

Saturday 25 July 2009 at 7pm
WELLS CATHEDRAL

Brilliant Baroque!

Vivaldi : *Gloria*

Charpentier : *Te Deum*

Handel : *Dixit Dominus*

& Jonathan Harvey : *The Angels*

Emma Kirkby (*soprano*)

Sophie Bevan (*soprano*)

Tim Mead (*counter-tenor*)

Thomas Hobbs (*tenor*)

Derek Welton (*baritone*)

Graham Caldbeck (*conductor*)

25th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Somerset Chamber Choir

"firmly established as among the best"

Canzona *"once enveloped by their
sumptuous sound, you're trapped!"*

TICKETS ~ 01275 349010

£25, £22, £18, £15, £12 & £10

(children & students half-price) Early booking advised

www.sometchamberchoir.org.uk



Should you hear them singing among stars or whispering secrets of a wiser world, do not imagine ardent, fledgeling children;

they are intelligences old as the sunrise that never learnt right from left, before from after, knowing but one direction, into God but one duration, now. Their melody have heard it in the rhythms of the hills, the spiralling turn of a dance, the fall of words, the touch of the fingers at the rare, right moment, and these were holy, holy.

Brilliant Baroque!

Extract displayed from 'The Angels' by John V Taylor. © Margaret Taylor

This year marks the 25th birthday of the Somerset Chamber Choir which, since its formation, has consistently promoted the world's greatest choral music within Somerset and beyond, in a spectacular sequence of wide-ranging and imaginatively programmed concerts, in partnership with many of the UK's finest singers and instrumentalists.

In 2009, the musical world also celebrates a significant anniversary of George Frideric Handel – the 250th anniversary of his death. In a wonderfully celebratory programme, the choir marks its 25-year existence by performing great works spanning 25 years not only by Handel, but also by his illustrious contemporaries, Marc-Antoine Charpentier and Antonio Vivaldi from the Rome, Paris and Venice of the late 17th and early 18th centuries. All to be performed on the 25th July, naturally!

Beginning with the trumpet and drums of **Charpentier's** magnificent **Te Deum** - dating from around 1692, and later made well known by the use of its uplifting Prelude as the signature tune for the Eurovision Song Contest! - through **Handel's** sparkling youthful work, **Dixit Dominus**, first performed in Rome in 1707, to **Vivaldi's** vibrant and ever-popular **Gloria** of c1713-17, composed for the Ospedale della Pietà in Venice, the concert provides an exciting Grand Tour of some the finest Baroque choral music ever composed.

However, the here and now (and the eternal) is also present as we celebrate the British composer **Jonathan Harvey's** 70th birthday year, with the inclusion of **The Angels**, a hauntingly beautiful 4-minute work composed for the 1994 Carol Service in King's College Chapel in Cambridge.

The choir is again honoured to be joined by world-famous soprano, **Dame Emma Kirkby**, together with four of the UK's most outstanding young soloists – **Sophie Bevan, Tim Mead, Thomas Hobbs** and **Derek Welton**. We are delighted, too, to welcome back the leading Baroque ensemble, **Canzona** (director **Theresa Caudle**), with whom the choir has, in the past, given many memorable performances.

We hope that you will join us for Handel's anniversary and for Somerset Chamber Choir's silver celebration this July, in the incomparable setting of Wells Cathedral. This will be one of the most prestigious cultural events in Somerset this year, so be sure not to miss it – book your tickets today!

Join us!

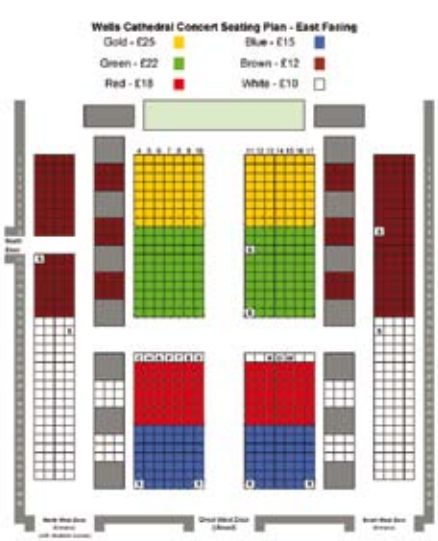
We currently have vacancies for new members in most voice parts – you can apply for membership via our website or send an email to recruitment@somersetchamberchoir.org.uk

Call MUSICBOX on 01275 349010

Tickets £25, £22, £18, £15 (reserved), £12, £10 (side aisles unreserved)

Children & students half-price (subject to availability)

All major credit & debit cards accepted. Group discounts available. Friends booking opens 20 April (Friends membership available from £10). Public booking opens 18 May ~ **Early booking will be essential for this concert!**



Ticket order form for payment by cheque only.

Please enter below the number of each price ticket you would like. If your selected area is not available, you will be allocated tickets in the next lowest available price area. Please make cheques payable to **Somerset Chamber Choir**. Date and sign the cheque, leaving the amount blank, but where you normally write the amount in words write instead: 'Sum not exceeding xxx pounds', where xxx is the sum of your first preference tickets. Please then send your completed booking form and cheque to: MusicBox, 19 Coleridge Vale Road East, Clevedon, BS21 6NS to arrive no later than 18th July.

..... @ £25 (gold) @£22 (green) @£18 (red)
..... @£15 (blue) @£12 (brown) @£10 (white)
Name		
Address		

Telephone (in case of queries) Where did you get this leaflet?

*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 going to press.

SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR - registered charity 1003687

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