

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL, TAUNTON

Sunday 15 February 2009 at 3pm

This Amazing Day

Choral and guitar classics from the Americas

Samuel Barber

Heaven-haven

Eric Whitacre

To be sung on the water

i thank You God for most this amazing day

Three flower songs

Water night

Morten Lauridsen

O magnum mysterium

Ubi caritas et amor

Matthew Harris

Shakespeare songs

Spirituals arranged by:

Tippett, Roderick Williams & Bob Chilcott

Guitar solos by:

Villa-Lobos, Lauro & Alvirez



SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR

"One of the finest groups of singers in the region" Somerset County Gazette

Charles Ramirez *guitar*

Graham Caldbeck *conductor*

TICKETS: 01275 349010

£17, £14, £11 (£2 for children & students)

early booking advised

www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk

Somerset Chamber Choir

Over more than two decades, the Somerset Chamber Choir has established a fine reputation for first class music-making, performing regularly with the UK's finest vocal soloists and instrumentalists. One of Britain's leading choral conductors, Graham Caldbeck also directs Nonsuch Singers ("one of London's best chamber choirs" *The Times*).

This Amazing Day

King's College Chapel is the atmospheric setting for our programme of beautiful choral and guitar music from the USA and South America. Arrangements of well-known spirituals by **Tippett, Roderick Williams** and **Bob Chilcott** and works by the famous American composer, **Samuel Barber**, are mixed with music by three stunning newcomers - **Eric Whitacre, Matthew Harris** and **Morten Lauridsen**. The music of these latter three composers has taken the choral world by storm in the last few years - recordings of music by Whitacre & Lauridsen have become best-sellers, with their works popular across the globe and much of their music being broadcast frequently, rather closer to home, on *Classic FM*.

The *Los Angeles Times* has described Whitacre's music as '*works of unearthly beauty and imagination*', and Lauridsen has become the most frequently performed American choral composer, his most famous work probably being the Christmas motet, *O magnum mysterium*, with which we will end our programme.

The works of Juillard-trained **Matthew Harris** are very popular in the USA but are less well known here. We include a selection of his jazzy and vibrant Shakespeare settings, including one he composed for his own wedding, highly appropriate for this St Valentine's weekend concert!

Our choral items are complemented by popular guitar music from South America by Villa-Lobos, Lauro & Alvarez, performed by brilliant guitarist **Charles Ramirez**. Born in Gibraltar and now much in demand as a recitalist and teacher, Charles was a prize-winning student at the Royal College of Music, where he was the first guitarist ever to play a concerto with a College orchestra.

We hope you will agree that this concert is a must for any lover of choral music, and a thoughtful and original Valentine's Day gift to share with someone special! We look forward to seeing you there.

Call MUSICBOX on 01275 349010

19 Coleridge Vale Road East, Clevedon, BS21 6NS

Tickets £17, £14 (reserved) & £11 (unreserved), £2 (children & students)

All major credit & debit cards accepted • Group discounts available

Friends of the choir have priority booking • Public booking opens on 5th January

Our concerts at Kings College often sell out and we advise you to book your tickets in advance through Musicbox, although a small number of tickets will be available at the door on the day of the concert.

Join us!

We currently have vacancies for new members in most voice parts – you can apply for membership via our website or send an email to recruitment@somersetchamberchoir.org.uk

IN CELEBRATION OF THE CHOIR'S 25TH BIRTHDAY

Wells Cathedral ~ Saturday 25 July 2009 at 7pm

EMMA KIRKBY

with SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR and CANZONA in

Brilliant Baroque!

Handel Dixit Dominus; **Vivaldi** Gloria

Charpentier Te Deum; **Harvey** The Angels

Emma Kirkby (soprano), **Sophie Bevan** (soprano), **Tim Mead** (counter-tenor),
Nathan Vale (tenor), **Derek Welton** (baritone), **Graham Caldbeck** (conductor)

Reserve this date and share this special occasion with us.

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

'It is a tribute to the versatility of this choir, and its conductor, that they can perform such innovative and varied programmes to such a high standard.' SOMERSET COUNTY GAZETTE