



The Music Makers

www.themusicmakers.org

History

The Music Makers was founded in 1996 as a joint partnership between three Catholic composers and musicians, the late Michael Gryspeerdt, David Hoyland and Jeremy de Satgé.

The partnership's first aim was “... *to publish and sell to retailers and individuals music scores of music composed by the Partners and other selected composers and to encourage and promote performance in concert of the published works.*”

From the outset the idea was not just to be a music publisher, but an organisation that encouraged music performance as well.

Sadly, Michael Gryspeerdt became ill and died in 2000. It was then agreed that David Hoyland would undertake the continuation of publishing secular works, while Jeremy de Satgé would continue to use the name **The Music Makers**, but concentrating on liturgical music only. Though the partnership was dissolved at this point, David and Jeremy are in regular contact and have collaborated and worked together on a number of projects ever since.

As Catholics, the three founders saw a clear need for good quality music for the parish choir repertoire: music that properly espoused the desires of the Second Vatican Council. The music should suit the *Novus Ordo* liturgy in being polyphonic in nature, but nevertheless not beyond the scope of the parish choir or schola. In taking over the running of the liturgical music side of the business, Jeremy de Satgé was equally keen to support the Church's traditional music: Gregorian chant.

In 2002, **The Music Makers** began to produce recordings in compact disc format to help encourage the singing of the liturgy generally. This started with a CD to help priests sing the Mass, produced in conjunction with a local seminary and closely followed by the CD, *Plainsong for Parishes*, the first of a number of CDs produced to help choirs learn how to sing. To date a total of 8 CDs have been produced, each concentrating on a specific area of devotion and consisting of music both ancient and modern.

Since 2007, **The Music Makers** also offers practical help to parishes and schools in running workshops around the country. These have proved very popular and of great benefit and further demonstrate the original idea of promoting performance as well as simply publishing music.

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