

artists: The Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
 Stephen Darlington, director

title: The Gate of Glory:
 Music from the Eton Choirbook, Vol. 5
 Kellyk – Browne – Fairfax – Lambe - Hacomplaynt

price: Full price

release date: 17 November 2017

selection number: AV 2376

bar code: 822252237627

about the release

The men and boys of **The Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford** and director **Stephen Darlington** continue their exploration of the Eton Choirbook, the extraordinarily vast and diverse collection of English sacred music from the early Renaissance, with a fifth volume in their critically acclaimed series. As with previous volumes, *The Gate of Glory* includes a

world premiere recording – Walter Lambe’s *Gaude flore virginali* – alongside works by Hugo Kellyk, Robert Fairfax, Robert Hacomplaynt and John Browne, the preëminent composer of the Eton Choirbook. The diversity of styles on this album is particularly striking, ranging from the astonishing balance of harmony and counterpoint in Browne’s *O regina mundi*, to the elegance and simplicity of Fairfax’s setting of the Magnificat. This is liturgical music which truly gives the listener a glimpse of the mystery of the eternal.

critical acclaim for The Choir of Christ Church Cathedral

“a disc to send the spirits soaring. Glorious beyond words.” – *Gramophone, Best of 2009* (on More Divine Than Human, AV 2167)

“The performances here are undoubtedly among the best” – *BBC Music Magazine* (on Choirs of Angels, AV 2184)

“Stunningly effective singing ... insightful and precise direction by Stephen Darlington ... a ground-breaking achievement” – *Early Music Review* (on Courts of Heaven, AV 2314)

“the strongest of the set so far ... dare we hope for a Vol 5?” – *Gramophone, Editor’s Choice* (on The Sun Most Radiant, AV 2359)

summary

The Gate of Glory, the fifth volume in the critically acclaimed exploration of music from the Eton Choirbook by **The Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford** and director **Stephen Darlington**, includes the **world premiere recording** of Walter Lambe’s *Gaude flore virginali*, and a striking range of styles from harmony and counterpoint to elegance and simplicity.

tracklist

- Hugo Kellyk** (fl. late 15th century)
- 1. Gaude flore virginali a 7 (SATTTBarB) (19.10)
- John Browne** (fl. c. 1490 – 1500)
- 2. O regina mundi clara a 6 (TTTBarBarB) (15.58)
- Robert Fairfax** (1464 – 1521)
- 3. Magnificat ‘Regali’ a 5 (SATBarB) (18.30)
- Walter Lambe** (?1450/1 – after Michaelmas 1504)
- 4. Gaude flore virginali a 4 (TTBarB) (11.20) *
- Robert Hacomplaynt** (1455/6 – 1528) (14.26)
- 5. Salve regina a 5 (SATTB)

* world-premiere recording

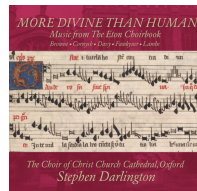
Total time: 79.26

Recorded 4–6 July 2017, Chapel of Merton College, Oxford

Producer: Jeremy Summerly

Balance engineer and editing: Simon Fox-Gál

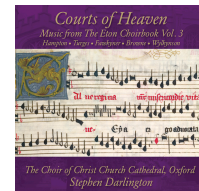
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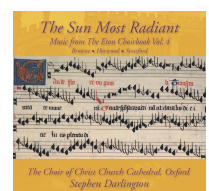
More Divine Than Human
 AV 2167



Choirs of Angels
 AV 2184



Courts of Heaven
 AV 2314



The Sun Most Radiant
 AV 2359

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

media targets

Classical, Choral, Early Music

advertising

Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine

reviews

Target Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Choir & Organ

airplay

Classic FM; BBC Radio 3 Essential Classics, Record Review, The Choir; Harmonia (WFIU)

key territories

USA, UK

listening link

tba

lead / instant grat tracks

social media

The Choir of Christ Church, Cathedral: Facebook – 1,600

AVIE Records: Facebook – 900; Twitter – 1,420

independent pr

n/a