

Christopher Howell

Christopher Howell was born in London. He conducted a composition of his own at the age of 14 and gave his first piano recital while still at school. He also played the organ in the school chapel and has maintained an interest in the organ. His early teachers included two professors of the Royal Academy of Music, Alexander

Kelly and Else Cross. He obtained the L.R.A.M. and a B.Mus. with honours at Edinburgh University, where he studied piano with Colin Kingsley and composition with Kenneth Leighton and Edward Harper. In this period he appeared as soloist and chamber musician and formed and directed a small choir. He won a scholarship to complete his piano studies in Milan with Ilonka Deckers- Küszler and gave recitals in Italy and the UK. He has also appeared in Germany (Munich) and France (Nice).

In 1993 he recorded a CD of piano music by Cyril Scott. He later recorded a CD of music by Harold Craxton and, with the cellist Alison Moncrieff Kelly, the cello sonatas of C.V. Stanford. He also appears as an organist. His compositions have been performed in Milan, Magenta,

Turin and Munich. In 2009, at the Spazio Tadini, he collaborated in the realization of a homage to Gianandrea Gavazzeni, in which works for voice and piano by the maestro were interpreted by Denia Mazzola Gavazzeni. Christopher Howell has recorded for Sheva "Cypresses", a cycle of his own compositions for piano, "Land of Sunset Glories" (piano music by C.V Stanford), "An Englishman in Italy" (British piano music inspired by Italy), songs by Chopin and Moniuszko with the

mezzo-soprano Magdalena Aparta, a CD of British clarinet music (C.H. Lloyd, Stanford, Hurlstone, C.A. Gibbs, Finzi) and "Fiori rossiniani" (music by and inspired by Rossini) with the clarinettist Alessandro Travaglini, "Songs of Old Ireland" (Irish folksongs arranged by C.V. Stanford) and "Dedicated to Donizetti" (music by and inspired by Donizetti) with the flautist Gilberto Fornito, "Tosti and Friends" (English songs by Italian composers) with the soprano Ninny Nobile and "Passé" (romantic song in Italy) with the mezzo-soprano Elisabetta Paglia. As organist he has recorded CDs of Christmas organ music, short pieces by Samuel Wesley and, with the soprano Caroline Goodwin, a collection of his own Bible and hymn settings.

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