

Orlando Gibbons and the music of Westminster Abbey

An online talk by Patrick Craig

Tuesday 27th January 2026, 7.30 – 8.30 pm on Zoom



Orlando Gibbons was one of the most brilliant and imaginative composers this country has ever produced. He is beloved by jazz musicians such as Glenn Gould for his inventive and unpredictable genius. In this lecture Patrick traces his career at Westminster Abbey, looking at his predecessors who shaped his education, and looking ahead to some of the great musicians who followed him there including Pelham Humfrey, Henry Purcell and his own son Christopher Gibbons.

Patrick Craig is well known to Members of Early Music Fora for his expert and enthusiastic direction of workshops.

He is a countertenor who sang a thousand concerts with The Tallis Scholars while also singing as a Vicar Choral at St Paul's Cathedral, where he has worked for almost thirty years. He has also recorded extensively as a member of The Cardinal's Musick. He lectures on choral music for the Arts Society and conducts singing workshops for organisations across Europe. In addition, he is the founder Director of this country's preeminent all-female professional choir Aurora Nova.



HOW TO BOOK

Please book early (our Zoom contract puts a limit on numbers) and in any case **by Friday 23rd January.**

If you would like to hear Patrick's talk but are unable to join the live Zoom, please book before the event and we will send you a link to the recording; this will be available to watch (but not download) for a limited period.

There is a minimum charge of £5; if you are able and would like to contribute more to show your support for Patrick and other musicians, this would be much appreciated. 50% of receipts above Patrick's agreed fee will go to the charity Help Musicians. The balance (after deducting any expenses) will go to Patrick.

Please book online at <https://shorturl.at/CfA2H>, fill in the form, click "SUBMIT" at the end, and then pay by bank transfer (preferred) or by sending a cheque to the address on the form. We regret that Charity Commission constraints mean we can only accept payments in pounds sterling, and cannot accept direct payments made by persons outside the UK

Please contact the Treasurer - treasurer@semf.org.uk - for any more information.

A link to the online booking form is also available from the SEMF website www.semf.org.uk.