

Simon Worley CV

Simon was born in 1981 in Hinckley, Leicestershire. Both Simon's parents are keen singers, and so Simon's interest in music began at an early age. He began taking piano lessons at age 6 with a local piano teacher, and later he received tuition from the concert organist and improviser, Nigel Allcoat, who lives locally. Simon's first experience of the organ came at age 10 when the regular church organist was unavailable to play for a service. Already known as a talented pianist in the area, Simon was invited to try his hand (and feet!) at the organ. Unfortunately, at this young age his feet were not quite able to reach the pedals, but he made the most of the opportunity anyway, and so began his interest in becoming a church organist and occasional recitalist. Simon continued to develop his organ skills, and played at many church services and weddings. From 1998 until 2000, Simon was the organist and assistant director of music at St. Mary's Church, Hinckley.

However, neither organ or piano were to become Simon's main focus, as aged 12 he began to have lessons in playing the bassoon. Simon made quick progress on this instrument, and also progressed quickly through the ranks of the Leicestershire music services' various bands and orchestras. It was not long before Simon was appointed principal bassoonist with the county's most senior orchestra, the Leicestershire Schools Symphony Orchestra. It was around this time that Simon decided he wished to progress his studies in music further, and he successfully applied to join the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London as a bassoonist.

Having graduated from music college in 2004, Simon moved back to Leicestershire and began seeking a position as an organist. In 2004, Simon was appointed as director of music at St. John-the-Baptist Church, Coventry. Simon remained there for several years, but eventually decided his musical life would benefit from relocating back to London. Simon quickly found another position as director of music at St. Andrew's Church, Watford. It was at this church where Simon had his first taste of giving organ recitals.

Now living in north Hertfordshire, Simon was finding the travel to Watford increasingly difficult, and sought a position at a church that would be much easier to travel to. He noticed an advertisement for a director of music at King Charles the Martyr Church in Potters Bar and immediately jumped at the opportunity. Simon was appointed in February 2016 and has been playing and directing the choir at KCM ever since.

Simon continues to play his bassoon regularly, playing in many different orchestras and ensembles throughout London and Hertfordshire. He also sings with the Adoramus choir, a Christian choir based in Enfield.