

**SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2012** at 3pm  
King's College Chapel, Taunton



## **SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR**

Anita D'Attellis piano

Graham Caldbeck conductor

# *Out of the East*

Inspiring choral and piano music by  
Russian and Baltic composers

### **RUSSIA**

Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov  
Grechaninov, Stravinsky  
& Schnittke

### **ESTONIA**

Pärt

### **LITHUANIA**

Miškinis

### **FINLAND**

Rautavaara

### **POLAND**

Chopin, Górecki  
Łukaszewski

**SOMERSET  
CHAMBER  
CHOIR**

'one of the finest groups  
of singers in the region'  
SOMERSET COUNTY GAZETTE

**TICKETS: £18 & £15 (reserved) £11 (unreserved)**

from TAUNTON TIC: 01823 336344 or online: [www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk)

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# Out of the East

The tranquillity of the beautiful chapel of King's College, Taunton on a winter's afternoon provides the atmospheric setting for an exploration of the rich traditions of unaccompanied choral music from Russia and the Baltic States.

This striking musical sequence entitled **Out of the East** includes the undated and anonymous **Kontakion for the departed** (based on an ancient Kiev Orthodox chant) and progresses towards our time via movements drawn from the significant settings of Vespers and other liturgies by **Tchaikovsky**, **Grechaninov** and **Rachmaninov**, each composed with the express intention of reconciling the traditional musical style of the Russian Orthodox Church with more recent musical developments. And after the 1917 Revolution in Russia, **Stravinsky** developed this tradition further when he composed several short, beautiful choral works for the Orthodox Church following his return to the faith.

During the 1970s and 80s, choral music generally, and choral festivals in particular, provided many of the Baltic States with a focus for reasserting their own native cultural traditions, as political events leading to the eventual break up of the Soviet Union gathered momentum. This period is represented by music by **Górecki** (Poland), **Einojuhani Rautavaara** (Finland), and **Schnittke** (who left Russia to live in Germany in 1990). Representing the period after the collapse of the USSR in 1991, the engaging music of **Arvo Pärt** (Estonia), **Vytautas Miškinis** (Lithuania) and **Pawel Łukaszewski** (Poland) brings us to the present.

**Anita D'Attellis**, the choir's accompanist and a regular piano recitalist, performs complementary masterpieces by **Chopin** and **Rachmaninov**, alongside more recent works by **Rautavaara** and **Łukaszewski**.

Join us on this fascinating journey East as we explore the rich sonorities and beautiful harmonies of this music, mixing the well known with the unfamiliar in this programme that also traces and celebrates the affirmation of musical, national and spiritual independence of that region from the 1800s to the present day. **Out of the East** the music may be, but we're performing it for you, here in the South West! We can promise an inspiring musical journey.

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**from Taunton TIC: 01823 336344 (Mon - Sat 9.30am - 4.30pm)**  
**or online: [www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk)**  
Public booking opens Monday 9 January



A date for your diary

**SATURDAY 28 JULY 2012, 7pm**  
**WELLS CATHEDRAL**

JS BACH Nun danket alle Gott BWV 192  
CPE BACH Magnificat  
MOZART Mass in C minor

**SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR**

Sophie Bevan & Mary Bevan sopranos Katie Bray mezzo-soprano  
Nicholas Mulroy tenor Benjamin Bevan baritone  
Graham Caldbeck conductor



The right is reserved, without incurring liability, to substitute artists and to vary the programme for reasons beyond our control, although these details are correct at the time of publication.