

## **BACH PASSION CYCLE**

### **Ipswich Chamber Choir Welcomes Mark Padmore as Patron**

Bach: St John Passion Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 7.00pm

The second in our four-part cycle of Bach's settings of the Gospels' passion narratives, the John Passion, brings together elements of the liturgy, operatic arias, theatrical choruses and meditative chorales.

Mark's mastery of the role of the Evangelist in Bach's St Matthew and St John Passions has gained worldwide recognition and we are delighted to have him as patron of our Bach Passion Cycle. "It is some of the greatest music ever written: there is such richness in the writing. Bach heard the John Passion only four times, each time making revisions to the score. It's not just beautiful music but a meditation on suffering. Our job is to communicate the ideas behind the piece and to capture that in live performance." Alongside the drama, Bach's music offers 'Trost', (the German word for comfort or solace), and hope.

With Ipswich Chamber Choir, The Geldart Ensemble and soloists from Amici Voices.

The Geldart Ensemble (leader: Rachel Stroud)

Rachel Ambrose Evans (Soprano)

Helen Charlston (Alto)

Oscar Golden Lee (Tenor)

Edmund Saddington (Bass)

Rachel Stroud writes, "I'm hugely looking forward to this performance. We are arranging to borrow viola d'amores to play one unique aria in the St John which should be very special - it's not often performed on original instruments as they're quite rare."