

Hereford Cathedral



Christmas Sparkle
**A concert of seasonal favourites
played on the Willis organ
by
Peter Dyke**

Saturday 3 December 2011
1.15 pm

PROGRAMME

Epilogue on 'As with gladness'	<i>W H Harris</i> 1883–1973
Toccata–Prelude: Vom Himmel hoch	<i>Garth Edmundson</i> 1892–1971
Trio on 'Vom Himmel hoch'	<i>Johann Pachelbel</i> 1653–1706
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BUXWV 211	<i>Dietrich Buxtehude</i> 1637–1707
Noël X in G	<i>Louis-Claude Daquin</i> 1694–1772
In dulci júbilo BWV 608	<i>J S Bach</i> 1685–1750
In dulci júbilo BWV 729	<i>J S Bach</i>
Rhapsodie sur des Noëls	<i>Eugène Gigout</i> 1844–1925
Offertoire on a subject by Hector Berlioz	<i>Alexandre Guilmant</i> 1837–1911
Sleigh Ride (arr. Thomas Trotter)	<i>Leroy Anderson</i> 1908–75
Final (Symphonie I)	<i>Louis Vierne</i> 1870–1937

Peter Dyke was born in Hertfordshire in 1965. In 1983 he took up the organ scholarship at the then newly-founded Robinson College, Cambridge, and he obtained his FRCO in 1987. He was organist of St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead, for five years before being appointed assistant organist at St Woolos Cathedral, Newport, in 1992. In 1995 he moved to St Albans Cathedral as organ scholar, and in 1998 he took up his current post as assistant organist of Hereford Cathedral, where he founded and directs the cathedral's voluntary choir, known for its performances of contemporary choral repertoire.

Recitals and concert tours have taken him across Britain, Ireland, Europe and North America, and in 1993 he was awarded second prize in the interpretation competition at the prestigious St Albans International Organ Festival. His first solo CD, of music from Bach's *Clavierübung III*, was released in 1997, and both this disc and *Sounds Idyllic*, recorded at Hereford Cathedral in 2002, have received much critical praise. A second disc of the Hereford organ was recorded in 2009 by Priory Records and is now on sale. He has played regularly with the cathedral choir on radio and television broadcasts. He has a keen interest in teaching, having founded a successful organists' training scheme in South Wales, and he has been closely involved in the similar scheme more recently launched in this diocese. He has enjoyed transcribing orchestral and other works for the organ; his compositions and arrangements have been performed at diocesan choirs festivals and at the 2009 Three Choirs Festival in Hereford, and his *Wedding Prelude* was played at the wedding of Peter Philips and Autumn Kelly at St George's Chapel, Windsor, in 2008.

Recent appearances have included being the piano soloist in Hereford Choral Society's performance of Constant Lambert's *The Rio Grande*, several performances of his own transcription of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* for a total of over 2500 schoolchildren, complete performances of Messiaen's *La nativité du Seigneur* at the cathedral in 2009 and 2011 and an appearance chairing an event with Christopher Hogwood at the 2009 Hay Festival. In 2005 he recorded a series of short programmes from Germany for BBC Radio 3 exploring Bach's 260-mile journey to Lübeck in 1705, broadcast as part of that network's *A Bach Christmas*. In 2009 he was awarded the Associateship of the Royal School of Church Music (ARSCM).

Admission to this recital is free but a collection will be taken as you leave the cathedral in aid of the Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust, which supports the cathedral's choral foundation and restoration projects. Your generosity will be much appreciated, and the value of your donation will be significantly increased if you place your offering in one of the Gift Aid envelopes and supply the information requested.