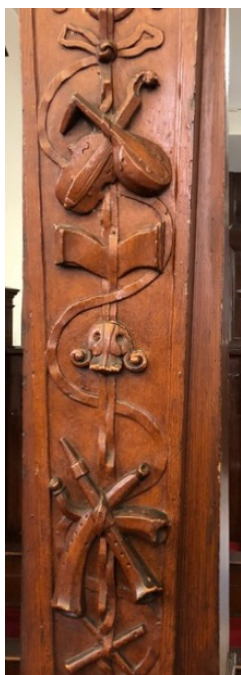


THAMES VALLEY EARLY MUSIC FORUM



The Pre-Restoration consort anthem: a trove of neglected English treasures a workshop for singers, viols & wind (A=440) directed by Bill Hunt of Fretwork

St John's United Reformed Church,
Hallowell Road, Northwood, HA6 1DN

Saturday 13th June, 10.30 for 11am to 5.30pm

The 'verse anthem' is a remarkable artistic creation peculiar to English music and inspired by the cultural developments following this country's Reformation in the mid 16th century. The simple structure of 'verses' for accompanied solo voice or voices, alternating with passages of full chorus, reaches its highest level of sophistication in the 'consort anthem', in which voices and consort instruments share musical material on equal terms and give dramatic life to devotional texts through a new and rhetorical approach to word-setting. We shall look at works by early 17th century composers, both famous and lesser-known, and in a variety of styles ranging from the intimate and domestic to grand, public celebration, ending with Tomkins' majestic funeral music for the death of Prince Henry in 1612.

Voices, viols, soft wind instruments including recorders, and an organ are invited to sign up. Cornetts, sackbuts and curtals will be very welcome too to support the choruses, a practice which existed at the time. The verses of the anthems will only suit quieter instruments, so this could be a good opportunity to combine singing and playing if you play a louder instrument.

Bill Hunt was a founder member of the viol consort Fretwork and established its publishing operation 'Fretwork Editions', which he has directed and expanded since 1989. He has combined an initial focus on the great English viol consort repertory with an increasing interest in music for voices and viols, culminating most recently in doctoral research into performance of the Pre-Restoration consort anthem. At the same time he has pursued a performing career specialising in contrabass members of the viol family with leading ensembles such as London Baroque, Taverner Consort and the Dunedin Consort.

St John's church is a short walk from Northwood Metropolitan Line station. It does not have its own car park but most street parking is free at weekends. Please be sure to check the signs when you park as some of it is paying. We will be providing tea and coffee but please bring your own mug. There are cafés and take-aways and a Waitrose within walking distance.

Singers are encouraged to download and print their scores or read them from a tablet, but we can provide a printed copy. Please indicate your preference when you book. Scores will go on the TVEMF website as soon as they are available. Instrumental parts will be provided on the day.

The fee is £16 for Early Music Forum members and £20 for non-members. Please apply online by 8th June using the following link [BOOK HERE](#). After that date, please email Ivan Viehoff treasurer@tvemf.org.uk to check if there are still places before applying. If you are

unable to do online booking or payments, you can book by post to 43 Inchwood, Birch Hill, Bracknell RG12 7ZX, enclosing a cheque payable to Thames Valley Early Music Forum (not TVEMF), giving your name, address, voice/instruments, email address and phone number, and mentioning whether you would like your choir scores printed for you.

You can assume your application has been accepted unless your part is marked 'waiting list only' when you book online. Numbers may need to be limited so please apply as soon as possible. If you are unable to attend, please let Ivan know at once so that your place can be offered to someone else.

Registered charity no. 900284

Photograph by Bill Hunt of a carving showing musical instruments, both loud and soft, on a door post in the chapel of the Charterhouse, near Smithfield, dating from about 1626.