



# Glorious Baroque

**Wells Cathedral**  
**Saturday 28 July 2007**  
at 7pm

## Somerset Chamber Choir

Over the years the choir has firmly established itself  
as among the best

## Canzona

One of today's most distinguished ensembles

Sophie Bevan	soprano
Daniel Auchincloss	tenor
Håkan Vramsmo	baritone
Theresa Caudle	violin
Jean Paterson	violin

Graham Caldbeck conductor

*Handel*  
Ode for St Cecilia's Day

*D Scarlatti*  
Iste confessor; Te Deum

*Lalande*  
Regina Coeli

*Bach*

Double Violin Concerto  
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 61

ADVANCE BOOKING ADVISED

**BOX OFFICE 01275 349010**  
[www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk)

## The Performers

Over two decades, the **Somerset Chamber Choir** has built a fine reputation for first class music-making, performing regularly with the UK's finest vocal soloists and instrumentalists. Conductor, Graham Caldbeck, who is one of Britain's leading choral conductors, also conducts Nonsuch Singers (*"one of London's best chamber choirs"* The Times). Joining the choir will be an exciting trio of young, award-winning vocal soloists and the period-instrument orchestra **Canzona**, Ensemble-in-Residence at Magdalen College, Oxford.

## The Music

**Glorious Baroque** celebrates the brilliant music of four musical giants of the age from Germany, France, Italy and England: **Bach, Lalande, Domenico Scarlatti** and **Handel**, with music ranging from the most delicate of string writing and intimate solo arias, through to the magnificent sound of full choir with baroque trumpets and drums.

In **Bach's** uplifting Advent cantata, ***Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 61***, the young composer embraces all the latest musical fashions and from the French overture, to the final rousing Amen, the mood is one of eager anticipation and joy. The famous ***Double Violin Concerto*** contains some of Bach's most vigorous music and beguiling melodies and our two brilliant solo violinists will bring this great music alive in this wonderful building.

This year marks the 350th anniversary of the birth of the renowned French composer **Michel-Richard de Lalande**, an important figure at Louis XIV's court at Versailles. His *grand motet Regina Coeli* includes many features to charm the listener, including buoyant dance rhythms, rich harmonies and colourful orchestration.

**Handel** composed his famous setting of one of Dryden's great poems to the Patron Saint of music in 1739. ***Ode for St Cecilia's Day*** is full of the most picturesque, fanciful and imaginative music, exploiting the virtuosity and expressiveness of a succession of instruments: the 'cello, the flute, the violins, the organ (St Cecilia's own instrument) and, of course, the trumpet in the famous solo and chorus "The trumpet's loud clangour". The Ode is full of the most vibrant and engaging music which has ensured its wide popularity to the present day.

1685 was certainly a remarkable year as **Bach, Handel** and **Scarlatti** were all born within twelve months of each other, and each was to exert a significant influence on the art of European music. Although chiefly known for his brilliant keyboard works, **Scarlatti** also wrote a number of rarely heard but captivating choral pieces, and ***Iste Confessor*** and ***Te Deum*** are two of the finest of these.

Magnificent music by four of the greatest Baroque composers - book your tickets today and enjoy the splendour of this occasion in the lovely setting of Wells Cathedral.

*'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

**Box office: 01275 349010** (advance booking advised)  
19 Coleridge Vale Road East, Clevedon, BS21 6NS

**£25, £20, £15, £12.50** (reserved)

**£10, £7.50** (side aisles unreserved)

All major credit & debit cards accepted  
Friends of the choir have priority booking

## Future concerts

**Sunday 30 September 2007 at 3pm**

The Church of All Saints

with St Saviour

All Saints Road, Weston-super-Mare BS23 2NL

## Celestial Sounds

**Beautiful choral classics from Germany, Austria and Italy**

A concert in aid of Cancer Research UK

**Sunday 6 January 2008 at 3pm**

King's College Chapel,

South Road, Taunton TA1 3LA

## Far beyond the stars

**A century of Great British choral music including works by Stanford, Elgar, Parry, Vaughan Williams, Holst, Britten, Howells and Walton**

## Singing with Somerset Chamber Choir

If you would like to sing with us we should love to hear from you. The Choir was founded by former members of the Somerset Youth Choir and runs six rehearsal weekends every year, performing concerts at the end of three of these. It is well known for its innovative and varied programmes, performed to a very high standard. We place a strong emphasis on encouraging young people to join our ranks and currently we have vacancies in most voice parts. Please apply through our website or e-mail the choir at [recruitment@somersetchamberchoir.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@somersetchamberchoir.org.uk)

Somerset Chamber Choir  
Registered Charity 1003687

President: Lady Gass

Vice-presidents: Sir David Willcocks, Chris Cutting,  
Benjamin Luxon, Adrian Male

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

