

# VALENTINE SINGERS OPEN WORKSHOP DAY

## BEETHOVEN Mass in C ~ “unbearably ridiculous and detestable”

Saturday 18 January 2020

10.30am– 4.30pm (registration from 10am)

St Mary’s Church, High Rd, South Woodford E18 2PA

**Spend the day singing Beethoven’s first – and revolutionary – mass setting.** Haydn composed six glorious mass settings in celebration of the name day of Maria, wife of his patron Prince Nikolaus Esterházy, but by 1802 as his health failed, Esterházy cast around for other composers to fulfil the brief. In 1807 he commissioned Beethoven who, immersed in writing his 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony, also produced this glorious, striking and innovative liturgical work. The combination of stylistic shock and under-rehearsed musicians proved too much for the Prince, however, who deemed it “unbearably ridiculous and detestable”. Fortunately, Beethoven was able to persuade his publishers otherwise!

*Valentine Singers will perform **Beethoven’s Mass in C** with professional orchestra and soloists at St Andrew’s Church, The Drive, Ilford on Saturday 21 March. Anyone interested in taking part in the concert will be given details, including the rehearsal schedule, at the workshop.*

**WHEN?** Saturday 18 January 2020 Doors open at 10am for coffee and registration; workshop 10.30am-4.30pm.

**WHO?** Anyone who enjoys choral singing or would like to sample the experience of singing with a large chorus is invited to join Valentine Singers for the day. Observers are also welcome. The day will be led by the choir’s conductor Christine Gwynn with guest pianist Paul Chilvers. Young people of senior school age and over are welcome to join us; anyone younger than 18 will need written parental consent (see enrolment form).

**PROVIDED (no extra charge)** Music copies plus tea and coffee at the registration and at all breaks.

**BRING** Food for lunch time (or there are some local cafes and shops selling sandwiches etc) and a bottle of water

**HOW MUCH?** £22. Special £10 rate for full-time students/school-children/benefit-holders (e.g. unemployment or disability benefits) and current members of Valentine Singers.

**DIRECTIONS** St Mary’s Church is on the High Road, linking S Woodford and Woodford. The nearest tube is South Woodford, Central Line (c.10-15mins walk, or short bus ride); there are buses along the High Rd. Various parking options include free public car park in Derby Rd (5 mins walk) **FULL TRAVEL INFO & MAP ON WEBSITE**

### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

**Go to [www.valentinesingers.org](http://www.valentinesingers.org) for online enrolment OR** fill in this form and return it, with a cheque payable to Valentine Singers, to Midge and Keith Venables, 5 Hempstead Close, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5JQ  
Acknowledgment will be by email; if you require postal acknowledgement please enclose an s.a.e.

**Workshop info and extra enrolment forms: [www.valentinesingers.org](http://www.valentinesingers.org) or call 020 8504 1261**

*General enquiries regarding Valentine Singers should be directed to 07815 966978 or email [info@valentinesingers.org](mailto:info@valentinesingers.org)*

-----REPLY FORM-----

**I would like to reserve ... place(s) for Beethoven Mass in C workshop on Saturday 18 January 2020**

I enclose a cheque, payable to Valentine Singers, for £..... (total amount for all applicants named)

Name(s) ..... Soprano / Alto / Tenor / Bass / Observer (please delete)

Phone ..... Email ..... Mobile .....

Address .....

I have my own score (must be Breitkopf ed. McGrann) Yes / No I shall require a score Yes / No

Previous vocal/choral experience .....

Please let us know of any special needs or requirements that you would like us to take into consideration (e.g. sight or mobility difficulties) .....

Please tell us how you heard about this event .....

**Applicants under 18** Date of birth of applicant ..... Name of parent or guardian .....

I give permission for ..... to participate in this workshop .....(signature)