A Workshop on

BRITISH ORGAN MUSIC OF THE 19TH & 20TH CENTURIES

Presented by

NIGEL POTTS

Workshop Handout

Sir Hubert Parry (1848-1918)
Organ compositions include:
- Two sets of Seven Chorale Preludes
- Larger works: Fantasia & Fugue in G and Toccata & Fugue ‘The Wanderer’
Workshop listening included:
- ‘Eventide’ (Abide with me) from Seven Chorale Preludes, Set II (1915)
Recommended Reading:
- C. Hubert H. Parry: His Life and Music - Jeremy Dibble (Oxford University Press)
Recommended CDs:
- The Complete Organ Works of Sir Hubert Parry - James Lancelot, Durham Cathedral (Priory: PRCD 682AB. 2-disc set)
- Parry Complete Symphonies - London Philharmonic/Matthias Bamert (Chandos: CHAN 9120-22. 3-disc set)

Sir Charles Stanford (1852-1924)
Organ compositions include:
- Five Sonatas, two sets of Six Short Preludes and Postludes, Fantasia & Toccata in D minor, Op.57, in addition to many other works
Workshop listening included:
- Excerpt from Fantasia & Toccata in D minor, Op.57 (1894) - see CD details below
Recommended Reading:
Recommended CDs:
- Music for a Grand Organ - David Drury, Sydney Town Hall (ABC Classics: 432 527-2) This CD only includes the ‘Fantasia & Toccata’ of Stanford
- The Stanford Sonatas (No. 2-4) - Charles Callahan, St. Mary Redcliffe Church, Bristol, England (Pro Organo: CD7010)
- Stanford Symphonies 1-7. Ulster Orchestra/Vernon Handley (Chandos: CHAN 9279-82. 4-disc set)
- Stanford Piano Concerto No.2 - Ulster Orchestra/Vernon Handley (Chandos: CHAN 7099)
**Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)**

Organ compositions:
- Sonata in G and Vesper Voluntaries
- Various transcriptions (Sonata No.2, Nimrod, Chanson de Nuit & Chanson de Matin, Imperial March etc)

Workshop listening included:
- Excerpt from Sonata in G (the exposition of the first movement ‘Allegro maestoso’)

Recommended CDs:
- Edward Elgar at Woolsey Hall (Yale University) - Thomas Murray organist (Gothic: G49076)
- Elgar: (Orchestral) Symphony No.1 & Organ Sonata (transcribed by Gordon Jacob) (Chandos: CHSA 5049)

Reading of interest:
- Elgar in America - Elgar’s American connections between 1895-1934 - Richard Smith (Elgar Editions)

Useful link:
- Elgar Society (with an American Branch) [www.elgar.org/welcome.htm](http://www.elgar.org/welcome.htm)

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**Edwin Lemare (1865-1934)**

Organ compositions include:
- A vast output of original works (and transcriptions) published by Wayne Leupold [www.wayneleupold.com](http://www.wayneleupold.com)
- One of Lemare’s most popular works is: Andantino in D flat (Moonlight & Roses)

Workshop listening included:
- Rondo Capriccio (a study in accents), Op.64 - see CD details below

Recommended CD:
- An Evening with Edwin H. Lemare – Thomas Murray, Kotzschmar Memorial Organ, Portland Town Hall, Maine (AFKA Records: SK-515)

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**Alfred Hollins (1865-1942)**

Organ compositions include:
- A Trumpet Minuet; Grand Choeur No.1 & 2; Intermezzo; Song of Sunshine; Concert Overture in C minor

Workshop listening included:
- Song of Sunshine (final section)

Recommended CD:
- The Organ Music of Alfred Hollins - David Liddle, The Organ of Hull City Hall (Priory: PRCD 398)
Sir Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)
Organ compositions include:
- His output for the organ is small (13) but a worthy collection of quality music which includes: Three Short Preludes, Meditation, Evening Song, Sonata in Eb
Workshop listening included:
- Veni Emmanuel from Three Short Preludes - see CD details below
Recommended Reading:
- Blessed City – The Life and Works of Edward C. Bairstow - Francis Jackson
  (William Sessions Limited, York, England)
Recommended CD:
- Bairstow – The Complete Organ Works - Francis Jackson, York Minster
  (Amphion PHI CD 143)

Healey Willan (1880-1968)
Organ compositions include:
- A large output including Epithalame; Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue and many Chorale Preludes
Workshop listening included:
- 'Gelobt Sei Gott’ (Good Christians all, rejoice and sing) from Six Chorale Preludes, Vol. 1

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)
Organ compositions include:
- Psalm Preludes (2 sets); Rhapsodies; Six Pieces; Two Sonatas, Partita etc
Workshop listening included:
- Psalm Prelude Set 2, No.3 (Psalm 33, v3 - Sing unto the Lord a new song; sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage) Stephen Cleobury, King’s College Cambridge – see CD details below
Recommended Reading:
- Herbert Howells - Paul Spicer (Seren, Poetry Wales Press Ltd, Bridgend, Wales)
Recommended CDs:
- The St. Paul’s Service and music by Herbert Howells - John Scott/ St. Paul’s Cathedral Choir, London (Hyperion CDA 66260)
- The Organ Music of Herbert Howells - Stephen Cleobury, King’s College, Cambridge (Priory PRCD 480)
Useful links:
- www.howellstrust.org.uk/index.html
- www.paulspicer.com/howells.html

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)
Organ compositions include:
- Four Extemporizations; Five Short Pieces; Six Hymn Preludes; Seven Sketches on verses from the Psalms; Plymouth Suite; Two Chorales; Sonata in C minor
- Score: The Complete Shorter Organ Music published by OUP includes many practical pieces for all organists
Workshop listening included:
- Paean from Five Short Pieces
Recommended Reading:
- *Percy Whitlock, Organist and Composer* - Malcolm Riley (Thames Publishing)

Recommended CDs/Broadcasts:
- *Percy Whitlock Organ Music* - Robert Gower, Selby Abbey (Abacus: ABA 505-2)
- *Percy Whitlock Organ Sonata in C minor* - John Scott, St. Paul’s Cathedral, London (Hyperion: CDA 67470)
- You-Tube: Search ‘Nigel Potts’ for three tracks in concert from The Riverside Church

Useful link/s:

General Reading:
- *British Organ Music of the Twentieth Century* – Peter Hardwick (The Scarecrow Press)

**Future Questions:** Please feel free to email me if you have any questions niguel@nigelpotts.com

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**CD - British Fantasies & Fanfares**

Nigel Potts plays the Schoenstein Organ of St. Paul’s Parish, Washington, D.C.

*Music by: John Cook, Howells, Whitlock, York Bowen, Bairstow, Paul Spicer, Elgar, Walton*

"Nigel Potts is a consummate musician who knows how to communicate the essence of this music."
"Instrument, music, and performer combine to create musical magnificence not to be missed."

*The American Organist*, December 2009

"...a young New Zealand organist whose credentials merit respect and whose interpretive talent is obvious…the gradual decay (in ‘Nimrod’) is superb…an excellent recording."

*American Record Guide*, Nov/Dec 2009

[www.nigelpotts.com](http://www.nigelpotts.com)