

For Immediate Release

April 6, 2016

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JAMES BUSBY PLAYS MEMORIAL RECITAL AT S. STEPHEN'S

At 5:30 pm on Sunday 8 May, James Busby will play his annual memorial recital in the beautiful nave of S. Stephen's Church. Mr. Busby is in his twenty-third year as organist/choirmaster, and a familiar figure in the musical life of New England. He is joined by harpist Megan Sesma, tenor Jason Connell, and Kevin Darrow, English Horn, in a program which includes Bach's *Fantasia und Fuge in G minor, BWV 542*, sometimes known as "The Great", and works by Finzi, Grandjany, Ravel, and Sowerby.

The performance of Gerald Finzi's *Dies Natalis*, which means Natal Day or Day of Birth, is especially appropriate on this Mother's Day. This solo cantata for voice, to be sung by Connell, is set to three poem texts by the 17th century English poet Thomas Traherne and is the imagined musings and observations of a new-born child. Busby and Darrow join forces for Sowerby's *Ballade for English Horn and Organ*, and harpist Sesma plays *Introduction and Allegro* of Maurice Ravel, a piece written for the Érard Company to display the expressive range of its double-action pedal harp, transcribed for the organ from the original string quartet, clarinet and flute, by Mr. Busby.

S. Stephen's Church is located at 114 George Street, in the heart of the Brown University campus. For more information, please visit our website at www.sstephens.org, or call the parish office at 401-421-6702, extension 1. A reception follows in our Great Hall. There will be a free-will offering and all are welcome and invited to attend.