

OXFORD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford

Hildegard of Bingen - composer, visionary and saint
Saturday 17 November 2001



Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), sometimes known as "the Sybil of the Rhine", wrote some of the most beautiful and sensuous music of the medieval period. She described music as the means of recapturing the original joy and beauty of paradise that had been lost in the Fall. Amongst her many works is one of the first musical plays, *Ordo virtutum* (Play of virtues), probably written for performance in her convent. This day school will examine her life and works, relating her music to her vision-inspired theological beliefs.

Programme

9.30 am **Hildegard's life and visions**

10.45 am *Coffee / Tea*

11.15 am **Hildegard's music style**

12.45 pm *Break / Lunch*

2.00 pm **The first opera? *The Play of Virtues***

3.30 pm *Tea /Coffee*

4.00 pm **Performing Hildegard today - issues of performance practice**

5.15 pm *Course disperses*

Director of Studies: JONATHAN DARNBOROUGH, OUDCE

Tutor: RICHARD VENDOME, editor of many of Hildegard's works for modern performance

Singers: Penelope Martin-Smith and Victoria Couper