

Ralph Woodward was born and educated in Durham. He spent four years as Organ Scholar at Queens' College, Cambridge. While there, he conducted the Chapel Choir's first two CDs and gave world premieres of numerous works.

These included three pieces by Stanford, one of which he edited for publication.

Now a freelance conductor and keyboard player, Ralph has written often on the music of Benjamin Britten, and was described by the Independent on Sunday as a 'leading authority' on the composer.

Ralph is Musical Director of the Fairhaven Singers, Full Score and the Northumbrian Recorder and Viol School. He has worked in over 20 countries, and has conducted the London Mozart Players, The Parley of Instruments and Britten Sinfonia. He carries out a wide range of editorial tasks for Oxford University Press, with particular involvement in the William Walton Edition, and is much in demand as a leader of choral workshops. His choral arrangements are also successful, and have been performed all round Europe and on Radio 4's PM programme. His recording of Will Todd's Requiem was awarded five stars by Choir & Organ magazine, and an 18 certificate by Aled Jones!

Past projects have included work with Vladimir Ashkenazy, Christopher Hogwood, Emma Kirkby, Emma Johnson and James Bowman. Work in 2009 saw him premiering and recording Will Todd's Requiem for soprano, choir and electric guitar, and conducting in Sorrento, Austria, Seville and Paris.

Forthcoming engagements include working with the City of London Sinfonia and for the South-West Early Music Forum.