

Tickets: $\pounds 12/\pounds 5$ (students) on the door



Somerville Music Society

Lunchtime Recital Series, 2 March 2012



Oliver Longland, baritone Steven Grahl, piano

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Di Provenza il mar (from *La traviata*)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Songs of Travel

The Vagabond

Let Beauty Awake

The Roadside Fire

Youth and Love

In Dreams

The Infinite Shining Heavens

Whither Must I Wander

Bright is the Ring of Words

I Have Trod the Upward and the Downward Slope

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Hai già vinta la causa! ... Vedrò mentr'io sospiro (from *Le nozze di Figaro*)

Oliver Longland, baritone

Oliver Longland was educated at Sherborne School in Dorset, where he was a Music and Academic Scholar. Here he achieved Grade 8 Distinctions (ABRSM) in violin, tenor saxophone, piano and voice and was awarded the Patrick Shelley Cup for outstanding contribution to school musical life. He attended Eton Choral Courses where Balph Allwood MBE invited him to join the Rodolfus Choir, with whom he recorded his first CD. Choral Music by Herbert Howells. In 2009 he came to New College, Oxford to read Music with a Choral Scholarship in New College Choir under Professor Edward Higginbottom. Since then he has sung in the daily worship services and toured extensively with the Choir across Europe and the USA. He has sung on many of the choir's recently released CDs including the most recent one by Naxos. This is due to be advertised on ITV 1 within the next few months in conjunction with the new series Endeavour based around the youthful fictional character of Morse. Oliver has also sung for Manchester United in their recent charity recording of You raise me up in aid of the Manchester-based children's charity. Five Stars Appeal. Currently taught by Bronwen Mills, he graduates in June but will stay in Oxford next academic year to sing as a Lay Clerk in New College Choir. In the long-term he hopes to pursue a career as a freelance singer in London.

Steven Grahl, piano

Steven Grahl enjoys a varied career as both organist and conductor. He has been Organist and Director of Music at St Marylebone Parish Church, London, since 2001, where he directs the professional choir and is custodian of the 1987 Rieger Organ. He has established the St Marylebone Youth Choir and Organ Scholarship, and the music after mass and evening concert series. Since 2007, Steven has also held the position of Assistant Organist at New College, Oxford. He was acting Director of New College Choir during Trinity Term 2010, is a member of the Oxford University Faculty of Music, and is responsible for New College's Choral Outreach programme, delivering high-quality singing to children in three Oxford Primary Schools. Steven was appointed Principal Conductor of the Guildford Chamber Choir in 2006, and has led the choir in a wideranging repertory, including a major commissioned work from Philip Moore in celebration of their 30th Anniversary. Recent years have seen performances in America, France, Germany, Italy and Spain, and at numerous prestigious UK venues. Steven appears on several CD recordings, his playing can be heard on the weekly webcast from New College Chapel, and has been broadcast on the BBC and French Radio.

A prize-winning graduate of Magdalen College, Oxford and the Royal Academy of Music, Steven gained the Limpus (highest mark) and Dixon (improvisation) prizes in his FRCO examination, and is also a holder of the Worshipful Company of Musicians' Silver Medallion. Steven is an accompanist and examiner for the RSCM's national singing awards and in 2010 was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM), an award offered to past students of the Academy who have distinguished themselves in the music profession and made a significant contribution to it in their particular field. Steven was an interpretation finalist in the 2011 St Albans International Organ Competition.

Next Recital

Friday, 9 March 2012, 1:15pm, Somerville College Chapel Benjamin Bloor (organ)

SMS Recitals Coordinator: Stefan Schwarz (New College)