



King's College Chapel, Taunton

Sunday 8 January 2006 at 3pm

Somerset Chamber Choir

David Miller *theorbo & guitar*

Graham Caldbeck *conductor*

Something old, something new

Choral and instrumental music from the 16th century to the present day

Monteverdi

Missa: In illo tempore à 6 (1610)

John Tavener
G Gabrieli
Morten Lauridsen
Verdi
Bax
Handl
Verdi
Ballet
Jonathan Dove
Vaughan Williams
Britten
Barber

O do not move
O magnum mysterium
O magnum mysterium
Laudi alla Vergine Maria
I sing of a maiden
Pater noster
Pater noster
Lute-book lullaby
The three kings
Wassail song
A New Year carol
Twelfth Night

Tickets from MusicBox
01275 349010

www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk

& solos for theorbo & guitar

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

Somerset Chamber Choir



The music

'O, do not move, listen to the gentle beginning.' These striking words, set by **Sir John Tavener** in an exquisite choral miniature, open an excitingly varied programme of Italian, English and American music celebrating the New Year, Twelfth Night and Epiphany. The musical timeline stretches from the sumptuous, Venetian-influenced *Pater noster* by the 16th century Cistercian monk **Jacob Handl**, to **Jonathan Dove's** *The three kings*, a vivid setting of a poem by Dorothy Sayers, composed for the King's College (Cambridge) *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* in 2000.

Our programme has at its heart **Monteverdi's** beautiful *Missa In illo tempore* for six-part choir, published with his famous *Vespers* in 1610, together with a magical double-choir setting of *O magnum mysterium* by **Giovanni Gabrieli**, Monteverdi's predecessor at St. Mark's, Venice. From the Italy of two centuries later, celebrated Dante settings by **Verdi** are included - the lovely *Laudi alla Vergine Maria* from his *Four sacred pieces* and the richly romantic *Pater noster*. Nearer our own time, **Samuel Barber's** setting of *Twelfth Night* - a moving seasonal poem by Laurie Lee - and **Bax's** richly-scored *I sing of a maiden* are contrasted with **Britten's** hauntingly simple *A New Year carol*. **Vaughan Williams' Wassail song** provides a touch of old English seasonal revelry and we also include American **Morten Lauridsen's** renowned motet *O magnum mysterium* - a work that has rapidly become a choral classic since its first performance in 1994.

Internationally renowned lutenist, **David Miller**, performs virtuoso works for theorbo and guitar from early 17th century Italy by **Giovanni Kapsberger** and from the French court of Louis XIV at Versailles by **Robert de Visée**, guitar teacher to *Le Roi Soleil*. David also joins with a soloist from the choir in **William Ballet's** tender *Lute Book Lullaby* from 17th century England and plays early 19th century works by **Johann Kaspar Mertz** on a beautiful original 19th century guitar made in Paris by the leading French luthier, René François Lacote.

The performers



Over two decades, the **Somerset Chamber Choir**, conducted by **Graham Caldbeck**, one of the country's leading conductors of amateur choirs, has built an enviable reputation for first class music-making and now performs regularly, in exciting and innovative programmes, with many of the UK's finest vocal soloists and instrumentalists.

David Miller is one of Britain's leading lutenists and is much in demand as a continuo player on theorbo, archlute and baroque guitar. He performs and records with all the principal English period instrument orchestras and is a professor of lute at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and at Trinity College of Music.

Something old, something new

brighten your New Year by joining us for this very special seasonal celebration on 8 January 2006

as we 'sing out the old and sing in the new' in the lovely setting of **King's College Chapel, South Road, Taunton.**

Tickets: £15 & £12 from MusicBox ~ 01275 349010
all major credit cards accepted

Saturday 29 July 2006 at 7pm
Wells Cathedral



**Gioacchino
ROSSINI**

Petite Messe Solennelle

In this exciting concert, we are joined by prize-winning young soloists as we 'almost sing opera' in Rossini's misleadingly entitled *Petite Messe Solennelle*, an extravagant *tour de force* which we will perform in its original version for soloists, choir, pianos and harmonium, together with more recent classics of the choral repertoire by **MacMillan, Britten & Pärt**

book the date in your diary now!

For further information call 01275 349010
www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk