

Bledlow Coffee-Time Concert

11.00am on Saturday 31st January

For this next Coffee-Time Concert we shall be very pleased to welcome tenor, Adrian Thompson, and pianist, Iain Burnside, to come and perform Franz Schubert's great song cycle, *Winterreise*.

London-born Adrian Thompson is an artist of extraordinary versatility with wide-ranging opera, concert and recital repertoire. He trained at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he is now a professor of vocal studies. He has sung in opera and concert all over the world and has, for many years, been one of the most popular singers in the UK.

Thanks to prolific careers both as pianist and award-winning broadcaster, Iain Burnside is one of the UK's best-known musicians. Iain has worked with a broad roster of international singers: Dame Margaret Price, Rosa Feola, Ailish Tynan, Joyce DiDonato, Laurence Brownlee, Roderick Williams, and Bryn Terfel, among many others. He has recorded more than 60 CDs, often created around neglected composers, where his curatorial skills are displayed to the full.

Winterreise is a 24-song cycle by Franz Schubert that follows a heart-broken young man on a desolate winter journey to escape memories of a love that was rejected. The songs chronicle his inner and outer journey through the harsh landscape, which mirrors his emotional turmoil, his descent into despair, and his eventual, ambiguous encounter with a street musician, a possible reflection of his own future. The work is a powerful example of the German Romanticism movement.