

Heritage Singers Composers Competition 2007

General Adjudication

The adjudicators were impressed by the variety and scope of the anthems received. The choice of texts was both illuminating and wide ranging and with very few exceptions the texts were suitable. Others had very long sections of divisi often into eight parts and were vocally over intricate and elaborate to achieve an effect the adjudicators thought could have been achieved by other means. This comment also applied to some four part anthems. Some had a strange underlay of text, making singing almost impossible if the words were to be heard by the listener. Those which needed unusual and non-standard vocal techniques were not thought suitable for the context in which the work will be sung. Some had rather unforgiving part writing too. There was much potential in several anthems though a few suffered from over fussy Organ parts adding little to the general pieces. Lack of consistency of style ruled some anthems out because they did not fit together as a piece of music, others had a style which was more like a Worship Song than an anthem for a cathedral.

Results

Winner: Alan Smith Hymn to the Holy Spirit

This anthem most closely matched the requirements of the competition and was a well written and crafted piece suitable for the occasion.

Runner-up: Peter Godfrey Breathe on me Breath of God

This anthem was chosen because of the overwhelming effect such a piece would have in performance, provided the notated speed were adjusted to suit a suitable building

Commended *(in alphabetical order)*

Greg Bartholomew Odes of Solomon

David Carhart But now is Christ Risen