

SOMERSET
CHAMBER CHOIR

*"not simply a
good choir but
a great one"*

Somerset County Gazette

Tuesday 8 August 7.30pm

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH,
ROYAL PARADE, PLYMOUTH

**SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR
SAXPLOITATION**

Richard Pearce - Organ

Graham Caldbeck - Conductor

PSALMS, SONGS & SAXES

**Choral and instrumental
music from 5 centuries and
8 countries**

Palestrina, Gibbons, Monteverdi, Bach,
Brahms, Fauré, Parry, Rachmaninov,
Poulenc, John Rutter & Arvo Pärt

+ works for saxophone quartet by
Alasdair Nicolson, Graham Fitkin
& Piazzolla

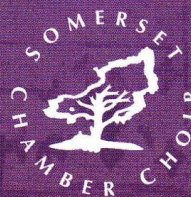
Tickets - £8 including programme

At the door or in advance from

Eventix, The Athenaeum,

Derry's Cross, Plymouth

Tel: 01752 266104



The **SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR** is one of the most outstanding young choirs in the South West. "Music making as it should be - as fine a performance as could be wished for" (Somerset County Gazette) "One of the finest examples of mixed professional and amateur performers in the country" (Taunton Times) are samples of the critical acclaim which greeted the choir's performance in Wells Cathedral last summer.

For its first concert of 2000 the choir breaks exciting new ground by joining forces with the young, award-winning saxophone quartet, **Saxploitation** and virtuoso organist, **Richard Pearce**, to present **PSALMS, SONGS AND SAXES**, a fresh and innovative programme of choral and instrumental music from five centuries and eight countries.

This colourful musical tapestry stretches from the uplifting Exsultate Deo (1584) by the 16th-century Italian composer, Palestrina, to the hauntingly beautiful Magnificat (1989) by the contemporary Estonian, Arvo Pärt. In between, some stimulating new perspectives on a number of well-known 17th and 18th-century works are provided in new transcriptions for choir and saxes: Gibbons's celebrated verse-anthem, This is the record of John, Monteverdi's famous Beatus Vir and Bach's radiant motet, O Jesus Christ, meus Lebens Licht all appear in delightful and intriguing new guises.

As well as marking Bach's 250th anniversary, the programme contrasts different settings of the same texts and includes movements from two 20th-century classics: Rachmaninov's Vespers and John Rutter's Requiem. Brahms's passionate Geistliches Lied, Fauré's mellifluous Cantique de Jean Racine and Parry's magnificent My soul, there is a country from his Songs of Farewell, provide additional touches of Romanticism.

Saxploitation play exhilarating new pieces by Graham Fitkin and Alasdair Nicolson plus a lively tango by Piazzolla and join the choir to provide a jazzy finale in a close-harmony arrangement specially commissioned for this concert.

400 years of musical riches from 8 countries in 90 minutes! Call the box office now to book your tickets for this special new millennium concert.

PSALMS, SONGS & SAXES

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Including programme
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The Athenaeum, Derry's Cross, Plymouth
Tel: 01752 266104
Open: Mon - Sat, 10am - 6pm



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.

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Wednesday 9 August 7.30pm

TRURO CATHEDRAL

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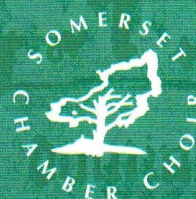
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Tickets - £10 including programme

At the door or in advance from

Hall for Cornwall, Back Quay, Truro

Tel: 01872 262466



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