

Ticket purchase

Tickets will be available by post in advance by completing the form with the brochure. Alternatively, tickets will be on sale six weeks before each concert from our Chichester agents:

Chichester Office Supplies, in Crane Street, Chichester

(tel: 01243 771252).

Tickets for the July 17th concert at Bosham may also be obtained from the Festivities Box Office. We now have an on line booking arrangement for all concerts with www.WeGotTickets.com, who accept credit card bookings. There should be no booking fee chargeable to the customer, as this will be charged to the Consort account. Alternatively, you can use the booking form attached to the brochure at any time.

Programmes

This year we will not be providing a complete programme booklet for all our concerts, as they are each two months apart. With the pre-concert talks, it is felt that a single programme for each concert would be more appropriate.

History of the Consort

Now in our 30th season, our 50-page book, the 'History of The Consort of Twelve', has been on sale at our concerts in the last two years. We are able to offer this at the reduced price of £5.00 (£6.00 to include postage) to Friends or those ordering a copy in advance of the concerts.

CD Sales

We are continuing our sale of slightly used CDs in order to raise funds for our concerts. These CDs will be on sale at £3 per record. If you would like a catalogue, please contact us. We can arrange to reserve your requirements for collection at one of the concerts. We cannot guarantee their condition, but we believe most of them to be little used. You are free to return any for a refund if not wanted. Deirdre Buckley has kindly agreed to take responsibility for sales of books and records at the concerts, and we will have a separate table for these at the venues.

The Consort of Twelve Website

Our website www.consortoftwelve.co.uk has more details on each concert, an article on the baroque instruments we use, photos and profiles of the artists, and information on related concerts. This will be updated regularly throughout the year.

The Consort of Twelve

Newsletter

March 2011



ECHOES OF ITALY

Rome and Venice:

Saturday 7th May, 7.30pm — St Paul's Church, Chichester

Venice and Abroad:

Sunday 17th July, 6.00pm — Holy Trinity Church, Bosham

An Italian City Tour:

Sunday 11th September, 6.00pm — Boxgrove Priory

Pre-concert talks 40 minutes before each concert

Contact:

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Check out our website for further details:
www.consortoftwelve.co.uk

As you will see from the enclosed brochure, we are continuing with the traditional high baroque repertoire for this season's concerts, with an all-Italian theme for 2011. *Echoes of Italy* will be the theme of our three concerts.

Saturday 7th May, St Paul's Church, Chichester, 7.30pm

We are delighted that the **Choir of Christ's College, Cambridge** are again coming to perform with us this year. Directed by David Rowland, they will be ten in number, the forces required for the extended *Stabat Mater* by Domenico Scarlatti, a work for 10 solo voices and organ continuo. Two Vivaldi choral works are also in the programme — the *Kyrie* for double choir and string orchestra and the more well-known *Magnificat*, but in its double choir version, with strings and oboes. The Consort will be playing a Corelli Concerto Grosso and Gerry McDonald and Debby England will be the soloists in an Albinoni Concerto for two oboes. Vivaldi and Albinoni are the Venetian composers, and Corelli worked in Rome. It is not certain whether the *Stabat Mater* was performed in Venice or Rome, but it was written well before 1719, when the composer moved to Spain, and where he wrote his keyboard sonatas.

Sunday 17th July, Holy Trinity Church, Bosham, 6pm

Following the success of the concert in Bosham in Chichester Festivities last year, we are again holding the high summer concert in this venue, although it has to be outside the Festivities period (24 June-10 July). We are welcoming back **Catherine Martin** as guest leader. Catherine led the Consort for the first time in 2006. She will be performing a Vivaldi violin concerto, and the concert will open with a large-scale Vivaldi concerto for 2 violins, 2 oboes, bassoon and strings. Although the first half features Venetian composers, the second half focuses on Italians who ventured abroad to where the money was—London! Both Geminiani and Giuseppe Sammartini spent most of their lives in this country. Helen Hooker (recorder) is our soloist in the Sammartini concerto for treble recorder. We conclude with Handel — who at least spent a few years in Rome before settling in England!

Sunday 11th September, Boxgrove Priory, 6pm

Our final concert contains some less well-known composers. Starting with the overture to Handel's early opera *Agrippina*, written in Rome, we perform the first known Concerto Grosso, by Alessandro Stradella from Rome (c. 1671) which is immediately compared with a more mature work by Corelli. Naples is represented by Alessandro Scarlatti and Leonardo Leo, in a cello concerto, performed by Lynden Cranham. Our final work is

is the *Concerto Funebre* by Vivaldi — a fine work scored for solo violin, oboe, alto chalumeau, three 'viole all'inglese' and strings. It is not clear what Vivaldi meant by 'English' violas — maybe the viola da gamba? The work has some novel textures in a piece that is far from funereal in character, with a lively concluding movement.

Pre-concert talks

Following the success of our pre-concert talks last year, we are delighted that Professor Roger Parker has again agreed to give these. They will be for about 20 minutes, 40 minutes before the start of the concert. We hope that you will be able to come to these, which are free.

Friends of The Consort of Twelve

Following the successful launch of the Friends scheme six years ago, we have continued to maintain over 60 members. Membership this year gives a discounted price of £2 per ticket and free admission for children of Friends. We have in the past found problems in reserving rows especially for Friends, so we will be unable to do this in future, though we will try to reserve seats for parties or for anyone with disabilities. We hope to be able to offer a social gathering for Friends after the first and last concerts, the final gathering being in the Blaise Centre of Boxgrove Priory. There is no suitable venue, regrettably, for the Bosham concert. A form is enclosed should you wish to join the Friends.

Sponsorship

Last year we were grateful for the generous support of the Chichester City Council and other donations from Friends. Through these donations we were able to maintain a balance with which to start our 2011 concert series. Our enthusiastic treasurer, Mr Jean Sagues, is again applying for financial assistance to the City Council, but it possible that we will not receive the same level of support as in the previous years. If any Friends would like to help out in sponsoring any small items of expenditure, do let us know. As ever, we are grateful to Sylvia and Adrian Grainge, who take charge of the door and the refreshments at our concerts.

Ticket prices

In this period of recession and financial stringency we are not increasing our ticket prices, and all three concerts will be £12, with a concessionary £8 rate for children and students of 18 and under, and with the £10 ticket price only for Friends of the Consort. Friends need to **book in advance by post** to obtain this discount. Our ticket agencies and on line booking will not be able to sell discounted Friends tickets, and discounted tickets will not be available on the door.