

RECITAL AT THORPE ST ANDREW

27 AUGUST 2025

BY PROFESSOR DAVID BAKER

PROGRAMME

La Mourisque arr. Ian Tracey

Sonata III in A major [two movements]

Soft Diapason Movement

Saints on a Spree

Folk Tune

Largo, Allegro, Aria and Two Variations

Fugue in E flat ('St Anne') BWV 552

Fantasia–Toccata in D

Preludium XXVII

Trumpet Tune in D major

The Organist's Country Garden

Two Chorale Preludes: 'Dundee'; 'Melcombe'

A Festival March

Tielman Susato

Felix Mendelssohn

John Varley Roberts

Nigel Ogden

Percy Whitlock

Michael Festing

Johann Sebastian Bach

Charles Stanford

William Herschel

Philip Tordoff

Andrew Wright

Hubert Parry

John Varley Roberts

Professor David Baker

David Baker was born in Bradford, West Yorkshire. His first love was the church organ, which he began playing aged 12. At 16, he was an Associate of the Royal College of Organists. He gained his Fellowship the following year. In 1970, he became Organ Scholar of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, graduating with a First Class Honours degree in Music three years' later. He took an MMus degree from King's College, London in 1974. He also holds two further master's degrees and a PhD. David has held many senior posts in universities, culminating in his appointment as Principal and Chief Executive of Plymouth in Marjon University in 2003. He retired in 2009 to move back to Yorkshire. He has remained active as musician and musicologist, with his book *The Organ* (Osprey/Shire) selling over 15,000 copies. He is a regular writer and reviewer of organ and choral music and recordings and was Editor of *The Organ* magazine. He has undertaken recital tours to Germany, Italy and Scandinavia and performed the entire organ works of J S Bach in 26 recitals and still performs as organ soloist and accompanist throughout the UK. David also now focuses on teaching the organ and in 2011 founded the Halifax Organ Academy, which aims to offer high quality tuition and support to organists of all ages and backgrounds in the north of England. He is a tutor for the Royal College of Organists' Academy. David writes fiction for fun and has published four novels, including *The Organ Loft Murders*. He has recently completed a major biography of John Varley Roberts, Organist of Halifax Parish Church, 1868-1882, and Magdalen College, Oxford, 1883-1918.