

BOOKING FORM Come and Sing - Saturday 1 March 2025

If you would like to **Come and Sing** with us please complete and return this form together with payment as below. If any friends or relations wish to come along to our performance at 4pm please indicate how many tickets you would like.

Voice Part: (please tick)

Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

Standard (includes music on the day) £20

*Student £5

Music in advance (scores posted to you): add £2.50

Audience tickets (enter how many): £3 each

*Student tickets are only available to those aged 16 years or over in full-time education

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone Number (s):

Please post or email a copy (or photo) of the form, together with payment by cheque/BACS (please delete as applicable). Cheques payable to: Nottingham Harmonic Society. BACS payments - Sort code: 20-63-25 Account No: 70674974 - Please reference with Postcode + Surname (eg LE8 4GD Wood).

Email: comeandsing@NottinghamHarmonic.org

**Post: Come and Sing, c/o Olivia Wood, 47 Enderby Road,
Blaby, Leicester LE8 4GD (tel. 07747 045 404)**

Forms and payment should be received by 11 February 2025 at the latest.



nottingham
harmonic
choir

'Come and Sing' 3 Serenades

with

Richard Laing

SATURDAY 1 MARCH 2025 - 9.30am

Vaughan Williams Serenade to Music

Elgar Spanish Serenade op.23

Elgar Serenade op.73 no.2



www.NottinghamHarmonic.org

Registered Charity no. 231548

Venue: The Becket School

Wilford Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QY

conducted by

Richard Laing

Saturday 1 March 2025

Michael Dutton: Piano

09.30	Registration
10.00 - 12.30	Welcome and Rehearsal
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch (please bring your own)
13.30 - 15.45	Rehearsal
16.00 - 17.00	Performance

There will be a mid morning and mid afternoon break.

Tea and coffee will be provided and the dining hall
will be available as usual.

Cost: £20

*Students: £5

Music in advance: add £2.50

Audience Tickets: £3

If you would like to Come and Sing with us, please use the booking form overleaf.

If you'd like to use the electronic version of the form, please visit our website
and use the link to the Excel file.

'Come and Sing'

Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music*

Elgar *Spanish Serenade op.23* and *Serenade op.73*

Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, with words from Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, was first performed at the Royal Albert Hall in 1938. Rachmaninov had performed his second piano concerto in the first half of the concert, and apparently wept at the beauty of Vaughan Williams's work after the interval. The piece can be performed in various guises, with 16 solo singers as at the first performance, with soloists and choir, with choir and no soloists, or with choir and piano.

In 1892 Elgar was contemplating the work which would become *The Black Knight*, and as a kind of preliminary effort he wrote the *Spanish Serenade*, also known as *Stars of the Summer Night*. It uses words by Longfellow, apparently the favourite poet of Elgar's mother.

Elgar's *Serenade op.73 no.2* was written in 1914 and sets an English translation of a Russian poem. The repeating refrain of 'Dreams all too brief, dreams without grief, once they are broken, come not again' speaks to Elgar's own difficulties in his career, struggling to find success outside of a select few compositions that were nationally recognised. While serenades are often associated with passionate confessions of love, the declarations here are bittersweet.