



WAGNER  
SOCIETY  
nsw

**Dr Antony Ernst**

**Beyond the Twilight of the Gods: Wagner's Musical Legacy**  
**Saturday, 23 August 2014 10am-5pm**

<b>10:00</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
<b>10:10</b>	<b><i>The first generation - Wagner's musical legacy</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How did Wagner's contemporaries and younger colleagues come to terms with Wagner's music and innovations? (Humperdinck, Verdi)</li><li>• What did his contemporaries think of as his achievement and how did they react to it?</li><li>• What effect did he have on the course of musical, particularly operatic, composition and performance?</li></ul>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>1:00</b>	<b><i>The second generation - Wagner's cultural legacy</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As the twentieth century got under way and Wagner's work became more widely performed, how did it become part of the current of modernity?</li><li>• How was it harnessed (or used as an object of resistance) by various artistic and musical movements?</li></ul>
<b>2:45</b>	<b>TEA</b>
<b>3:15</b>	<b><i>The third generation and beyond - Wagner's artistic legacy</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As we move beyond the upheavals of the twentieth century into the rapidly changing present day, how can we assess Wagner's true contribution to our culture?</li><li>• Where does its influence make itself felt? You may be surprised ...</li></ul>
<b>4:55</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>

## COMPOSERS IN THE WAKE OF WAGNER

**Chausson, Amédée-Ernest** (French 1855 –1899) moved from studying law to music. Best known for his song cycles, symphonic works, and opera, *Le roi Arthur* (*King Arthur*).

**Debussy, Achille-Claude** (French 1862 –1918) famous for his cantata *L'Enfant prodigue* (*The Prodigal Son*) and *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* (*Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*) and his opera, *Pelléas et Mélisande*.

**Elgar, Sir Edward William 1st Baronet, OM, GCVO** (English 1857 – 1934) also moved from a legal career to music. Most famous for *Enigma Variations*, *Pomp and Circumstance Marches*, the cello concerto, and *The Dream of Gerontius*.

**Humperdinck, Engelbert** (German 1854 – 1921) best known for his opera *Hänsel und Gretel*. In Bayreuth, during 1880 and 1881, Humperdinck assisted Wagner in producing *Parsifal*. He also taught music to Siegfried Wagner.

**Mahler, Gustav** (German, 1860 – 1911) well-known conductor. Best known for his symphonies with massive choral forces, song cycles such as *Das Lied von der Erde*, *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*.

**Pfitzner, Hans Erich** (German 1869 – 1949) best known for his opera *Palestrina* roughly based on the life of the composer.

**Respighi, Ottorino** (Italian 1879 – 1936) conductor and musicologist; best known for his Roman tone poems: *Fountains of Rome* (*Fontane di Roma*), *Pines of Rome* (*I pini di Roma*), and *Roman Festivals* (*Feste romane*).

**Schreker, Franz** (originally *Schrecker*, Austrian 1878 – 1934) conductor teacher and administrator. Best known for his orchestral and chamber works and operas, *Der ferne Klang*, *Die Gezeichneten* and *Der Schatzgräber*.

**Strauss, Richard Georg** (1864 – 1949) was a leading conductor. He is known for his operas which include *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Salome*, *Lieder*, especially his *Four Last Songs* and his tone poems, *Also sprach Zarathustra*, *Death and Transfiguration*, *An Alpine Symphony*, *Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks*, and other orchestral works, such as *Metamorphosen*.

**Verdi, Giuseppe Fortunino Francesco** (Italian 1813 –1901) Best known for his operas.