

# The Edinburgh Singers – Immortal Bach in November

## Two generations of Bach and a reimagined chorale open The Edinburgh Singers 2019/20 season

*Immortal Bach*, a reimagined Bach chorale by Norwegian composer Knut Nystedt, brings a contemporary twist to the Bach-themed opening concert of The Edinburgh Singers' 2019-20 season on Saturday 2 November in St Mary's Cathedral. Featuring chorales by JS Bach, CPE Bach and JC Bach, as well as JS Bach's First Cello Suite, the concert also showcases pieces for cello and choir by John Tavener and Ēriks Ešvalds. Renowned local cellist and Assistant Principal Cello of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Su-a Lee, joins The Edinburgh Singers for the first time.

Knut Nystedt (1915-2014), took JS Bach's chorale 'Komm, süßer Tod' ('Come, sweet Death') as the starting point for his work *Immortal Bach*. By prolonging and overlapping the successive chords, Nystedt makes the music literally 'timeless', symbolising the immortality of the great composer.

John Tavener's *Syvati* (1995) is built on a liturgical text and features a virtuoso solo cello part which plays in dialogue to the choir. Ēriks Ešvalds' *In Paradisum* for choir, cello and off-stage viola (2012) is a homophonic setting of the Requiem Mass. These contemporary pieces will perfectly complement the homophony of the well-known Bach chorales, and the whole programme will be enriched by the acoustic setting of St Mary's Cathedral.

Musical Director, Alistair Digges, said: "I'm always looking for new exciting musical adventures to go on with The

Edinburgh Singers. I'm particularly excited to have the chance to collaborate with the wonderful cellist, Su-a Lee, and we have exciting ideas of how to use magnificent setting of St Mary's Cathedral to bring this varied programme to life in what will hopefully be quite a unique way! I think the sound world of solo cello with choral forces is something really special and hopefully our audience will enjoy going on this emotional musical journey with us."

Tickets (£12/£10; under 12s free) are available from [The Queen's Hall box office](#), 0131 668 2019 or on the door of the concert at St Mary's Cathedral.

Immortal Bach

Saturday 2 November 2019 at **7.30pm**

**St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh**

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THE  
Edinburgh  
Singers

# Immortal Bach

Beautiful music for choir and cello with cellist  
Su-a Lee, featuring works by Bach, Nystedt,  
Tavener and Ešenvalds



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7.30pm**

**St Mary's Cathedral  
Palmerston Place, Edinburgh**

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**Musical Director - Alistair Digges  
Cello - Su-a Lee**

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Box Office: [www.thequeenshall.net](http://www.thequeenshall.net), 0131 668 2019 or on the door



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