

SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2012 at 3pm
King's College Chapel, Taunton

SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR

Anita D'Attellis piano

Graham Caldbeck conductor



Out of the East

Inspiring choral and piano music by
Russian and Baltic composers

RUSSIA

Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov
Grechaninov, Stravinsky
& Schnittke

ESTONIA

Pärt

LITHUANIA

Miškinis

FINLAND

Rautavaara

POLAND

Chopin, Górecki
Łukaszewski

SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR

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

TICKETS: £18 & £15 (reserved) £11 (unreserved)

from TAUNTON TIC: 01823 336344 or online: www.somersetchamberchoir.org.uk

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Somerset Chamber Choir – Out of the East – Sunday 19 February 2012 3pm – King's College Chapel, Taunton

Out of the East

The tranquillity of the beautiful chapel of King's College, Taunton on a winter's afternoon provides the atmospheric setting for an exploration of the rich traditions of unaccompanied choral music from Russia and the Baltic States.

This striking musical sequence entitled **Out of the East** includes the undated and anonymous **Kontakion for the departed** (based on an ancient Kiev Orthodox chant) and progresses towards our time via movements drawn from the significant settings of Vespers and other liturgies by **Tchaikovsky**, **Grechaninov** and **Rachmaninov**, each composed with the express intention of reconciling the traditional musical style of the Russian Orthodox Church with more recent musical developments. And after the 1917 Revolution in Russia, **Stravinsky** developed this tradition further when he composed several short, beautiful choral works for the Orthodox Church following his return to the faith.

During the 1970s and 80s, choral music generally, and choral festivals in particular, provided many of the Baltic States with a focus for reasserting their own native cultural traditions, as political events leading to the eventual break up of the Soviet Union gathered momentum. This period is represented by music by **Górecki** (Poland), **Einojuhani Rautavaara** (Finland), and **Schnittke** (who left Russia to live in Germany in 1990). Representing the period after the collapse of the USSR in 1991, the engaging music of **Arvo Pärt** (Estonia), **Vytautas Miškinis** (Lithuania) and **Paweł Łukaszewski** (Poland) brings us to the present.

Anita D'Attellis, the choir's accompanist and a regular piano recitalist, performs complementary masterpieces by **Chopin** and **Rachmaninov**, alongside more recent works by **Rautavaara** and **Łukaszewski**.

Join us on this fascinating journey East as we explore the rich sonorities and beautiful harmonies of this music, mixing the well known with the unfamiliar in this programme that also traces and celebrates the affirmation of musical, national and spiritual independence of that region from the 1800s to the present day. **Out of the East** the music may be, but we're performing it for you, here in the South West! We can promise an inspiring musical journey.

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 Public booking opens Monday 9 January



A date for your diary

SATURDAY 28 JULY 2012, 7pm
WELLS CATHEDRAL

JS BACH Nun danket alle Gott BWV 192
CPE BACH Magnificat
MOZART Mass in C minor

SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR

Sophie Bevan & Mary Bevan sopranos **Katie Bray** mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Mulroy tenor **Benjamin Bevan** baritone
Graham Caldbeck conductor



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 publication.

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