

THE WORKS
presents a concert for
ELGAR'S 150th BIRTHDAY

SATURDAY 2nd JUNE 2007 at 7.30
Amanda Pitt, Daniel Turner, Peter Savidge, David Owen Norris

THE DUKE'S HALL, ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC
YORK GATE, MARYLEBONE ROAD, LONDON NW1
[Baker Street Tube]

! WORLD PREMIERES !

recorded on Avie Double CD 2129, to be launched at the concert

**** Elgar's last song ****
(unpublished)

**** Prelude and Angel's Farewell from *Gerontius* ****
in the composer's piano transcription

and the second performance of the unpublished piano piece

**** ' ? ' ****

which became the Cello Concerto
(premiered privately on 24th May 2007 at the Savile Club)

with other rare songs and piano music, including *As I laye a-thynkyng*, *A War Song*, *The Pipes of Pan*, the *Enina Waltz* (unpublished), the complete version of the *Concert Allegro* (unpublished) and *Sea Pictures* with the original piano accompaniment in the original high keys

The new Avie double CD will be on sale at the concert, along with fine NEW Elgar memorabilia including hard-to-find Elgarian pictures and printed music

Tickets £10 from the RAM Box Office: 020 7873 7300

Elgar's last song, *XTC*, to his own words, is dated November 11th 1930. It exists in two complementary sketches, one with the harmony, one with the melody and words. They have never before been combined. ' ? ' is a piano piece written in March 1918 for his muse The Windflower, Alice Millais. It later became the main theme of the Cello Concerto, written to mourn the death on the Somme of Kenneth Munro, the son of Elgar's lost fiancée Helen Weaver. *Sea Pictures*, too, springs from his sorrow over Helen. The evening will include poems and readings from Elgar's letters illustrating the complexity of his emotional life.