

Smethergell's concerto – performed today for probably only the second time in Britain for the past two hundred years.

WILLIAM SMETHERGELL (1751-1836) is a composer about whom until recently almost nothing has been known. He was apprenticed to the composer and organist Charles Curtis and later was for over 50 years organist simultaneously of two London churches, All Hallows Barking by the Tower and St Mary at Hill. He was also principal viola at the Vauxhall pleasure gardens and a freelance player and teacher.

His published music included two sets of 'overtures' (symphonies), six harpsichord sonatas, seven keyboard concertos and a variety of smaller works.

Of over 500 British keyboard concertos published during the eighteenth century, Smethergell's *Six concertos for the harpsichord or piano forte* of c. 1775 were amongst the first to nominate the piano as a performing option — earlier concertos were generally published as 'for organ or harpsichord'. The *Favorite Concerto*, published in 1784, shows how Smethergell's technique had improved during the following decade: this work, in its elegant simplicity, is one of the most attractive of its kind from the later part of the century.

The soloist in eighteenth-century concertos was generally expected to play during the orchestra sections. Today, however, we are substituting the organ for the orchestra (originally a string trio), so we will not be doing this.

St Mary's, Kelbrook

# CONCERT

with

**Gill Enzor**

(piano and trumpet)

**Tim Rishton**

(organ)

1 October 2005

# Programme

**DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE**

Prelude, Fugue and Ciaconne in C

**JOSEPH HAYDN**

Three pieces for mechanical clocks: *March, Menuet, Presto*

**DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE**

Fugue in C

**JOSEPH HAYDN**

Trumpet Concerto (2<sup>nd</sup> movement)

**JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH**

Sonata 1 in Eb *Allegro - Adagio - Allegro*

**JOHN STANLEY**

Voluntary op.5 no.7 *Allegro - Adagio - Allegro*

**WILLIAM SMETHERGELL**

A Favorite Concerto