



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

# **MOZART**

## **Mass in C minor**

**CPE BACH**  
**Magnificat**

**JS BACH**  
**Nun danket alle Gott BWV 192**

**Mary Bevan** soprano  
**Ruth Jenkins** soprano  
**Katie Bray** mezzo-soprano  
**Nicholas Mulroy** tenor  
**Benjamin Bevan** baritone  
**SOUTHERN SINFONIA**  
**SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR**  
**GRAHAM CALDBECK** conductor

**Tickets:** £28, £25, £20, £18 (reserved),  
£14, £10 (unreserved) available from  
Taunton TIC Tel: **01823 336344**  
or **book online:**

**[www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk)**

Somerset Chamber Choir | Registered charity no. 1003687

Wells Cathedral - image courtesy flickr.com/swampdragon



Mozart: Mass in C minor  
CPE Bach: Magnificat  
JS Bach: Nun danket alle Gott



Saturday 28 July 2012  
Wells Cathedral, 7pm

**Mozart's 'Great' Mass in C minor** is widely acknowledged to be one of the greatest choral masterpieces, not just of the classical period, but of all time. It was composed in fulfillment of a vow that the composer made prior to marrying his beloved Constanze Weber. As with his Requiem, the Mass was never completed. However, what we have is the most magnificent music – simultaneously looking backwards to Bach and Handel in its powerfully dramatic choruses, and forwards to Beethoven in its vivid instrumental writing and impressive showpiece arias. Constanze sang these in the 1783 Salzburg première and the music movingly reflects the deep love and passion that Wolfgang felt for her.

In an intriguing programme, Mozart's most famous mass setting is preceded by two significant earlier 18th century works – one by **Johann Sebastian Bach** and one by the greatest of his sons, **Carl Philipp Emanuel**, thus providing audience and performers alike with the rare opportunity of tracing the ancestry of some of the key stylistic elements within Mozart's distinctive musical cocktail.

**Nun danket alle Gott BWV 192** (c.1730) by **JS Bach** is based upon the famous chorale tune '*Now thank we all our God*' and possibly was composed for a wedding celebration - the middle movement being a beguiling duet for soprano and bass. It is an absolute gem of Baroque perfection, brimful with fizzing choruses and dance-like orchestral writing.

**CPE Bach's** setting of the **Magnificat** (1749) pays tribute to his father's renowned 1723 setting but also strikes out in exciting, new musical directions, particularly in the elaborate arias. CPE famously wrote '*I believe music must, first and foremost, stir the heart*' and this work certainly should. Continuing the father and son theme, Mozart said of CPE Bach '*He is the father, we are the children.*'

Do join us for this grand tour of impressive 18th Century choral masterpieces spanning around half a century, in the company of the brilliant instrumentalists of **Southern Sinfonia**, making a very welcome return to Wells to perform with the **Somerset Chamber Choir**, and a sparkling array of some of the UK's finest young vocal soloists, including, like the Bachs featured this evening, two musicians from the same family!

### TICKETS:

£28, £25, £20, £18 (reserved), £14 & £10 (side aisles unreserved)

Available 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 14 May