

Somerset Chamber Choir

The Line of Beauty

Conductor: Andrea Brown

Celebrating Palestrina and
his impact on 500 years
of choral composition

Caroline Shaw • Arvo Pärt • Gjeilo • Brahms • Caldara • Carissimi • Tallis • PALESTRINA

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL, TAUNTON TA1 3LA
SUNDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2026, 4pm



Registered Charity 1003687

Tickets £10 - 20
(under 16 half-price)

someretchamberchoir.org
0333 666 3366 (booking fee)
Taunton Visitor Centre



PALESTRINA *Exsultate Deo*

TALLIS *Loquebantur Variis Linguis*

CARISSIMI *Plorate filii Israel*

CALDARA *Crucifixus à 16 voci*

PALESTRINA *Missa Papae Marcelli*

BRAHMS *Geistliches Lied*

OLA GJEILO *Ubi Caritas*

ARVO PÄRT *The Deer's Cry*

CAROLINE SHAW *And the Swallow*



In this concert we celebrate the 500-year legacy of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, one of the greatest composers of the Renaissance whose influence has echoed through centuries of choral music.

At the heart of the programme is Palestrina's breathtaking *Missa Papae Marcelli*, the legendary Mass said to have saved polyphonic music from being silenced by the Catholic Church. Around this cornerstone, we weave a rich tapestry of works that span half a millennium, each reflecting the profound impact of his genius.

As you sit enveloped by the soaring harmonies and luminous textures of this extraordinary repertoire, you'll be transported through moments of deep serenity, spiritual awe, and timeless wonder.

From the understated brilliance of Brahms' *Geistliches Lied* to the shimmering mysticism of Caldara's 16-part *Crucifixus*, from the haunting minimalism of Arvo Pärt's *The Deer's Cry* to the contemporary elegance of Caroline Shaw's *And the Swallow*, this concert offers a powerful blend of beauty, history and innovation.

Join us to experience music that shaped choral history and continues to inspire it today - music that will stir your soul, quiet your mind, and leave you with a renewed sense of connection - to the past, to beauty, and to something greater than ourselves.

Box Office



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Somerset Chamber Choir
Patron: Dame Emma Kirkby

Rebecca Allnatt *cello*
Stephen Tanner *organ*