

Hereford Cathedral



Lunchtime organ concert by Anthony Hammond

Tuesday 31 May 2011
1.15 pm

PROGRAMME

Allabreve BWV 589	<i>J S Bach 1685–1750</i>
Sheep may safely graze (Cantata 208)	<i>J S Bach arr. Stainton de B Taylor</i>
Concerto No 4 in G Introduction – Fugue – Larghetto – March	<i>Matthew Camidge 1764–1844</i>
Folk Tune	<i>Percy Whitlock 1903–46</i>
Improvisation: variations on the hymn tune ‘Hereford’	<i>Anthony Hammond b 1977</i>

Dr Anthony Hammond studied music at the University of Bristol. Having held organ scholarships at Chester Cathedral and then St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, in 2002 he was appointed sub-organist at Bristol Cathedral. In 2003, he moved to Cirencester Parish Church, in the heart of the Cotswolds, as assistant director of music, subsequently being promoted to the post of director of music and organist there in 2006. He has studied the organ in England with Roger Fisher and David Briggs, and in Paris with Dr Naji Hakim. A Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and winner of the Dixon Prize for improvisation, his passion for French organ music and improvisation led to seven years of doctoral research into the career and technique of legendary French organist and improviser Pierre Cochereau, for which he was awarded his PhD in 2010 by the University of Bristol.

He has recorded several CDs, most of which are on the Priory label. One of these includes his own reconstruction of a symphony improvised by Pierre Cochereau at St Mary’s Cathedral, San Francisco, in 1972. The score of this reconstruction was published by Dr J Butz Musikverlag in 2009. His recordings for Priory, including an album of Elgar organ music, an album of his own improvisations, and a volume in their Great European Organs series recorded on the newly rebuilt Willis/Harrison instrument in Cirencester Parish Church, have received widespread critical acclaim. He has broadcast for the BBC and has given recitals in churches, cathedrals and concert halls throughout the UK and in Europe.

In 2009 he made his American solo debut at St Mary’s Cathedral, San Francisco, where he played at the invitation of the American Guild of Organists. He will be returning to America for concerts in Washington DC, New York and Boston in 2012.

Admission to this concert is free but a collection will be taken as you leave the cathedral. A minimum donation of £3 would be much appreciated. Your gifts will enable our organ concert series to be maintained and developed, while also allowing us to give an opportunity to many young players to experience the Willis organ. Funds over and above those needed to maintain the concert series help to support the maintenance of the cathedral’s three organs and its musical programme. 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.

The next concert in this year’s evening series takes place on Tuesday 14 June, given by Peter Dyke.