

# Organ & Harpsichord Recital Andrew Leslie Cooper

Friday, March 31st 7:00pm

#### Program

Johann Sebastian Bach French Suite No. 2 in C minor, BWV 813 1685-1750 I. Allemande II. Courante III. Sarabande Air IV. V. Menuet Gigue VI. O Gott, du frommer Gott Ethel Smyth Prelude 1858-1944 I. II. Canon Erschienen ist der herrlich' Tag Smyth De profundis (Psalm 130:1) Herbert Howells No. 1 from Psalm-Preludes Set II 1892-1983 Harpsichord Suite in F major Élisabeth Jacquet de La Guerre Tocade 1665-1729 I. II. Allemande III. Courante IV. Sarabande Gigue V. VI. Menuet Ciacona in F minor, P. 43

Johann Pachelbel 1653–1706

### Biography

Andrew Leslie Cooper is a British-American conductor, teacher, singer, pianist, and organist who has been active in the professional music spheres on both sides of the Atlantic. He is the Director of Music at St. Matthew's, Wilton, where he directs the choir and plays organ at worship.

Prior to relocating to Connecticut, Andrew had been based in his native UK, where he was in demand as a freelance countertenor. He was the second countertenor in The Gesualdo Six, with whom he toured the UK and Europe, recorded three commercial albums under contract with Hyperion, produced hours of online content, and sang live on BBC broadcasts. Andrew was also an Alto Gentleman in the Choir of His Majesty's Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, a 500-year-old institution that still offers weekly choral services, concerts, and CD recordings. Other singing engagements in the past have included Tenebrae, TENET, the Bach Choir of Holy Trinity NYC, Gallicantus, Ensemble Odhecaton, the Voces8 Foundation Choir, Academy of Sacred Drama, Ensemble Altera, Philadelphia Symphonic Choir, Spoleto Festival Chorus and others.

Equally passionate about music education and amateur musicianship, Andrew maintains a busy teaching schedule. Formerly, he was on the music staff of two schools near London: The Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls and King's School Rochester—the world's second oldest school. Andrew relishes working with amateur musicians. In his student years, he directed the choir at the United Methodist Church of Berea, and later Grace Presbyterian Church, Jenkintown.

As a keyboardist, Andrew is sought after as a choral accompanist, collaborative pianist, continuo player, and church organist. In the past, he has been a Music Director and pianist for professional theatrical venues such as Vermont's Weston Playhouse and Cleveland's Playhouse Square.

During the 2020 COVID lockdowns, Andrew produced virtual performances of some of his favorite pieces of music. These videos, including Pearsall's *Lay a garland* and Purcell's *Sound the trumpet*, gathered hundreds of thousands of views and cultivated a sizeable following on social media. His multitracking efforts culminated with *Tallis' Virtual Voice*—a project sponsored and conceived by the Thomas Tallis Society in which he recorded all 40 parts of *Spem in alium*, the Renaissance masterpiece by Thomas Tallis.

Andrew earned his Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Westminster Choir College, where he was the Graduate Assistant Conductor of the flagship ensemble Westminster Choir. He is also a proud alumnus of Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music, where he earned his Bachelor of Music in Music Theory (with a Conducting Emphasis).

Find Andrew online at www.AndrewLeslieCooper.com.



## Thank you for attending this concert. Please give generously at the free-will offering. All proceeds will go toward The Arts at St. Matthew's and will help facilitate future concerts.

The Arts at St. Matthew's Committee Andrew Leslie Cooper (curator), Caroline DeAngelis,

Linda Gortz, Lex Kerrigan, Nora Kerrigan

#### Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 2nd: Holy Eucharist at 10:00am Holy Tuesday, April 4th: Musical Meditation at 9:00pm (Zoom) Maundy Thursday, April 6th: Holy Eucharist at 7:00pm Good Friday, April 7th: Noon Liturgy at 12:00pm; Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm Holy Saturday, April 8th: Preparation Liturgy at 9:00am Easter Sunday, April 9th: Festival Holy Eucharist at 10:00am

