

Guernsey Choral and Orchestral Society

Founded 1948

NEWS RELEASE

Brahms' Requiem to be performed at St James

MUSIC lovers will be treated to one of Brahms' most legendary works when the Guernsey Choral and Orchestral Society perform Ein Deutsches Requiem Op. 45 at St James Concert and Assembly Hall on Saturday 20 May 2006.

The Society will perform the famous choral work under the watchful baton of conductor Helen Grand and will be joined by professional soloists, soprano Jayne Whitaker and baritone Mark Oldfield.

The requiem, which will be performed in the original language of German, is a meditation upon death. It is unusual in that that the text is not the traditional Latin requiem mass, but biblical transcript selected by Brahms to reflect those who remain alive.

It uses fragments of scripture from different parts of Luther's Bible with the text avoiding any specific naming of Christ. Brahms' intention for the work was to embrace the widest possible audience in its broad sweep from consideration of the experiences of the living and those who mourn, to a focus on the blessed state of the dead and the promise of their resurrection. The requiem is a glorious work which is both deeply moving and reflective.

To compliment the work the Society will also perform Brahms' Academic Festival Overture and Ralph Vaughan-Williams' Towards the Unknown Region.

On behalf of Deutsche Bank, the sponsors of the concert, Andreas Tautscher, Country Head of Deutsche Bank in Guernsey said;

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'We feel privileged to sponsor the Guernsey Choral & Orchestral Society which brings to the Island high profile soloists, Jayne Whitaker and Mark Oldfield to perform together with the local choristers, musicians and conductor Helen Grand.

'The passion that is shown amongst the participants and the tremendous amount of hard work and dedication that they are making is aligned with our core values of trust, teamwork, focus, innovation and performance and indeed Deutsche Bank's own passion to perform and deliver outstanding client value. I am sure that this concert by the GCOS will be a most delightful and uplifting event.'

Tickets are available from the box office at St James Concert & Assembly Hall,
Telephone 711361 Monday – Friday 9am – 2pm or Saturday 10am – 12 noon.

For further information or to interview a member of the choir contact Fiona Malley, Tel
01481 240600 or mobile 07781 118776

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