

## Biography for Ian de Massini.

- 1959 Born in Crowthorne, Berkshire.
- 1970 - 1978 Educated at Haywards Heath Grammar School, Sussex.
- 1978 Offered a place to read Mathematics at Imperial College, London, and also at U.M.I.S.T. (University of Manchester's Institute of Technology).
- 1978 Offered a place to study Organ-playing and vocal studies at the Royal Academy of Music, London, and at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.
- 1979 Awarded a scholarship to King's College, Cambridge.
- 1979 - 1982 Reads Music at the University of Cambridge, whilst fulfilling duties as a Choral Scholar (Counter Tenor) in the choir of King's College Chapel, Cambridge. As well singing the daily services in chapel, the scholarship includes the recording of 9 commercial discs (Handel, Byrd, Bach, Tallis, Tye, Gibbons, Duruflé, Fauré, Music for Advent), regular BBC live broadcasts (Christmas Eve), and concert tours of Japan and Australia (including Sydney Opera House).
- 1983 - 1986 Director of Music at Little Saint Mary's Church, Trumpington Street, Cambridge.
- 1986 - 1989 Acting Organist at Ely Cathedral, then Assistant Organist at St Alban's Church, Holborn, London.
- 1987 - Creates a new choir, called *Cambridge Voices*. Subsequently, the choir has recorded 14 commercial CDs, made television recordings for Austrian and North American TV, and made regular tours of France, Britain, Austria, and Switzerland. After meeting the French composer, Maurice Duruflé, the choir is invited to sing in the composer's Parisian church of St Etienne-du-Mont every year on August 15<sup>th</sup>, for which De Massini commissions new choral works from leading European composers, as well as writing music himself for the choir. To date, the choir has had over 1,500 new works specially created for them. The choir was awarded the *Prix d'Or*, from the French classical music magazine, *Diapason*, for their pioneering premier recordings of the music of Duruflé, and of Thierry Escaich, Duruflé's successor, Thierry as Organist-composer at the church of St Etienne-du-Mont, Paris. De Massini is still the choir's Director.
- 1990 - 2006 Takes on the full-time role of Musical Arranger, Accordionist, and Vocalist for the iconoclastic classical music comedy duo, *The Classic Buskers* (formerly known as *The Cambridge Buskers*). 5 commercial discs are recorded, plus regular tours of South Korea, China, Japan, Mexico, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Finland, Italy, Ireland, Belgium, Britain, Poland, Germany, North America, and Canada, including performances for the *Proms in the Park* (Hyde Park, London), the *Musikverein* (Vienna), The Royal Albert Hall, and The Royal Festival Hall.
- 1990 - 2006 De Massini memorises, and performs, the complete solo keyboard works of Johann Sebastian Bach, as well as the complete piano music of Maurice Duruflé.
- 2007 De Massini records J.S. Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, Maurice Duruflé's *Three Orchestral Dances* (arranged by De Massini for solo piano), as well as some of his own piano music.
- 2007 - 2019 De Massini is Director of Music for St Columba's United Reformed Church, Cambridge, a post he held until the church's merger with Emmanuel United Reformed Church Cambridge.
- 2016 - Returns to King's College Chapel, Cambridge, as Counter Tenor, Assistant Conductor, and Librarian for *King's Voices*.
- 2019 - De Massini is appointed Joint Director of Music, together with Mark Dawes, for Downing Place United Reformed Church, Cambridge.

- 2020 - The classical sheet-music publisher, *Stainer & Bell*, sign-up De Massini to become one of their composers. De Massini's carol, *Away in a Manger*, is the first work of his to be published (Christmas 2020).
- 2021 De Massini will publish his *Downing Place Organbook: 200 Chorale Preludes* based upon well-known hymn-tunes, for solo Organ.