



# HUW WILLIAMS

Born in Swansea, **HUW WILLIAMS** is Director of Music at Bath Abbey, where he directs its renowned choirs of boys, girls and men. Under his direction the Abbey choirs have toured and broadcast regularly and have performed at St Paul's Cathedral, Hampton Court Chapel Royal, Norwich Cathedral and St Mary's Redcliffe in recent years. The Abbey musical programme includes an annual performance of Messiah, Stainer's Crucifixion and a regular service in St John the Evangelist Catholic Church during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The choirs perform regularly with orchestra and have performed alongside King's College Choir, London, and the choirs of Norwich Cathedral and St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol. Forthcoming projects include a tour to Cambridge (Boys Choir) and to the Netherlands (Girls and Men). As well as directing the services during the Easter period, Advent and at Christmas, he has also helped establish weekday Choral Evensongs at the Abbey, with most Thursdays and some Tuesdays during term being sung chorally.

A conductor and award-winning organist of international standing, he served until recently as Director of Music at Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St James' Palace, where his predecessors included Thomas Tallis, William Byrd and Henry Purcell. Whilst at the Chapel Royal he conducted the music for Prince George's Christening, the Queen's Christmas message in 2015, the annual Remembrance Sunday Service at the Cenotaph, and numerous other events in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and members of the Royal Family. A graduate of the Royal Academy of Music and former Organ Scholar of Christ's College, Cambridge, his musical achievements led to him being awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012. He is Music Director of Cantemus Chamber Choir, widely regarded as one of Wales' finest choirs. Choirs under his direction have toured extensively and appeared regularly on television and radio including a performance of Tallis' Spem in Alium on BBC One's prime-time The One Show. He has directed two acclaimed CD recordings of Christmas music; "Nativity" with Cantemus and "Adeste Fideles" with the Choir of the Chapel Royal and both discs have received extensive airplay on national radio. He has worked extensively in over 12 countries and is in demand as a director, teacher and organist. Upcoming projects include a visit to Richmond, Virginia this summer and he will return to the Netherlands for the fourth year as guest director of the Willis Chorale in Leiden. He is an editor of the Revised English Hymnal, to be published late in 2019.

Alongside his conducting work, Huw enjoys an international career as an organ recitalist and accompanist. Recent performances include recitals at Trinity College, Cambridge, Merton College, Oxford, Messiaen's stunning La Nativité at Bath Abbey and concerts at Bristol and Wells Cathedrals. He was invited to give the opening concert on the new Mander Organ presented to The Queen by the City of London, and on the restored Henry Willis organ at the Hooglandsekerk in Leiden. He was principal organist at St Paul's Cathedral for ten years, where he played for numerous high-profile and state occasions. During his time at St Paul's he was awarded the Associate of the Royal Academy of Music and made two solo organ recordings, one of which, "Organ Spectacular" received the Gramophone Editor's Choice award. Huw has made over 20 recordings as accompanist with The Sixteen and with St Paul's and Hereford Cathedral Choirs.