

MURRAY CONSERVATORIUM CHOIR

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF JEFF MOSHER

WITH ORGANIST JAMES FLORES

PRESENTS

Divine Music

FOR CHOIR AND ORGAN

FEATURING THE ALBURY-WODONGA PREMIERE OF
LOUIS VIERNE'S MESSE SOLENELLE

CONCERTS:

**SATURDAY MAY 19: 7.30 PM AND
SUNDAY MAY 20: 2.30 PM AT
ST MATTHEW'S ALBURY**

TICKET PRICES:

Adults \$25; Concession \$20; Under 18 free

AVAILABLE FROM:

Regent Cinemas 456 Dean St Albury;

**Murray Conservatorium Cnr Dean & Olive Sts Albury
and choir members**

MANUAL LABOR

Much of the choral oeuvre—whether accompanied by piano, orchestra or simply a capella—enjoys a prominent place in today’s concert halls. Works for choir and organ, however, have largely either drifted into obscurity or been relegated to a position of strict religious service. The Murray Conservatorium Choir’s May Concerts, jokingly coined “Manual Labor” (referring to both the keyboards of the organ and the choir’s efforts!), aspire to challenge that status quo.

In the first half, explore gems of the repertoire immediately antecedent to the development what is today known as the symphonic organ. Wesley’s *Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace*, Brahms’ *Geistliches Lied*, and Fauré’s *Cantique de Jean Racine* exemplify the tender writing for choir and organ prevalent in this era. Transcendent, but quietly so.

After the interval, we pull out all the stops (literally!) for Vierne’s sonorous *Messe Solennelle*. Inspired by the rise of a truly symphonic instrument, Vierne samples the full gamut of sonic possibilities found in this new, grand organ.

Bookended by Widor’s famed *Toccata* and a surprise audience favourite, these concerts are surely not to be missed! The Murray Con Choir—together with organist James Flores, and conductor Jeff Mosher—looks forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a glorious celebration of works for choir and organ!