

The Cambridge Companion to Vaughan Williams

An icon of British national identity and one of the most widely performed twentieth-century composers, Ralph Vaughan Williams has been as much misunderstood as revered; his international impact, and enduring influence on areas as diverse as church music, film scores and popular music, have been insufficiently appreciated. This volume brings together a team of leading scholars, examining all areas of the composer's output from new perspectives, and re-evaluating the cultural politics of his lifelong advocacy for the music-making of ordinary people. Surveys of major genres are complemented by chapters exploring such topics as the composer's relationship with the BBC, and his studies with Ravel; uniquely, the book also includes specially commissioned interviews with major living composers Peter Maxwell Davies, Piers Hellawell, Nicola LeFanu and Anthony Payne. The *Companion* is a vital resource for all those interested in this pivotal figure of modern music.

ALAIN FROGLEY has taught at Oxford and Lancaster universities, and since 1994 at the University of Connecticut; in 2008 he was Visiting Professor at Yale. In 2005–6 he was a Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies. He is the editor of *Vaughan Williams Studies* (1996) and the author of *Vaughan Williams's Ninth Symphony* (2001); he has also contributed to the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* and the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.

AIDAN J. THOMSON taught at the universities of Oxford and Leeds before being appointed Lecturer in Music at Queen's University Belfast in 2003. His publications include articles and book chapters on Elgar (in *19th-Century Music*, *The Cambridge Companion to Elgar*, *Edward Elgar and His World*, *Elgar Studies* and *The Musical Quarterly*), Ethel Smyth and Arnold Bax.

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VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

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