

ROBERT SMITH

Organ Recital, St. Paul's Bloor Street

Friday 1st May 2015, 7pm

Programme

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)	<i>Pièce d'orgue</i> (BWV 572)
J. Brahms (1833-1897)	<i>Herzlich tut mich verlangen</i> , op. 122/10
A. Pärt (born 1935)	<i>Annum per annum</i>
E. Elgar (1857-1934)	<i>Sospiri</i> (arr. Arthur Wills)
P. Whitlock (1903-1946)	<i>Fanfare</i> (from <i>Four Extemporisations</i>)
H. Howells (1892-1983)	<i>Saraband in modo elegiaco</i> (from <i>Six Pieces for Organ</i>)
O. Messiaen (1908-1992)	<i>L'apparition de l'église éternelle</i>
G. Bovet (born 1942)	<i>Hamburger Totentanz</i> (from <i>Trois Préludes Hambourgeois</i>)

Robert Smith is currently the Assistant Organist at St. Paul's Bloor Street, where he regularly accompanies the choir and plays for the weekly Sunday morning services. Robert was previously the Organ Scholar of Somerville College, Oxford, where he accompanied and occasionally directed the choir of that college for three years. Robert began playing the organ when he was 13, having been inspired at a young age by the brilliance of Widor's *Toccata*.

In summer 2014, Robert toured the east coast of America with the Choir of Somerville College, where he played for a service at Washington National Cathedral, as well as performing a solo recital at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. Following this, he undertook an extensive solo recital tour of Germany, playing baroque Wagner and Silbermann organs, as well as romantic instruments in Berlin and Weimar. His first commercial solo CD for the German label Jubal was recorded in Weimar, and was released a few weeks ago. Copies will be available for purchase at the end of this recital.

A freewill offering will be taken in support of St Paul's Above and Beyond campaign, which aims to safeguard the future of this glorious church. All donations are gratefully received.